

# NEW PLAN TO SAVE LIVES



PM Theresa May and Health Secretary Matt Hancock talk to staff at Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust as they launch the ten-year plan

by editor in chief Nicky Cox

## HALF a million lives could be saved, thanks to a new plan for England, say health bosses.

The latest technology will be used to spot health problems early. And GPs, mental health and community care will get big funding increases.

The prime minister, Theresa May, asked for the NHS Long Term Plan to be drawn up when she announced extra funding for the health service last summer on its 70th birthday. The money to be spent will grow by £20bn a year by 2023.

Mrs May says it is a "historic" moment for the NHS and will help pay for "world class" treatments. But Labour's shadow health secretary, Jon Ashworth, says the plan doesn't have the staffing nor enough funding to succeed. Unions (organisations that represent some workers) agree staff shortages could be a problem – right now 1 in 11 jobs need to be filled. UNISON head of health Sara Gorton said: "Without the staff, there is no NHS."

However, NHS England chief executive Simon Stevens says the NHS plans to train between 25% and 50% more nurses and has five new medical schools ready to train doctors.

The plan is being welcomed. Prof Carrie MacEwen, of the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, said: "It's good to have a plan which sets a clear direction for the NHS."

And Emma Thomas, boss of the YoungMinds charity, said the mental health promises being made in the plan were very welcome and "could make a huge difference to the lives of many young people and their families who are desperate for help".

Turn to p12 for 5 Questions in 5 Minutes with Government Health Secretary Matt Hancock



## EDITOR'S COMMENT



THERE are two big health news stories this week.

On our front page, we cover the announcement that you are going to get first aid lessons in school so that you can help if someone is in trouble.

The Government has also announced a new plan for the NHS that doctors think could save 500,000 lives, which will include help and advice about how we can all live healthier lives (this page and p12).

New year, new healthy goals!

## RETWEET RECORD

A JAPANESE billionaire has set a new record for the most retweeted tweet of all time – although it's going to cost him more than £700,000!



Maezawa's post has been retweeted 5.5m times

Usually when something goes viral on Twitter it's because it's really funny or touches a nerve, but Yusaku Maezawa's tweet was really popular because he bribed people to retweet it.

Maezawa wanted to drum up some publicity for his clothing company, so he said that he would randomly pick 100 people from those who reposted his tweet and give them a share of 100m yen, which works out at around £7,200 per person.

The record previously belonged to Carter Wilkerson, who got 3.6m retweets after begging fast-food chain Wendy's for free chicken nuggets.

## GOOD WEEK FOR...

### BOOKSHOPS

FOR the second year in a row, the number of independent bookshops in the UK has increased. However, many shop owners still say it's unfair that online companies like Amazon get away with paying much lower business rates.



## BAD WEEK FOR...

### SHOWER GEL

SALES of soap have gone up by nearly 3% in the past year. It's thought the rise is because families are more aware of plastic waste, and are deciding against buying bottles of shower gel.



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