The changes in the NHS aim to empower patients and local clinicians to make decisions about NHS services in your area. Patients in England now have more choice and control over where to go for treatment, and can use patient power to make services better.

This infographic explains how the new NHS is structured.

**Using the NHS**

- **Department of Health (DH)**
  The DH supports the Secretary of State for Health, setting national policy and legislation.

- **NHS England**
  NHS England is an independent body managing the NHS budget and commissioning services.

- **NHS Trust Development Authority (NHS TDA)**
  The NHS TDA provides governance and accountability for NHS trusts in England, and helps trusts prepare for foundation trust status.

- **Clinical commissioning groups (CCGs)**
  Most of the NHS commissioning budget is now managed by 211 CCGs.

- **Health and wellbeing boards**
  These are forums where key leaders from the health and care system work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and reduce health inequalities.

- **Local education and training boards (LETBs)**
  LETBs work together to develop, educate and train the future NHS workforce.

- **Health Education England (HEE)**
  HEE is responsible for the education, training and personal development of every member of NHS staff, and recruiting for values.

- **NHS Employers**
  The NHS Employers organisation is the authoritative voice of workforce leaders, experts in HR, negotiating fairly to get the best deal for patients.

- **NICE**
  The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) produces guidance, quality standards and other products to support health, public health and social care practitioners provide the best possible quality care and the best value for money.

**The NHS workforce**

- **Healthwatch England**
  Healthwatch England is the independent consumer champion for health and social care in England. Working with a network of 152 local Healthwatches, it ensures that the voices of patients and those who use services reach the ears of the decision makers.

- **Care Quality Commission (CQC)**
  The CQC is the independent regulator of all health and social care services in England. Its job is to make sure that care provided meets national standards of quality and safety.

- **Monitor**
  Monitor promotes the provision of healthcare services which are effective, efficient and economic, and maintains or improves the quality of services. It assesses NHS trusts for foundation trust status.

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**FACTS**

- **Your local NHS**
  - 58 mental health trusts, providing services for people with mental health problems
  - 38 community trusts, providing district nurses, health visitors for new parents and end-of-life care
  - 13 ambulance trusts, operating the ambulance service across England, and making over 50,000 emergency journeys each week
  - 2,312 hospitals (in the UK)
  - 10,500 GP practices (in the UK)
  - 10,000 dental practices (in the UK)
  - 12,000 registered optometrists (in the UK)
  - 10,000 pharmacies, providing a range of advisory services and dispensing of prescriptions

- **In 2010, 926.7 million prescriptions were dispensed and £3.8 billion was spent by the NHS on medicines used in hospitals.**

- **In 1948, 13-year-old Sylvia Diggery was admitted to a Manchester hospital with a liver condition, becoming the first patient to be treated by the NHS.**

- **The NHS employs around 143,836 doctors, 370,327 qualified nursing staff, and 38,214 managers.**

- **The NHS recruits around 35,000 people to healthcare professional courses each year.**

- **The NHS is the third largest employer in the world.**

- **The NHS deals with over 1 million patients every 36 hours.**

- **The NHS is the third largest employer in the world.**

- **Staff across the NHS are in contact with more than 1.5 million patients and their families every day.**

- **In 2013, over 35,000 people were treated by the NHS.**