3 Department of Health

AIM

Transform the health and social care system so that it produces faster, fairer services that deliver better health and tackle health inequalities.

OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS

Objective I: Improve the health of the population. By 2010 increase life expectancy at birth in England to 78.6 years for men and to 82.5 years for women.

1. *Substantially reduce mortality rates by 2010:*
   - *from heart disease and stroke and related diseases by at least 40% in people under 75, with at least a 40% reduction in the inequalities gap between the fifth of areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators and the population as a whole;*
   - *from cancer by at least 20% in people under 75, with a reduction in the inequalities gap of at least 6% between the fifth of areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators and the population as a whole; and*
   - *from suicide and undetermined injury by at least 20%.*
2. *Reduce health inequalities by 10% by 2010 as measured by infant mortality and life expectancy at birth.*
3. *Tackle the underlying determinants of ill health and health inequalities by:*
   - *reducing adult smoking rates to 21% or less by 2010, with a reduction in prevalence among routine and manual groups to 26% or less;*
   - *halting the year-on-year rise in obesity among children under 11 by 2010 in the context of a broader strategy to tackle obesity in the population as a whole.* **Joint with the Department for Education and Skills and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport;** *and*
   - *reducing the under-18 conception rate by 50% by 2010 as part of a broader strategy to improve sexual health.* **Joint with the Department for Education and Skills.**

Objective II: Improve health outcomes for people with long-term conditions.

4. *To improve health outcomes for people with long-term conditions by offering a personalised care plan for vulnerable people most at risk; and to reduce emergency bed days by 5% by 2008, through improved care in primary care and community settings for people with long-term conditions.*

Objective III: Improve access to services.

5. *To ensure that by 2008 no-one waits more than 18 weeks from GP referral to hospital treatment.*
6. *Increase the participation of problem drug users in drug treatment programmes by 100% by 2008 and increase year on year the proportion of users successfully sustaining or completing treatment programmes.*

Objective IV: Improve the patient and user experience.

7. *Secure sustained national improvements in NHS patient experience by 2008, as measured by independently validated surveys, ensuring that individuals are fully involved in decisions about their healthcare, including choice of provider.*

8. *Improve the quality of life and independence of vulnerable older people by supporting them to live in their own homes where possible by:*

   - *increasing the proportion of older people being supported to live in their own home by 1% annually in 2007 and 2008; and*
   - *increasing by 2008, the proportion of those supported intensively to live at home to 34% of the total of those being supported at home or in residential care.*

STANDARDS

In addition to the targets the following standards will be achieved and maintained:

- A four hour maximum wait in Accident and Emergency from arrival to admission, transfer or discharge.
- Guaranteed access to a primary care professional within 24 hours and to a primary care doctor within 48 hours.
- Every hospital appointment booked for the convenience of the patient, making it easier for patients and their GPs to choose the hospital and consultant that best meets their needs.
- Improve life outcomes of adults and children with mental health problems, by ensuring that all patients who need them have access to crisis services and a comprehensive Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERY?

The Secretary of State for Health is responsible for the delivery of the targets in this PSA. The Secretary of State for Health, the Secretary of State for Education and Skills and the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport are jointly responsible for delivering the element of target 3 which relates to obesity. The Secretary of State for Health and the Secretary of State for Education and Skills are jointly responsible for delivering the element of target 3 which relates to reducing the under 18 conception rate.

The Secretary of State for Health is also responsible for delivering the agreed efficiency target set out in the Department of Health chapter of the 2004 Spending Review White Paper.