## **Survey for the 2025/26 NHS Payment Scheme consultation**

**Important notes**

The survey closes at midnight on (the end of) **28 February 2025**.

### Introduction

Thank you for taking the time to consider NHS England’s proposals for the 2025/26 NHS Payment Scheme (NHSPS).

This survey allows you to say whether you accept or reject the proposed NHSPS, and give reasons for your choice. It also gives you the opportunity to provide feedback on specific policy areas covered by the consultation notice.

The full consultation notice and all supporting material can be found here: [www.england.nhs.uk/publication/2025-26-nhsps-consultation/](http://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/2025-26-nhsps-consultation/)

**Important points**

Please note: your response will not be counted unless it has been submitted. When you have answered all the questions that you want to, select the 'Finish' button from the Contents page and then submit your response.

We may publish the responses we receive to this survey. If we do so, we will indicate which organisations we received responses from but not the names or roles of respondents.

This Word version of the survey is published to help you collate responses within your organisation. Please do not use this document to return comments to us.

If you require any assistance, please contact: england.pricingenquiries@nhs.net

### About you

Please provide your details here.

The objection thresholds for this consultation are based on the number of objections received from commissioners and providers of services in scope of the NHSPS. As such, we ask for details of people responding to the survey. As well as calculating objection thresholds, we also use the information provided here in our analysis of responses, and to follow up with individuals on specific points raised where necessary.

We may publish the responses we receive to this survey. If we do so, we will indicate which organisations we received responses from but not the names or roles of respondents.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Email |  |
| Organisation name |  |
| Organisation code (if known) |  |
| Organisation type |  |

### Accepting or rejecting the proposed NHS Payment Scheme

The 2012 Act, amended in 2022, provides that NHS England cannot publish the NHS Payment Scheme if either of the objection thresholds has been met without engaging with those who have objected to discuss their concerns in more detail (see Annex CnA of the consultation notice for more details).

Commissioners and relevant providers may object to the proposed NHSPS – not just the proposed method for setting national prices (as was the case for the National Tariff).

We have identified authorised responders for every relevant organisation and have sent a link of this survey to them. If you are unsure about who your organisation’s authorised responder is, please contact england.pricingenquiries@nhs.net

**Do you accept or reject the proposed 2025/26 NHS Payment Scheme?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Accept |  |
| Reject |  |

Please explain the reasons for your answer, particularly if you have chosen to reject the method:

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| --- |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| **If they were implemented, what impact do you feel the policies outlined are likely to have on equality and addressing health inequalities?** |
| Strong positive impact | Positive impact | Neither positive or negative impact | Negative impact | Strong negative impact | Don’t know |
| **Do you have concerns that there are distinct groups with protected characteristics that our policies may impact negatively?** |
|  |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answers** |
|  |

The following sections ask for feedback on individual policy areas. The question numbers match the sections in the consultation notice document.

### 5. Proposals applying to all payment mechanisms

Details of these proposals are set out in Section 5 of the consultation notice

#### 5.1 Duration

|  |
| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed one-year NHSPS?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 5.2 Payment principles

|  |
| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed payment principles?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 5.3 Cost adjustment: 2025/26 cost uplift factor

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed cost uplift factor?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 5.4 Cost adjustment: 2025/26 efficiency factor

|  |
| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed efficiency factor?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 5.5 Excluded items

|  |
| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed approach to excluded items in the NHSPS?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 5.6 Excluded items: ustekinumab

|  |
| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposal to move reimbursement of ustekinumab to fixed payment?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 5.7 Best practice tariffs

|  |
| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed approach to best practice tariffs (BPTs)?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### Do you have any other comments on the proposals that apply to all payment mechanisms?

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| --- |
| **Comments** |
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### 6. Elective and activity-based payments

Details of these proposals are set out in Section 6 of the consultation notice.

#### 6.1 Elective and activity-based payments

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposal to require commissioners to set payment limits for elective activity, and all services paid for on an activity basis?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

### 7. Payment mechanism: Aligned payment and incentive

Details of these proposals are set out in Section 7 of the consultation notice.

#### 7.1 Scope

|  |
| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed scope of the API payment mechanism?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 7.2 Design: Fixed element

|  |
| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed design of the API fixed element?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **To what extent do you support the proposal to require providers and commissioners to review their fixed payments?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answers** |
|  |

#### 7.3 Design: variable element – elective activity

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the design of the elective variable element?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 7.4 Design: specialised services

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed payment rules for specialised services?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 7.5 Design: abortion services

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposal to move to variable payment for abortion services?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 7.6 Design: community diagnostic centres

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposal to set NHSPS unit prices to be used for community diagnostic centre activity?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 7.7 Design: teledermatology

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposal to move to variable payment for teledermatology for patients on the urgent suspected skin cancer pathway?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
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#### 7.8 Design: Variations from API design

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the design of the proposed approach to variations from the default API design?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### Tools and products to support API

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you expect to use NHS England tools and products to support commissioning and payment setting for future periods (eg 2026/27)?** |
| **Product** | **Currently use and expect to continue doing so**  | **Don’t currently use, but expect to do so in future** | **Have used but don’t expect to do so in future** | **Haven’t used and don’t expect to**  |
| **ICS PLICS Benchmarking Dashboard** |  |  |  |  |
| **Health Expenditure Benchmarking Dashboard** |  |  |  |  |
| **Costed Pathways methodology** |  |  |  |  |
| **Population and Person Insight Platform** |  |  |  |  |
| **PLICS Portal** |  |  |  |  |
| **Model Health System** |  |  |  |  |

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| --- |
| **If you do not expect to use some of the payment tools and products, what factors would prevent you from using them? (select all appropriate):** |
| **I’m not aware of the product(s)** |  |
| **I don’t understand the product(s)** |  |
| **It doesn’t seem relevant to what I’m trying to do** |  |
| **Don’t have the time / resource** |  |
| **It doesn’t have the data I need**  |  |
| **It doesn’t have the functionality that I need**  |  |
| **Other (please specify)** |  |
| **Please give any more information about your reasons** |
|  |

#### Do you have any other comments on the proposed API payment mechanism?

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| --- |
| **Comments** |
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### 8. Payment mechanism: Low volume activity (LVA) block payments

Details of these proposals are set out in Section 8 of the consultation notice.

