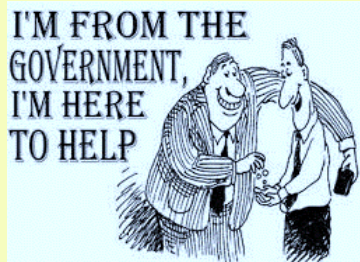


How GOVERNMENT, FAT CATS & HEALTH BOSSES keep *RIPPING OFF* our NHS

Three examples of Money wasted trying to Cut Services

GOVERNMENT: Government appointed NHS chiefs have set unrealistic spending targets for NHS Hospital Trusts, then when they “overspend” the Government offers them loans at high interest rates making them overspend even more! The i newspaper reported that “Trusts across England have paid more than £607m to Whitehall in interest over the past five years. Last year it could have paid the salaries of 7,500 nurses.”

NORTH WEST LONDON NHS BOSSES: The ridiculous ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ Plan aimed to cut our hospital services and replace them with care in the community. The Plan collapsed but NHS bosses wasted eyewatering amounts of money on it, including £76 million pounds paid to management consultants.



EALING NHS BOSSES: In an effort to reduce the number of patients being referred to hospitals by GPs, Ealing CCG contracted private company Optum to run a 'Referral Facilitation Service'. This looks like having been another massive waste of money costing around £4.5 million.

Two Examples of Fat Cats Profiting from our NHS



DRUGS RIP-OFF: Last year the NHS drugs bill was £17.4 billion. Although the taxpayer helps pay for drugs research, private companies are allowed to patent the drugs and use their monopoly to charge extortionate prices. The Daily Mail reported “Prices of some drugs have rocketed by £12,500 per cent because a loophole means the NHS will still buy them.”

PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVES (PFIs): Governments made the NHS borrow £13 billion at exorbitant interest rates to build hospitals. The fat cat lenders are charging the NHS £67 billion in interest charges! Now some NHS Trusts are paying £1 in every £6 to finance this. That's money that should be used for healthcare!

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The latest NHS Plans for the NHS in North-West London are

IGNORING THE NEEDY!

New plans to cut NHS services in North West London are pretty crude. Trusts will get strict budgets and told that's it. GPs will be told to cut referrals to hospitals and Consultants pressured not to refer patients on to other specialists.

GPs will also be even more restricted in prescribing over the counter medicines – an increasing burden for the less well off. They will also be required to refer you to local hospitals even when there is better treatment elsewhere.

We can expect even longer waiting times for hospital appointments and treatment.

Dr Gary Marlow from the BMA said: ***“By restricting referrals – be that from GP to hospital, or between consultants – patients are prevented from receiving the best treatment for their individual condition.”***

SAVING PEOPLE OR SAVING MONEY?

This latest plan is also about diverting patients away from services - especially A&Es. Latest NHS statistics show that A&E attendance is twice as high in deprived areas - so the cuts will hit the neediest and the poorest the most.

Here in Ealing more people were admitted to A&E last year than was in the budget. So the Trust wasn't paid for it and gets punished for being in debt. **It's a nasty system that's about to get worse.**

To make things even worse the Hospital Trust is reportedly still cutting services from Ealing Hospital in favour of richer Northwick Park.

Ealing Save Our NHS believes we should be supporting our health workers and funding our NHS – not cutting vital services, not privatising the NHS and certainly not and spending eye watering amounts of money coming up with more unworkable plans.



FIVE YEARS AGO, Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middx Hospital A&Es were closed. Local Emergency waiting times went up enormously.

It was part of the so-called 'Shaping a Healthier Future' plan, which has now collapsed at a cost of millions.

So have the health bosses or the Government apologised? Nope - they are just cracking on with yet more plans for cuts and re-organisation!

Please support Ealing Save Our NHS - you know it makes sense!
Visit our website www.ealingsaveournhs.org
to sign our petition and go on our mailing list.

