

Newsletter July 2021

Our NHS Our Concern (ONOC)

Patrons:

The Rt Hon Baroness Helena Kennedy QC, The Lord Parekh.

Mr Darren Jones MP, Professor Sir Malcolm Grant

A little bit of history

The idea of ONOC developed following a conference in London on the 26th of October 2017, under the auspices of the Journal of Healthcare Innovations. The title of the conference was, Does the NHS really need more money to solve the problems? Time to create an alternative narrative.

Professor Parag Singhal and Dr Arun Bakshi, the founder Directors, gathered several healthcare professional and lay individuals to form a committee in March 2018. The members were Sunny Ahluwalia, Arun Bakshi, Karen Crocker, Balvinder Dang, Buddhdev Pandya, Keshav Singhal, Neha Singhal, Parag Singhal, Stephen Parsons, Christine Perry, Sandra Wilson and Tricia Woodhead. Professor Prag Singhal was elected chairman.

Why was it formed?

Whilst accepting a widely held view that the NHS had been underfunded for many years, there were other major issues which were growing insidiously but rapidly, and they required urgent attention. It was felt that it was time to establish a new narrative.

The objectives were to identify the problems faced by the care sectors and to and to provide common sense solutions.

It was agreed that the only way to promote our ideas effectively would be to involve a cross party representation of politicians in this group which would be largely informed by experienced clinicians and senior managers.

Formation of ONOC Think Tank

It became obvious that in order to achieve the objectives it would be necessary to form a Think Tank that would invite relevant non-member experts and front-line staff to address the various issues. It was recognised that the membership of this group would be variable. Dr Ramesh Mehta accepted to be chair of this Think Tank. This was launched in April 2020.

Our Achievements

1. Documents submitted to the House of Lords Select Committee on Public Services in June 2020 and published in November 2020

a. Adult social care: Not fit for purpose: Problems and proposals. **(PSR0008)**

(OUR NHS OUR CONCERN IN ASSOCIATION WITH DOCTORS ASSOCIATION UK, BAPIO AND DOCTORS FOR THE NHS - WRITTEN EVIDENCE

<https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/7394/pdf/>

b. OURCOVID-19: Dots from the Frontline (**PSR0049**)

<https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/8040/pdf/>

(OUR NHS OUR CONCERN, BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS OF INDIAN ORIGIN, DOCTORS' ASSOCIATION UK – WRITTEN EVIDENCE)

c. Urgent need for a change in culture; Board members should be elected:

A case for a change in the Law

The experience of Covid pandemic makes this paper even more relevant (**PSR0032**)

<https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/7977/pdf/>

(OUR NHS OUR CONCERN, DOCTORS ASSOCIATION UK, BAPIO AND DOCTORS FOR THE NHS – WRITTEN EVIDENCE)

d. NHS Board Accountability – a time for a change (**PSR0035**)

(Our NHS Our Concern and British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin written evidence)

<https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/7997/pdf/>.

2. Evidence submitted to the Parliamentary Select Committee for Health and Social care on the White Paper (Published 13th April 2021+

<https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/24946/pdf/>

3. Campaigns

a. National Care Service – launched February 2021 using the 38degrees platform

i. <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/national-care-service-1>

ii. Webinar on Health and Care for All, in collaboration with the National Pensioners Convention was held on 8th May 2021.

iii. Why we need a fundamental change in how care services are delivered and funded

b. Small Emergency Departments – New ways of working (18.07.21)

4. Other publications –

a. Involve the public in understandable language (25.09.17)

b. Does the NHS really need more money to solve the problems?

Time to create a new narrative (08.10.17)

c. Establish Ward based Teams (12.10.19)

d. Creating more space for social care (24.01.20)

e. NHS Waste of funds and potential savings

f. FTSU: Does the NHS have the right culture? (20.07.20)

5, Future Activities

It is our expectation that there would be more face-to-face meetings with Parliamentarians and collaborative activities with other organisations.

It is also the intention to continue with more vigorous campaigns.

6. Membership remains open to all interested individuals. The annual fee payable to

Our NHS Our Concern, is £10

7. How can you participate as a member?

By using ONOC documents in your work based discussions and improvements, sharing through social media and joining in the social media debates that are prompted by ONOC posts and documents, and contacting us with suggestions as to what are the pressing issues that frontline clinicians and managers need to address.

Get involved in our campaigns.

8. Website - <https://www.ournhsourconcern.org/>