

LABOUR PARTY HEALTH DEBATE 2ND MARCH 2016

RCN position

People need to know they can access the right care in the right place whenever they need it, in their own homes or in their local community. But to deliver that we know that we are going to have to work in new ways.

The report of the Primary Care Out of Hours Review Group Chaired by Professor Sir Lewis Ritchie had a clear emphasis on innovation, co-ordination and multi-disciplinary teams responding to the needs of patients reflects our work on developing a model of care which includes doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, community pharmacists and other specialists working together to deliver excellent care.

At a time when we are stretched to the limit, it is an imperative to work in a way that is innovative and national.

Shaping generations to come

In our report [Professional voices: practical solutions](#) we set out a vision for general practice for generations to come.

One of the ways we have asked GPs to support that goal is that they support the creation of a set of clear, consistent and transparent criteria to be used when they or government take any decision on health care funding.

This means that any investment, or disinvestment decisions would have to align with these agreed criteria. Having agreed principles would make the difficult decisions somewhat easier and certainly clearer for members of the public.

If we continue to deliver care in the same way we do now, we know the demands on our health care services will outstrip what we can deliver.

