



# Department of Health & Social Care

*From Ashley Dalton MP  
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State  
for Public Health and Prevention*

*39 Victoria Street  
London  
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Layla Moran MP  
Chair, Health and Social Care Select Committee  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

24 April 2025

Dear Layla,

Following our previous update on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024 regarding our plan to publish the Men's Health Strategy for England, I am writing to inform you and members of the Health and Social Care Committee that today we are publishing a call for evidence to support its development.

We know that men face unique challenges throughout their lives, including being disproportionately affected by a number of health conditions, being more likely to engage in unhealthy behaviours and experiencing barriers in accessing healthcare services. Life expectancy data shows that men live on average around four years fewer than women in England. There are also significant inequalities within men's health, with the gap in life expectancy at birth between men and women increasing in line with greater levels of deprivation.

The Men's Health Strategy for England will tackle these problems head on. The strategy will look at the outcomes and evidence surrounding men's health and the action we need to take to improve the health of all men. This will include consideration of how to prevent and tackle the biggest health problems.

The Strategy will set out how we will work across the system to improve the health of all men in England through:

- understanding and identifying areas where we can improve support for healthier behaviours;
- improving outcomes for health conditions that typically, disproportionately or differently affect men; and
- improving men's access, engagement and experience of the health service.

It will seek to improve the health and wellbeing of all men in England and take a life-course approach.

The government has set out an ambitious programme of reform for the NHS. The 10 Year Health Plan will fundamentally reform the NHS through three shifts. The Men's Health Strategy for England will form part of this programme of reform, ensuring that all men get the support they need to live happy, healthy and fulfilling lives.

A call for evidence will allow my department to capture and consider a wide range of views, including the lived experience of men and expert opinions, to understand what is working and what more needs to be done.

The call for evidence will run for 12 weeks and will close on 17 July 2025. We are communicating the publication of the call for evidence widely, but I would encourage you and members of your committee to draw it to the attention of any organisations or constituents that you believe would be interested in responding. An easy read and British Sign Language version of the call for evidence will be published shortly and will open for 12 weeks.

Following engagement with stakeholder organisations and analysis of the responses to the call for evidence, we intend to publish the Men's Health Strategy for England by the end of 2025.

My department is also considering the Committee's recommendations as part of the Strategy's development.

I am grateful for the Committee's valuable insights and look forward to continued engagement on this important topic.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ashley Dalton', with a stylized, flowing script.

**ASHLEY DALTON**