Westminster Health Forum policy conference:

Priorities for improving urgent and emergency care services in England

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 2nd October 2025

Taking place online

Draft agenda subject to change



9.00 Chair's opening remarks

Senior Parliamentarian

9.05 Assessing pressures in emergency care services and opportunities for mitigation ahead of winter

Tim Gardner, Assistant Director, Policy, The Health Foundation

Questions and comments from the floor

9.30 Strategic priorities for tackling key challenges in urgent and emergency care in England

assessing the NHS Urgent and Emergency Care Plan 2025/26 | priorities for the 10-Year Health Plan | updated targets for ambulance response, handover and discharge | improving patient flow and eliminating corridor care | developing new assessment centres and improving access for children | managing mental health crisis admissions | hospital-level accountability, performance and transparency | next steps for digital tools, the NHS App and connecting care records | addressing digital exclusion and building trust in data use | patient power payments and improving patient experience | coordination across primary, community and ambulance services | priorities for integrated neighbourhood health teams

Senior representative, ambulance services

Senior representative, NHS trust

Senior representative, patient group

Senior representative, research

Senior representative, mental health

Questions and comments from the floor

10.25 Next steps for supporting the emergency medicine workforce in delivery of safe and timely patient care

Dr Adrian Boyle, President, Royal College of Emergency Medicine

Questions and comments from the floor

10.50 Chair's closing remarks

Senior Parliamentarian

10.55 Break

11.05 Chair's opening remarks

Senior Parliamentarian

11.10 Patient priorities for emergency care - safety, access and co-production

Rachel Power, Chief Executive, The Patients Association

Questions and comments from the floor

11.35 The future for emergency care infrastructure, discharge and community care

expanding community-based delivery and urgent response teams | virtual care and discharge integration with social care | role of ambulance services and shared decision-making | supporting elderly, vulnerable and high-use patients | use of care plans and therapy support for frail inpatients | rollout and placement of Same Day Emergency Care and Urgent Treatment Centres | patient education and digital access via the NHS App | improving public awareness and health literacy to reduce A&E footfall

Dr Caroline Taylor, Clinical Chair, National Association of Primary Care

Professor Jugdeep Dhesi, President, British Geriatrics Society; Consultant Geriatrician, POPS, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust; and Professor, Geriatric Medicine, King's College London

Professor Suzanne Mason, Professor, Emergency Medicine, University of Sheffield; and Clinical Director, Research, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Julian Coffey, Head, Urgent Care Service, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust; and Member, NHS England Hospitals UEC Clinical Advisory Group

Senior representative, community care

Questions and comments from the floor

12.30 Next steps for urgent and emergency care policy in England

Senior representative, policy

Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 Chair's and Westminster Health Forum closing remarks

Senior Parliamentarian

Jessica Lear, Westminster Health Forum

