



CVS Rochdale **Policy Briefing**

Proposals for changes with the NHS health reforms

Andrew Lansley, the health secretary, is preparing to push through a heavily amended version of his NHS (National Health Service) reforms.

The government will show unity when David Cameron, Nick Clegg and Andrew Lansley will give their formal response to the Future Forum report on the NHS reforms.. The three men will endorse the main proposals of the report, which was formally presented to the government by Professor Steve Field, the chairman of the Future Forum. These are:

- the pace of the proposed changes should be varied so that the NHS implements them only where it is ready to do so
- the Secretary of State for Health should remain ultimately accountable for the NHS
- nurses, specialist doctors and other clinicians must be involved in making local decisions about the commissioning of care – not just GPs – but in doing this the NHS should avoid tokenism, or the creation of a new bureaucracy
- competition should be used to secure greater choice and better value for patients – it should be used not as an end in itself, but to improve quality, promote integration and increase citizens' rights
- the drive for change in the NHS should not be based on Monitor's duty to 'promote' competition, which should be removed, but on citizens' power to challenge the local health service when they feel it does not offer meaningful choices or good quality
- all organisations involved in NHS care and spending NHS money should be subject to the same high standards of public openness and accountability.

The Forum's [recommendations](#) will now be considered and responded to by the Government.

The NHS Future Forum was launched on 6 April as part of the Government's listening exercise on the current Health and Social Care Bill. Since then its 45 members have attended around 200 events and have met more than 6,700 people face to face. More

than 25,000 people have sent their views to the Forum by email, while a further 4,000 have sent private comments, completed questionnaires or website responses.

Full details of the report plus an introduction of the NHS Future Forum click [here](#)

CVS Rochdale will keep you updated with this issue and any issues regarding the health reforms.