



Our Aims and Principles

Aims

1. To inform the public and the media what is happening as a result of the government's 'reform' programme.
2. To build a broadly based non-party political campaign to prevent further fragmentation and privatisation of the NHS.
3. To keep our NHS Public. This means funded from taxation, free at the point of use, and provided as a public service by people employed in the NHS and accountable to the public and Parliament.
4. To call for a public debate about the future of the NHS and to halt the further use of the private sector until such a debate is had.

Principles

We believe that the most equitable and efficient way of providing health care is:

1. The simplest and therefore most cost-effective system of administration of the NHS is based on planning and co-operation rather than market forces.
2. The purchaser provider split introduced in 1990 should be removed.
3. The re-integration of the service with each area having a single administrative body democratically elected and responsible for providing all primary, secondary, community and ambulance services for its population. This centrally allocated budget should be on a per capita basis with adjustment for deprivation. Minimum care standards of provision should be set based on good public health information.
4. Halt the further use of the private sector until independent researchers have evaluated proper data about the effect of existing projects. Proper governance procedures and openness about costs (i.e. the removal of commercial confidentiality clauses) is necessary.
5. No major reconfigurations of services away from the network of District General Hospitals without consultation with the local population and a proper evaluation of both the medical and economic benefits and costs including transport costs to patients and the environment.