



NHS England's Development Plan

A Statement from the Academy Patient Lay Committee

31 March 2017

The Academy Patient lay Committee broadly welcomes the realistic and pragmatic tone of the plan that has been developed by NHS England and launched today. The strategies being set out through the Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs) are entirely sensible given the pressures that the NHS is facing now and is expected to face in the future. All NHS staff work tremendously hard to deliver care, so any new investment in additional staff and equipment, particularly in cancer care, is an important step. That said, we must all acknowledge that more can be done to use the resources we have more effectively – so that patients can be better served.

It is important that continued improvements and the delivery of the plan are dependent on:

- STPs and Clinical Commissioning Groups working closely together in an open and transparent way, to ensure that the voice of patients and the wider public is heard
- Accountable Care Organisations (ACOs) should do what they have been set up to do. That is ensure commissioners and providers work together in the best interests of the local population in the delivery of effective treatment
- Primary, secondary and community care need to be properly joined-up to ensure patients can flow the entire care system efficiently and with dignity
- The whole population takes a stronger and more determined responsibility for and attitude towards their own health
- Increased and sustained funding for future development and consolidated improvement of the NHS over the next 10 years are absolutely essential.