



HFMA comments on social care report

Paul Briddock, Director of Policy at HFMA, commented:

“The recent report by Nuffield Trust and Kings Fund echoes many of the themes we found in our latest Temperature Check research. Our members reported that spending on social care, particularly for older people, by local authorities has fallen by 25% in real terms in the last five years to 2015. This chimes with our findings and predictions that 56% of trusts believe the impact of social care to be one of the biggest risks to achieving planned savings.

“This week’s report highlights that support available from local authorities has been reduced and over 40% of money paid to care homes came from people paying for themselves. The lack of the right investment in social care places more pressure on an already stretched healthcare system, particularly when it comes to the discharge of elderly patients. It’s no secret that NHS finances are facing unprecedented challenges, but to overcome these, we do need health and social care to work better together. Even when the demand on services creates additional pressures across the board, collaboration in health and social care is vital in achieving high quality care for all.”

HFMA

The HFMA is the voice of 10,000 NHS finance directors and finance staff working in healthcare. HFMA is a registered charity and the only professional body in the UK dedicated to setting and promoting the highest standards in financial management and governance in healthcare, through encouraging more effective use of resources.

Their membership represents the majority of NHS finance directors and NHS finance staff. As the voice of two thirds of NHS finance staff (with 90% working in the NHS), HFMA’s membership includes CEOs, directors of finance, clinicians and practice managers, as well as other staff at all levels of the finance function.

As well as promoting best practice, they also offer education and CPD resources for the UK health economy through both their local and national networks

Further information about HFMA activities can be found on their website – www.hfma.org.uk or through their Twitter channel, @HFMA_UK

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