

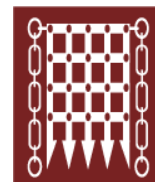
Westminster Health Forum policy conference:

Next steps for cancer policy in England

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 30th April 2026

Taking place online

Draft agenda subject to change



WESTMINSTER
HEALTH FORUM

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Priorities for cancer diagnosis, treatment and care - assessing the role of the *National Cancer Plan* in addressing challenges and strengthening delivery**
Professor Mark Lawler, Professor, Digital Health and Chair, Translational Cancer Genomics, Queen's University Belfast
- 9.15 **Evolving cancer pathways - survivorship, earlier diagnosis, and developing the role of patients**
Eve Byrne, Director, National System Change, Macmillan Cancer Support
- 9.25 **Priorities for prevention, early diagnosis, and screening**
strategies for strengthening public awareness and community engagement | school and workplace health promotion | community-level programmes for high-risk groups | public health policy, including restrictions on HFSS food volume promotions | reducing inequalities and improving access for hard-to-reach groups | access to screening and assessing priority groups for expansion, including newborn and prostate cancer screening | alignment with women and men's health strategies | implementing Jess's rule and workforce education | addressing pressures in primary care | practical implementation of the Faster Diagnosis Standard | use of genomics in inherited conditions | AI-enabled triage in early diagnosis pathways
Professor Rakesh Heer, Chair, Urology, Imperial College London
Dr Anup Shah, Clinical Director, Primary Care and Co-Director, Hertsmere Neighbourhood, Central East ICB
Greg Fell, President, Association of Directors of Public Health; and Director, Public Health for Sheffield
David Thorne, Head, NHS Policy, BIVDA; and Transformation Director, Well Up North Primary Care Network
- 9.45 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.10 **Learning from approaches to cancer care pathways outside England**
Dr Triona McCarthy, Interim National Director, National Cancer Control Programme, Ireland Health Service Executive
- 10.20 **Assessing the way forward for system reform, neighbourhood care, and workforce transformation**
commitments set out in the National Cancer Plan and NHS 10 Year Health Plan | oversight and accountability arrangements and cross-departmental coordination | the future role and structure of cancer alliances | mitigating disruption during transition and budget allocation within integrated care systems | the role of community diagnostic hubs | use of the NHS App in improving follow-up pathways | digital alternatives for patients and managing the risk of exclusion | improving IT infrastructure and interoperability for clinicians | staffing and capacity for interpreting test results | retaining and upskilling clinical staff | delivery of holistic needs assessments and personalised care plans | supporting patient access to care, including travel to and from services
Susan Sinclair, Managing Director, RM Partners NHS Cancer Alliance
Dr Nicky Thorp, Vice President, Clinical Oncology, The Royal College of Radiologists
Laura Lee, Chief Executive, Maggie's
Dr Michael Shenouda, Chief Commercial Officer and Chief Medical Officer, Open Medical
Senior representative, child health
- 10.45 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.10 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.15 Break
- 11.25 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.30 **Assessing innovative cancer diagnostics, supporting equitable access for patients, and guiding adoption through real-world evidence**
Dr Sarah Byron, Programme Director, HealthTech Strategy and Development, NICE
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.55 **Next steps for delivering the *National Cancer Plan***
Senior commentator
- 12.05 **Research, clinical trials and personalised treatment - priorities for innovation, AI, and equitable access**
criteria for selecting patients for genomic testing and equity in eligibility decisions | funding models for personalised vaccines and improving access to innovation | assessing variation in adoption of new treatments and technologies | expanding vaccine trials through the NHS Cancer Vaccine Launch Pad | incentives for non-commercial and rare cancer trials | structures for faster ethical and contract approval | assessing regulatory changes for clinical trials and personalised medicines | governance of AI-driven analysis | the role of the Health Data Research Service | priorities for the Children and Young People Cancer Taskforce, including rarer cancers and age-specific needs
Gary McAllister, Chief Technology Officer, Healthcare and Public Sector, Dell Technologies
Dr Pilar Ramos, Senior Manager, Medical Affairs Europe, Illumina
Alison Tonge, Executive Director, Strategy Planning and Innovation, NHS Arden and GEM Commissioning Support Unit
Professor John Radford, University of Manchester; The Christie NHS Foundation Trust; and NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre
- 12.30 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Health Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Jessica Lear, Westminster Health Forum