

NHS care for the armed forces community – NHS England update

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The NHS Long Term Plan



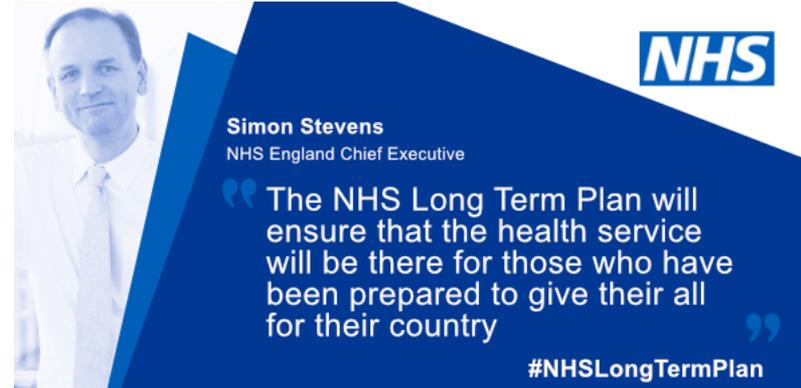
- The NHS Long Term Plan has been published following the Government's commitment to provide more funding for the NHS for each of the next five years
- The plan details our ambitions for improvement over the next decade and how we will meet them over the five years of the funding settlement
- It sets out improvements covering three life stages:
 - Making sure everyone gets the best start in life
 - Delivering world-class care for major health problems
 - Supporting people to age well
- It also sets out actions to overcome the challenges that the NHS faces by:
 - doing things differently
 - preventing illness and tackling health inequalities
 - backing our workforce
 - making better use of data and digital technology
 - getting the most out of taxpayers' investment in the NHS



Long Term Plan commitment for the armed forces community



‘We will expand our support for all veterans and their families as they transition out of the armed forces, regardless of when people left the services. Local transition, liaison and treatment services provide support for a range of healthcare and social needs. By 2023/24, these services will expand access to complex treatment services as well as targeted interventions for veterans in contact with the criminal justice system. To ensure all GPs in England are equipped to best serve our veterans and their families, over the next five years we will roll out a veterans accreditation scheme in conjunction with the Royal College of GPs.’



www.longtermplan.nhs.uk

What this means for armed forces families and veterans



- Continued access to all NHS services – commissioned, developed and delivered locally
- Improved access to specialised prosthetic services and the Veterans Trauma Network
- Enhanced veterans mental health services with increased provision
- Acute trusts collaborating on armed forces health issues through the Veterans Covenant Hospital Alliance – veteran aware hospitals (25 to date, including Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals)
- Increased access to veteran friendly GP practices, supporting improved care for veterans and their families (over 100 to date)
- Partnership working with the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and charities on high dependency patients
- Continued health-professional training across Royal Colleges to raise education, awareness and context
- Improved care for veterans in custody, prison, on remand and when leaving prison with health and wellbeing support for their families and carers
- Introduction of care coordinators for serving personnel and their families / carers leaving the armed forces to support a smooth transition to NHS care
- Better understanding and joint working with the MOD on safeguarding for families, carers and children



Current key areas of focus



Improving access to services for armed forces personnel and their families

- Including DMS registered patients within NHS breast and bowel cancer screening programmes
- Working with the Local Government Association and DMS to improve access to local authority commissioned health promotion services

Support for those in transition and veterans

- Working with the MOD to develop the Integrated High Dependency Care System (IHDCS)
- Development of four pathfinder services to offer increased support to serving personnel with mental health problems during their transition
- Pathway development of the Veterans Trauma Network using established trauma centres and specialists to support veterans requiring reconstruction; linked to family, carer, GP and charitable advice, guidance and support, as well as mental health services
- Evaluating and delivering support to veterans in the criminal justice system through our response to the Gate to Gate report

Improving veterans' mental health services

- Preparing to procure for a new England wide service to provide support to veterans with high intensity mental health problems based on the findings from stakeholder engagement
- Working on an innovative in-reach 'transition, intervention and liaison' service to support vulnerable leavers

