

## Action Cerebral Palsy

### Political & Parliamentary Monitoring – Week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018

This week, the EU (Withdrawal) Bill, the Government's flagship piece of Brexit legislation, returned to the House of Commons from the House of Lords. In a relative success for the Government, the Commons rejected 14 of the 15 amendments that peers added to the Bill.

Theresa May will be relieved that the Commons rejected an amendment that would give MPs a "meaningful vote" on the final Brexit deal; however, to achieve this, the Prime Minister is reported to have promised backbench MPs plans that would give Parliament more power to block a no-deal Brexit. To assure the support of some 17 pro-remain Conservative MPs to reject the amendment after hours of negotiation, May, agreed to submit her own Government amendment to ensure that MPs are given greater powers to prevent a no-deal Brexit. In the end, all Conservative MPs, with the exception of Ken Clarke and Anna Soubry, voted with the Government.

#### Overview

- [Calls for teachers to receive ongoing SEND training](#)
- [Welsh Government launches action plan for health and social care](#)
- [May poised to boost NHS budget by billions](#)

### Calls for teachers to receive ongoing SEND training

Director of Education at the Driver Youth Trust, a charity supporting children with literacy-based learning difficulties, Jules Daulby has [called on teachers to be given ongoing training](#) on teaching children with SEND in a bid to reduce their segregation in and exclusion from the mainstream classroom setting. Daulby highlighted specifically the benefits being in a mixed ability environment can have on the language development of children with difficulties. She recommended that SEND children should be with their peers and would ideally have high-quality intervention for half an hour a day.

Daulby, who herself struggled with school but is now a teacher, said: "It would be really useful for all teachers to go and work in a special school or to be a teacher assistant for a couple of weeks, do something to do with children with learning difficulties as part of their training and continued training as well." She also asserted that teachers needed support in learning to identify "non-responders,"

namely pupils whose learning difficulties are so severe that they will not learn to read or write and will require assistive technology in accessing the curriculum. She noted that she had once identified such a student who has gone on to do a PhD because they had received the right support at the right time.

***Children and young people with cerebral palsy are often subject to inadequate special educational provisions which has a detrimental impact on their quality of life. Teacher training on the matter could help in early identification and in terms of the children's educational outcomes and social integration. We will reach out to the Driver Youth Fund to introduce ACP and look into ways in which we could work together, and also to find out whether they have any plans to campaign for specialist support in the classroom.***

## Welsh Government launches action plan for health and social care

The Welsh Government has [published](#) its action plan for “A Healthier Wales: health and social care” in which it outlines how the Welsh Government intends to promote healthy living and provide for those who need health and social care. It aims to support people to “stay well, not just treat them when they become ill;” improve the technology used in healthcare to improve the patient and staff experience; provide support to patients’ loved ones as part of a “person-centred” approach; and deliver more care in the community, supporting the NHS’s aims more broadly to take pressure of hospitals, save money and be less disruptive to the patient.

The plan outlines five main objectives: integrating health and social care services; shift services out of hospitals and into communities; improve how it measures “what really matters” such as early detection; making health and social care in Wales a “great place to work;” and encourage collaborative working. This will be funded in part by the UK government and the Welsh Government will consult on how to generate the extra revenue required. It outlines children and young people as a key demographic to improve provisions for.

***This action plan is consistent with the policy aims of the NHS broadly. ACP will engage with key stakeholders in the Welsh Assembly to highlight the extent to which their policy recommendations outlined in the Identify, Impact, Intervene campaign save the NHS money and children and young people and their families the distress and reduced quality of life coming from a late diagnosis.***

## May poised to boost NHS budget by billions

Prime Minister, Theresa May, is [expected to announce](#) that she will increase NHS funding by between three and four per cent, the equivalent of £20bn over four years, as part of plans to implement a long-

term NHS funding plan and to coincide with the NHS's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations. This comes after eight years of a one per cent annual funding increase limit, the longest period of constrained funding growth in its history. In that time conditions in the NHS have been deteriorating as increases in demand have been outpacing increases in funding.

Those working in the health space have mounted intense pressure on the Government to increase funding by four per cent to keep the NHS functioning in its present state, including NHS England Chief Executive, Simon Stevens, and health think tanks: the King's Fund, Nuffield Trust, and the Health Foundation. Economics bodies such as the Institute for Fiscal Studies and the Office for Budgetary Responsibility, and Health and Social Care Secretary, Jeremy Hunt, and other Cabinet members have also called for an increase in NHS spending.

This is a bold move by the Prime Minister considering the pressure mounting for increased funding from other departments while HM Treasury is trying to keep costs down in the wider context of a low value for the pound. The funding is expected to come from a combination of increased un-hypothecated tax, increased government borrowing and a "Brexit dividend," going some way to meeting Vote Leave's campaign pledge to increase NHS funding by £350 million a week with the money no longer being sent to the EU. It also addresses NHS calls for a four per cent increase against HM Treasury's reluctance to increase funding above 2.5 per cent.

This comes after [polling by the NHS Confederation](#) found that 77 per cent of people support a four per cent increase in health spending over the next 15 years, and 82 per cent supported a 3.9 per cent increase in social care funding. This would increase the NHS budget from its current £128bn to £234bn by 2033.