#### 8.1 LVA scope

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed scope of LVA arrangements?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 8.2 LVA design

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed LVA design?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |
| **Do you have any suggestions for a consistent way to understand activity flows between ICBs and distant mental health and community providers?** |
|  |

#### Do you have any other comments on the proposed LVA payment mechanism?

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| --- |
| **Comments** |
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### 9. Payment mechanism: Activity-based payments

Details of these proposals are set out in Section 9 of the consultation notice.

#### 9.1 Activity-based payments scope

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed scope of activity-based payments?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 9.2 Activity-based payments design

|  |
| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed activity-based payment design?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### Do you have any other comments on the proposed activity-based payment mechanism?

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| --- |
| **Comments** |
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### 10. Payment mechanism: Local payment arrangements

Details of these proposals are set out in Section 10 of the consultation notice.

#### 10.1 Local payment arrangements scope

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed scope of local payment arrangements?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 10.2 Local payment arrangements design

|  |
| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed local payment arrangements design?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### Do you have any other comments on the proposed local payment mechanism?

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| --- |
| **Comments** |
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### 11. Prices: role, calculation and related adjustments

Details of these proposals are set out in Section 11 of the consultation notice.

#### 11.1 The role of prices

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| **To what extent do you support the proposed role of prices in the 2025/26 NHSPS?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 10.2 Calculating 2025/26 prices

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed approach to calculating 2025/26 NHSPS prices?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
|  |

#### 10.3 Price adjustments

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposed price adjustments?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
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#### 10.4 Market forces factor

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| --- |
| **To what extent do you support the proposal to update the data used to calculate MFF values?** |
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
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#### Do you have any other comments on prices and related adjustments?

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| --- |
| **Please explain the reasons for your answer** |
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### Mental health and community services currency development

**Please note: We particularly welcome responses to these questions from providers of mental health and community services**

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| **Were you aware of the work to develop the currency models prior to the consultation?** |
| **Mental Health** | Yes | No |
| **Community** | Yes | No |

|  |
| --- |
| **To what extent do you agree with each of the development principles for community services and mental health services currency models?** |
|  | Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support or oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don’t know |
| Currencies should support an understanding of the value of care delivered, not just count activity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| The currencies will place the patient at the centre, considering their overall needs, not just specific needs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Models will be driven by available data wherever possible. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| The currencies will segment based on patient complexity and needs. With iterative development steps to support effective roll out |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| --- |
| **How helpful do you think the following support offerings from NHSE would be in supporting your organisation with the implementation of currency models?** |
|  | Extremely helpful | Quite helpful | Not very helpful | Unhelpful |  | Don’t know |
| Currency guidance for each currency model |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FutureNHS workspace |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Case studies |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grouper |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Monthly reports/ dashboards on provider-level grouping results |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| For mental health, including currencies as a derived variable in data set post-submission extracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other benchmarking tools |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Engagement webinars |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Co-productive discussion forums |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Guides to support commissioning change |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| --- |
| The ambition for these **Mental health** currency models is to build on them over time. Please rank these additional dimensions in order of which you feel should be prioritised for future development. |
| More granular measurement of needs within existing models (low/medium/high) |  |
| Cross-cutting need and complexity factors (may not result in specific units)  |  |
| More granular units for settings (e.g., secure vs. non-secure, stratifying community treatment)  |  |
| Something else (Please specify) |  |

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| --- |
| The ambition for these **Community** currency models is to build on them over time. Please rank these additional dimensions in order of which you feel should be prioritised for future development. |
| Consider how currency model will support future payment and movement of services into community settings. |  |
| Build on tools/guidance to support collaboration and build an evidence basis for benchmarking, and service design |  |
| Consider how currencies and payment can support reduction in waiting lists. |  |
| Something else (Please specify) |  |

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| --- |
| **For both Mental Health services and Community services, we will also develop tools and guidance for specific currency applications. How important are each of the following?**  |
|  | Extremely important | Quite important | Not very important | Not at al important | Not sure |
| Planning (population health management, demand) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Contracting/ payment |  |  |  |  |  |
| Financial incentives for quality improvement |  |  |  |  |  |
| Productivity analysis |  |  |  |  |  |
| Waiting times monitoring and management |  |  |  |  |  |
| Costing |  |  |  |  |  |
| Quality benchmarking/ service evaluation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Outcome benchmarking/ evaluation (PROMs, clinical outcomes, population outcomes, quality indicators) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Understanding healthcare inequalities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other (please specify) |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Do you have any other comments about the mental health and community currency development** |
|  |

### Any other comments

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| --- |
| **Do you have any other comments on our proposals for the 2025/26 NHS Payment Scheme?** |
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| --- |
| **Do you have any comments or suggestions on how we could improve how we engage with you on our proposals?** |
|  |
| **How could we improve the information you are given as part of the statutory consultation and its impact assessment?** |
|  |