Improved access to prosthetics and primary care for veterans and families

- Established the LIBOR fines funded, direct skeletal fixation programme with the MOD, which aims to have implanted 20 patients over an 18 month period
- Working with secondary care providers to improve the availability of armed forces specific data in support of delivering the national standards
- Supporting and promoting the use of the revised Health Education England and Royal College of General Practitioners veterans awareness training modules. This now includes Allied Health Professionals and non-clinical elements to support increased awareness of this population

Supporting delivery of the Long Term Plan - joint priorities with the MOD up to 2020



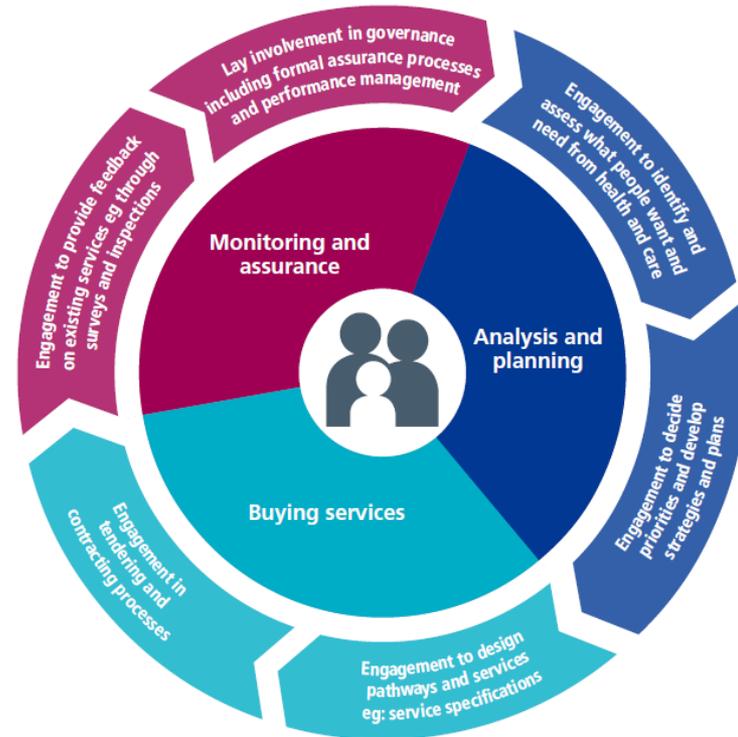
Underpinned by a National Partnership Agreement to jointly plan and organise the delivery of healthcare and:

- ensure armed forces personnel are seen in a timely fashion
- improve the transition of the armed forces into civilian life, particularly where they have known health needs
- improve mental health services for veterans, building on work already underway
- effectively manage the rebasing of armed forces personnel and their families at Catterick and Larkhill, ensuring health services are in place when they arrive
- facilitate joint working in general practice, noting the current delivery and commissioning functions for DMS and Defence Primary Health Care



How lived experience is informing NHS armed forces healthcare

- National Armed Forces Patient, Public, Participation and Involvement Group representing the health needs of serving personnel, families, carers and veterans
- **You said, we did:** Engagement activity has informed the Veterans Mental Health Transition, Intervention and Liaison Service, the Veterans Mental Health Complex Treatment Service, the Veterans Trauma Network, armed forces health training for GPs, veteran friendly GP practices and the forthcoming Armed Forces in Transition: Integrated Personal Commissioning For Veterans Framework (IPC4V)
- Current key areas of focus include the co-development of a veterans mental health high impact service and family, carer and friends support networks, as well as improving care for veterans in the criminal justice system, along with support for their families and carers



NHS Long Term Plan – further info

- The NHS Long Term Plan, along with accompanying resources, case studies and videos, is available online at www.longtermplan.nhs.uk
- Over the coming months, local NHS organisations and their partners will be sharing details of what the NHS Long Term Plan could mean in their area

