

NHS ENGLAND AND NHS IMPROVEMENT FOLLOW UP RESPONSE TO THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE COMMITTEE HEARING ON 30 JUNE 2020, HELD IN CONNECTION WITH THE COMMITTEE'S DELIVERING CORE NHS AND CARE SERVICES DURING THE PANDEMIC AND BEYOND.

1. How many of the following have been postponed or cancelled since the start of pandemic?

a) Elective procedures¹ b) cancer surgery procedures² and c) cancer surgery procedures³

d) cancer screenings

Routine invitations were largely paused by screening providers at the end of march but are now being restored. Usual weekly invitations are 100k for bowel, 89k for cervical, and 55k for breast.

e) mental health appointments

Provisional data show IAPT attendances of 427k in March, 424k in April and 389k in May. The MHSDS shows people in contact with mental health services as 1.28m in March and 1.20m in April.

2. How much more funding does the NHS need to return to its pre-Covid run-rate of activity?

The government has confirmed funding for the remainder of this year to cover some continuing use of independent hospitals, nightingale reserve capacity and community health discharge services.

¹ Q236

² Q189

³ Q190

We understand the government intends to make decisions in the autumn spending review about the need for any future waiting list ‘catch up’ and any resulting need for permanent additions to NHS capacity, and the funding consequences arising from that.

3. If you get that funding, when do you expect waiting times to return to pre-pandemic levels?

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Additional monthly NHS official statistics have also been published since the date of the hearing, and can be found at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/combined-performance-summary/>

Full transcript of the NHS England and NHS Improvement oral evidence session can be found at:

<https://committees.parliament.uk/event/1496/formal-meeting-oral-evidence-session/>

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