



# National Health Service Act 2006

## 2006 CHAPTER 41

### PART 1

#### PROMOTION AND PROVISION OF THE HEALTH SERVICE IN ENGLAND

##### *The Secretary of State and the health service in England*

#### [<sup>F1</sup> Secretary of State's duty to promote comprehensive health service

- (1) The Secretary of State must continue the promotion in England of a comprehensive health service designed to secure improvement—
  - (a) in the physical and mental health of the people of England, and
  - (b) in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of physical and mental illness.
- (2) For that purpose, the Secretary of State must exercise the functions conferred by this Act so as to secure that services are provided in accordance with this Act.
- (3) The Secretary of State retains ministerial responsibility to Parliament for the provision of the health service in England.
- (4) The services provided as part of the health service in England must be free of charge except in so far as the making and recovery of charges is expressly provided for by or under any enactment, whenever passed.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 1 substituted (1.10.2012 for specified purposes, 1.4.2013 in so far as not already in force) by [Health and Social Care Act 2012 \(c. 7\)](#), [ss. 1, 306\(4\)](#); [S.I. 2012/1831](#), [art. 2\(2\)](#); [S.I. 2013/160](#), [art. 2\(2\)](#) (with [arts. 7-9](#))

**Changes to legislation:**

National Health Service Act 2006, Section 1 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 18 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 3B(1)(aa) inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 2\(b\)](#)
- s. 3B(1)(za) inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 2\(a\)](#)
- s. 13G(4) words omitted by virtue of 2012 c. 7, Sch. 14 para. 4A (as inserted) by [2014 c. 23 s. 120\(18\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 35(3A)(3B) inserted by [2012 c. 7 s. 159\(4\)](#)
- s. 35(3A) words substituted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 5 para. 12\(4\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertion of s. 35(3A) by 2012 c. 7 s.159(4) not yet in force.)
- s. 40(4)-(4B) substituted for s. 40(4) by [2012 c. 7 Sch. 14 para. 5](#)
- s. 42(1A) inserted by [2012 c. 7 Sch. 14 para. 6](#)
- s. 65F(2A)-(2F) inserted by [2012 c. 7 Sch. 14 para. 15\(4\)](#) (This amendment is itself amended before it comes into force by 2014 c. 23, ss. 85(15), 120(18)(b)(c), 127(1); S.I. 2014/1714, art. 3(2)(b)(c))
- s. 65H(10A) inserted by [2012 c. 7 Sch. 14 para. 17\(4\)](#)
- s. 65H(10A) omitted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 8 para. 7\(7\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. 2012 c. 7 Sch. 14 revoked at 1.7.2022 by 2022 c. 31, s. 186(6), Sch. 7 para. 13 before the insertion of s. 65H(10A) could come into effect.)
- s. 82A-83A and cross-heading substituted for s. 83 and cross-heading by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 3](#)
- s. 84(4)-(4B) substituted for s. 84(4) by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 4\(4\)](#)
- s. 92(5A) inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 9\(4\)](#)
- s. 94(3)(ca)(cb) substituted for s. 94(3)(ca) by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 11\(3\)](#)
- s. 98A98B substituted for s. 98A by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 14](#)
- s. 98BC-99B and cross-heading substituted for s. 99 and cross-heading by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 15](#)
- s. 100(3A)(3B) inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 16\(4\)](#)
- s. 109(3)(ca)(cb) substituted for s. 109(3)(ca) by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 23\(3\)](#)
- s. 112(1)(za) inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 24\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 114A114B substituted for s. 114A by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 26](#)
- s. 114C and cross-heading inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 27](#)
- s. 116A116B and cross-heading inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 30](#)
- s. 117(4)(4A) substituted for s. 117(4) by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 31\(4\)](#)
- s. 125A125B substituted for s. 125A by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 39](#)
- s. 223C(1)(c)(d) inserted by [2022 c. 31 s. 28](#)
- s. 223LA inserted by [2022 c. 31 s. 30\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 15 para. 4(1)(b) and word omitted by [2012 c. 7 Sch. 14 para. 39\(3\)](#)