



ASK YOUR CANDIDATE

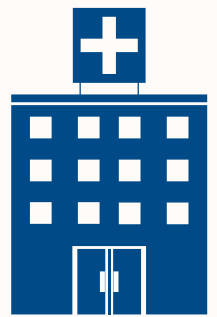
HELP ENSURE EVERYONE IN BRITAIN CAN ACCESS THE HEALTHCARE THEY NEED, EVEN IF THEY CANNOT VOTE.

IF YOU WERE ELECTED, HOW WILL YOU SPEAK UP FOR THE RIGHT TO ACCESS HEALTHCARE?



DO YOU THINK NHS SERVICES SHOULD BE OBLIGED TO CHECK PATIENTS' IMMIGRATION STATUS?

Current NHS regulations place a statutory requirement on NHS Trusts to identify patients' immigration status and, in some circumstances, to share it with the Home Office. This places a heavy burden on our already overstretched NHS, challenges the ethics of healthcare professionals, and deters people from seeking medical treatment.



HOW WILL YOU ENSURE EVERYONE LIVING IN THE UK GETS TIMELY ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE CARE?



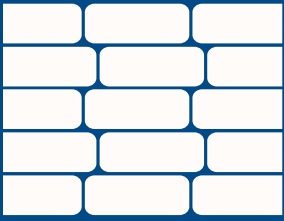
NHS charging regulations are deterring patients from accessing healthcare. As the current rules stand, EU citizens might also face barriers when accessing NHS services and bills of thousands of pounds if they can't provide the right paperwork. This poses a threat to their health and constitutes a public health issue.

WHAT WILL YOU DO TO MOVE US CLOSER TO OUR UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE PLEDGE IN THE 2015 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS?

The UK committed to working towards universal health coverage in the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals – meaning that the system should be seeking to expand coverage to everyone in the UK. However, recent rules are creating more barriers to access to healthcare.



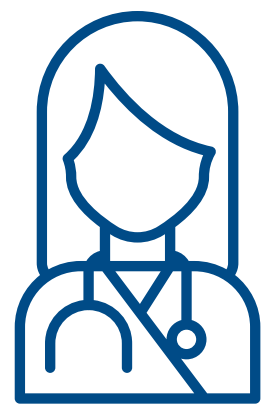
WILL YOU IMPLEMENT AN INFORMATION FIREWALL BETWEEN THE NHS AND THE HOME OFFICE?



Currently, NHS Trusts are forced to share patients' information with the Home Office if patients' debt is above £500 after six months from treatment, often for bills in the thousands of pounds. The patient data can then be used for immigration purposes, like arrests and deportation.

HOW WILL YOU ENSURE EU NATIONALS ARE NOT WRONGFULLY DENIED HEALTHCARE TREATMENT?

Safeguards that are meant to ensure that patients who need immediately necessary or urgent are being trumped by the charging regulations. This means that patients suffering from cancer, heart failure, and in need of palliative care have been wrongfully left without any treatment. Under current rules, this could also apply to EU nationals living in the UK.



DO YOU BELIEVE TREATMENT SHOULD BE GIVEN ON THE BASIS OF NEED RATHER THAN ABILITY TO PAY?



After Brexit, EU nationals could be subject to an excessive immigration health surcharge (IHS) and prohibitive upfront charging. A family of four could have to pay £8,100 for two years and half for IHS on top of other immigration fees, even if they pay UK taxes. This will be particularly difficult for destitute people or people in low income jobs, tearing apart families and leaving people without healthcare coverage.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO MAKE SURE THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES OF THE NHS ARE PROTECTED?

The NHS was founded on the principles, established by Bevan, that treatment should be provided free at the point of delivery based on need not ability to pay, yet NHS charging regulations are seeing some of the poorest and most marginalised people in the UK refused NHS services when they can't pay.

