20% by 2020

# A CHARTER FOR OUR NHS

The NHS is struggling. We can all see that funding is not keeping pace with inflation and demand. Staff shortages and unsafe working are speeding up a growing exodus of experienced staff, who are not being replaced fast enough. We face longer waits for treatment. Local services that are working well are threatened with closure.

Our NHS cannot be saved without more money

Because our NHS:

* Must put patients before profit and put the health of the public above short-term cost savings.
* Must continue to be available to future generations.
* Must be caring, safe, and see people in reasonable time.
* Must protect good local services.
* Must have enough nurses, doctors and other staff. Safe staffing laws should be introduced across the UK so that every health and care setting has the right number of staff with the right qualifications and skills.
* Must value, train, and support its staff at all levels. All staff must be properly paid and given time to train and retrain, including for any new roles.
* Should not permit private companies to select profitable parts of the service, undermining publicly provided ones; that is an end to “Cherry Picking” of the NHS by profit making companies.
* Must reverse the creeping privatisation of NHS services.
* Must recognise our mental health is as important to us as our physical health. The NHS should devote as much attention to staffing, funding, and improving mental health services as it does elsewhere.
* Must be able to learn from its mistakes to prevent them from happening again. It must be able to own up when something has gone wrong quickly and without fear.
* Must not penalise patients when their local service is overspent. The current practice of withholding money from NHS bodies said to be failing just means they have even less to spend on patients and have even less chance of improving.
* Must provide fair funding for NHS services in Cornwall and take account of our needs.

**Our NHS must continue to be available to everyone regardless of their ability to pay and must be comprehensive.**

When our understaffed, over-stretched NHS services can’t treat us as well as they ought to, and as they’d like to, they face critical inspections by the Care Quality Commission.

**Isn’t it time the CQC inspected the Government and its decisions about our NHS?**