

Sheffield Save Our NHS



THIS GOVERNMENT

Isn't just stealing your pension

Isn't just stealing your NHS



IT'S ATTACKING ALL PUBLIC SERVICES

THEY'RE AFTER YOUR MONEY AND YOUR LIFE

The Conservatives said they would not reduce the NHS Budget in real terms BUT

FACT – In 2010-11 the Department of Health held back £1.7 billion from the NHS, exactly the amount initially forecast on redundancies under the NHS reforms.

FACT – In real terms the NHS spent over £750,000 less in 2010 than 2009. In England over 10,000 patients did not get operations in 2010 when they would have in 2009 (Patients' Association). Waiting lists are increasing.

FACT – The cuts will continue coming. Sheffield Teaching Hospitals are overspending and next year the price for services will be reduced by at least another 1.5%.

More information: www.sheffieldsaveournhs.co.uk <http://ssonhs.blogspot.com>

Defend the NHS! Stop Cuts!

Stop Privatisation!

Before the election, the Conservatives repeatedly promised “no more top-down reorganisations” of the NHS. But Andrew Lansley’s Health and Social Care Bill causes both upheaval and privatisation. The Bill is opposed by virtually every organisation of health professionals (including the Royal College of GPs and the BMA). The health unions and many thousands of members of the public have campaigned against it. In the House of Lords, peer after peer has criticised the Bill and the Conservatives have had to postpone the final voting till the end of January.

Even in the Health Service many staff are still not really sure what difference the Bill will make to them. But it will. For a start they will be even less sure who they will work for. It’s been bad enough with Trusts of all sorts, mergers, transfers, etc. Now we have big private companies lurking, eager to take advantage of the NHS brand. The Bill is quite clear, even as amended, that services will be decided by competition. Who will decide? Well, nominally GPs, but from 2016 they will be advised by commissioning organisations also selected by competition – something which is likely to favour firms like KPMG, PWC, Ernst & Young, names familiar from the City pages. Competition will supposedly be decided by quality rather than price, but of course price will come into it, especially as NHS spending comes under even greater pressure. The supposedly level playing field will be slanted to the private sector which will have a huge range of advantages.

One of these advantages relates to pensions. The Hutton report recommended that the private sector should be exempted from providing pension schemes comparable to those in the public sector so private profit-making companies will straightaway have lower costs before they start thinking about lower wages and worse conditions, thus standing a better chance of winning NHS commissions and tenders.

The government’s proposed NHS reforms as currently framed

- remove the state’s responsibility for health provision
- encourage private companies to profit from our health
- will reduce co-operation, fragment services, and bring back a postcode lottery
- will tempt GPs to think about their budgets rather than what is best for you

THE BATTLE AGAINST LANSLEY’S BILL CAN STILL BE WON

The pressure needs to be kept up. Keep marching, keep protesting, keep writing letters to MPs, Lords and the papers about what you think are the dangers to the NHS.

GET INVOLVED IN THE CAMPAIGN BY COMING TO OUR NEXT MEETING AND SHARING YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT HOW WE CAN SAVE THE NHS.

SHEFFIELD SAVE OUR NHS

WE STAND FOR:

- ◇ A publicly owned health service that puts people before profit!
- ◇ An open, accountable and democratically run health service!
- ◇ Quality, accessible health care free at the point of delivery for all!

Next meeting

12th December 7pm
Victoria Hall S1