

A Record of Delivery	A Promise of More
Increased the NHS budget every year in real terms, helping fund nearly 10,000 more doctors and 7,000 more nurses	Deliver the £8 billion England's NHS leaders say is needed to keep it strong, with money for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland too
Improved access to talking therapies: 2.6 million patients have been treated since 2010	Invest £500m to transform mental health care with waiting time standards to match those in physical health care
£400m invested to give carers a break with our respite fund	Introduce a package of support for carers including a £250 Carer's Bonus every year
Capped the cost of care, so older people can afford to get the help they need	Crack down on bad care, with better pay and conditions for care staff and higher standards for all

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Building a healthier society | Protecting the NHS and improving health

5.1 Investing in our NHS

The NHS is our most treasured public service. Liberal Democrats are committed to the founding principles of the NHS as a taxpayer-funded system, free at the point of use. To ensure this principle is maintained even as demand for health care grows, we will give the NHS the investment it needs. We are the only party with a credible plan to deliver the extra £8 billion NHS leaders know our health service in England needs by 2020, with the appropriate boost to funding for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland too.

We will:

- ♦ Always ensure access to health care is based on need not ability to pay and that the NHS remains free at the point of delivery.
- ♦ Deliver the money needed for England's NHS by:
 - ❖ Continuing real-terms protection of the NHS budget until