





As the longest ever NHS doctors' strike begins, Mail exposes bloated pay of bosses at hospitals with worst waiting times

EXCLUSIVE

By Izzy Lyons, Tom Kelly and Kate Pickles

NHS chiefs running floundering trusts are pocketing up to £300,000 a year at a time when patients suffer at the hands of the longest strike in health service history.

Junior doctors today begin an unprecedented six-day walkout, delaying care for tens of thousands of patients and with experts warning the fallout could last months.

While their row over pay and conditions shows little sign of a conclusion, a Mail investigation found bosses of the 11 trusts with the longest referral waiting times – where the average delay for treatment is more than a year – all earn more than the Prime Minister, some significantly so.

Several have enjoyed pay rises or bonuses worth up to £30,000 on top of bumper salaries, prompting critics to hit back at the 'public sector fat cats with bulging pay packets and rotten records'.

In a cynical move, the longest-ever uninterrupted strike by junior doctors – with the British Medical Association looking for a 35 per cent pay rise – has been timed to coincide with traditionally the busiest week of the year to maximise disruption.

Health leaders predict more than 170,000 appointments and operations will be postponed, wreaking havoc with waiting lists, which had finally started to fall from a

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CURB THE NHS FAT CATS ON £300,000

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