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strategic research and communications

# The Health and Care Bill

Understanding and influencing reform  
of the health and care system



The Health and Care Bill is the most significant piece of health legislation this parliament, and will shape the structures of the NHS, how services are delivered, and improvements to population health over the next decade.

Its purpose is to lay the foundations for a more integrated, efficient and accountable health and care system

The legislative changes will help to implement the recommendations of the NHS Long Term Plan and will build upon the collaboration and new ways of working developed during the pandemic.

The overarching objectives of the changes are to:

▶ Improve integration within the NHS and with other health partners by giving new Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) statutory powers and responsibilities to deliver services and improve health outcomes to a population within a local region.

▶ Usher in a new era of greater collaboration, instead of competition, within the health system and removing the barriers and bureaucracy to achieving this.

▶ Give the Government greater control and accountability over different parts of the health and social care system.

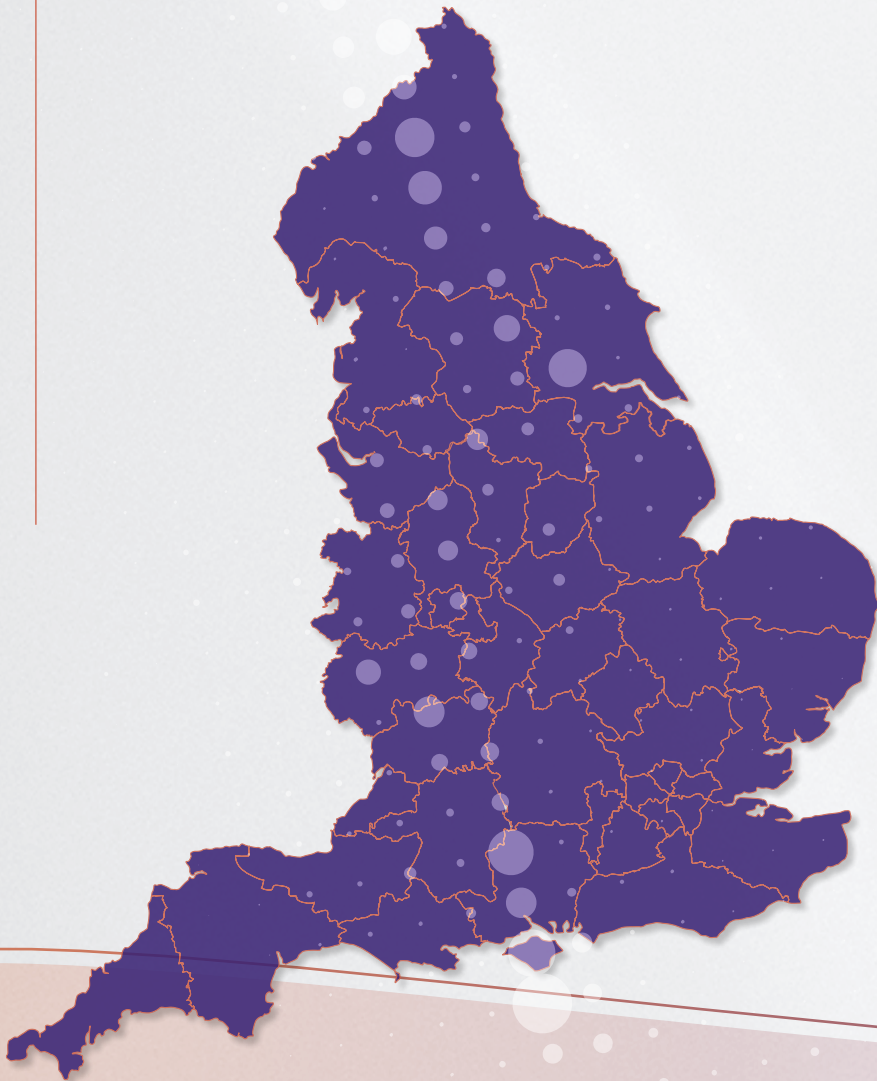


# Why this matters

The formalisation of Integrated Care Systems presents a significant change in the way health care will be delivered. The new structures of the health system will impact:

- How providers of care are commissioned as part of provider collaboratives and who manages the budgets
- How health technologies and equipment are adopted by the NHS
- Who makes decisions through a new dual board structure and place-based partnerships
- The rules of how NHS and non-NHS bodies collaborate
- The type of care patients can expect to receive
- The geographic remit local leaders seek to operate in

If your organisation is not planning ahead for these changes, you may find yourself unable to cut through to the necessary decision-makers in local regions to ensure you are continuing to deliver your services to institutions and patients.





GK Strategy is an independent public affairs and communications agency with a strong heritage and expertise in health and care.

The UK health and care environment is evolving. A changing and more complex health system demands better interpretation of the 'new rules' of the game and clarity in communication. GK Strategy enables organisations to understand the landscape and communicate clearly, transparently and credibly.

Our team of health policy experts are analysing the development and progress of the Health & Care Bill, helping to interpret what changes will mean and then advising organisations on their response and future planning. Key issues associated with the Bill include:



The nature of the Department for Health and Social Care's increased control over different health agencies



The new role of NHS England - changing responsibilities and changing leadership



The structure and remit of Integrated Care Systems, how they will work with different partners across a local area through place-based partnerships and what will be the new criteria they need to meet



The models of new NHS Provider Collaboratives



What changes will mean for commissioning of providers and suppliers

# How GK can help





**Phil Hope**

*former Minister of State for  
Care Services and senior  
adviser to GK Strategy*

## Views from thought leaders in healthcare

"The Government's proposals for reform of the NHS are radical. It is a paradigm shift in the purpose and structure of the health, social care and public health landscape.

If fully implemented, this would move the NHS from a single national body of organisations focused primarily on clinical care, to a broad network of partnerships between the NHS and Local Government, with other non-statutory partners, that

aims to deliver both better health and social care services, and improvements to the population's health and health inequalities.

These changes will affect every organisation working in the health and social care landscape. Understanding and engaging successfully with the changing landscape that the new legislation will create will be essential."

**Nick Kirby**

*Managing Director,  
NHS Shelford Group*

"The overall direction of proposed legislation is largely welcome, as it aims to facilitate a more seamless experience for patients. A major challenge will be achieving the alignment of regulatory, planning, financial

and accountability arrangements, in support of greater integration across NHS boundaries and with local government."





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