

About us

Who we are

The NHS Confederation is the independent membership body that represents all types of organisations providing and commissioning NHS services in England.

We are the only organisation to bring together all parts of the modern NHS and speak for the whole of the NHS on the issues that matter to all those involved in healthcare.

Our members include acute trusts, ambulance trusts, foundation trusts, mental health providers, primary care trusts and independent healthcare organisations that deliver services within the NHS.

We run an Associate Membership scheme for commercial and third sector organisations involved in the delivery of healthcare, and an 'Insight' information service for academic and representative bodies with an interest in health and the healthcare sector.

We are also beginning to open up our membership to new and emerging NHS bodies – including commissioning consortia, community services, third sector providers and social enterprises – to ensure that we continue to represent the full range of organisations working within our healthcare system.

The Welsh NHS Confederation and the Northern Ireland Confederation for Health and Social Care support members in their countries, and we provide a subscription service for NHS organisations in Scotland.

What we do

The NHS Confederation is unique in **bringing together** all parts of the healthcare system to help improve the health of patients and the public.

We work closely with our members to identify and prioritise the issues that are most important to them and the NHS as a whole, and deliver work programmes to help tackle these issues.

We work to **influence** key decisions and national policy developments on behalf of our members, and provide a **strong voice** for healthcare leaders on issues of shared concern.

We also support our specialist networks – including the Ambulance Service Network, Primary Care Trust Network, Mental Health Network and the NHS Partners Network – to provide our members with a strong and autonomous voice on issues where their part of the NHS has a distinct view.

We help all of our members to **make sense** of an increasingly fluid and diverse healthcare system and keep abreast of the complex policy agenda – offering unique insight and analysis on the national political agenda and practical assessment of the impact of policy on the planning, commissioning and delivery of system-wide services.

Finally, we provide added value to our members and the wider healthcare system through the delivery of **industry-wide support functions**, including:

- the NHS Employers organisation, that works to represent trusts in England on workforce issues
- the NHS European Office, that promotes the priorities and interests of the NHS to European institutions and provides information and advice to NHS organisations on relevant European Union developments
- the Service Delivery and Organisation Network and the Health Services Research Network, that help NHS organisations access and engage with health services research.