

## KeepOurNHSPublic Durham

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 removes the responsibility for the government to provide a universal, comprehensive health service. It put General Practitioners in charge of planning and buying health services but it made NHS England responsible for running the NHS.

This is likely to open all NHS services to competition, allowing private companies to make a profit when providing services for the NHS.

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### **Can we afford the NHS?**

We are told England cannot afford the NHS by those who want to frighten us with claims that ill health and old age will be a drain on the budgets.

They want to move us to a system where we buy our own health insurance.

The USA has this system and is bottom of the table of cost effectiveness while the NHS is close to the top.

**Yes we can afford the NHS.**

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**Has the Government plans to  
privatise the NHS?**

Private companies like Serco and Virgin Health have significant contracts and 10% of GPs surgeries are already privately run.

In the last 10 months 70% of contracts to provide services for the NHS have gone to private providers.

At this rate the NHS will be fully privatised in the next 3 to 5 years.

**Oh Yes it has!**

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**It is claimed that Private  
companies deliver better and  
cheaper health care than the NHS**

Private companies have to make a profit for share holders. This has to be done by changing the way services are delivered. The staff budget is the biggest so most likely to be where cuts are made. A good example already exists - the Serco contract to deliver Emergency services to Cornwall. On one occasion there was only one Doctor on duty for the whole of Cornwall.

**Is this what we want?**

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