

# NHS demands more money

*Keri – Thursday 16 March 2017*

Leaving EU; NHS wants the money they were promised!

In the past year, the NHS have demanded extra funding to pay for testing cures for diseases such as cancer, free healthcare of children and elderly people, also helping fund more training for doctors and nurses. Leaving the EU is causing big issues for the NHS as they strongly relied on incoming money from other countries.

The head of the NHS has said the government aim of a seven-day NHS is 'impossible' to deliver with the current level of funding and staffing. BBC news has stated that the NHS will need £88bn by 2067. To achieve this there could be a raise in taxes or spending cuts in other areas to pay for it. The budget will need to rise by at least 2% each year.

When interviewed a doctor from a local doctor's surgery stated that he thinks the NHS is failing and for several reasons. He said one issue is that 'the population is becoming older and needing more care... (We are no longer dying earlier from diseases such as TB which still affected people when the NHS was founded) as we all live longer we cost the NHS more, as in our older years we suffer with dementia and other diseases.' He explained that some drugs for certain cancers cost tens of thousands of pounds for only one patient. People have said: how will we pay for this? Well, it should be 'rationed.'

A health care assistant was also interviewed and stated that she thinks the government could do more for the NHS. She said that 'they could give us more realistic goals and not to force GPs into working longer hours. If we get more doctors trained then the doctors at the moment won't have to work longer hours'. She also said that if we over stretch the GPs then that is when mistakes are made. She stated that she hopes that the amount of money we save from not being in the EU will be divided by the government between all the emergency services.

During an interview, a receptionist from a local doctor's surgery stated that 'if the government don't do more to help the NHS it will no longer have the title of the best health services in the world'. She feels that there should be 'free prescriptions' to everyone on a low standard income and that under 18s should always have free prescriptions - but part of the problem at the moment is the lack of funding.

An assistant practice manager has stated that she thinks it is fair that people older than 18 pay for prescriptions as it covers a fraction of the cost of the drug. She also stated that the NHS needs more funding to support demands from aging population.