

Rt. Hon. Matt Hancock MP
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and Social Care
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Dear Matt

Last month we sent you a copy of an [Academy statement on workforce planning](#) which called for an inclusive and open debate about future workforce requirements and an improved process for planning the health and care workforce.

We have been having further discussion amongst Academy members and with partner professional, employer and health policy organisations and have refined our position.

We believe the forthcoming legislation should make provision for a statutory duty for:-

- A regular published independent assessment of health and care workforce projections and requirements from a designated responsible body
- A requirement on Government to respond to that assessment

We are not prescriptive as to as to who the designated body should be to carry out the assessment and we are not specifically calling for the establishment of any new organisation.

Workforce planning has to be inextricably linked with service and financial planning and so should this designated responsible body in England be HEE, which would probably be the most natural fit, we would expect there to be a requirement for NHSE and other relevant bodies to collaborate and share data.

You will be aware of suggestions along very much the same lines from other national bodies [[e.g. the letter from the Health Foundation, Nuffield Trust and Kings Fund](#)]. There is a clear consensus of opinion on the need for such an approach.



We would welcome the opportunity to discuss how we envisage this proposal working and will raise the issue at our meeting with you on 20 April.

With best wishes

Professor Helen Stokes-Lampard PhD FRCGP
Chair, Academy of Medical Royal Colleges

Danny Mortimer
Interim Chair NHS Confederation

Dr Chaand Nagpaul CBE
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