

The Rt Hon Wes Streeting MP  
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care  
House of Commons  
Westminster  
London  
SW1A 0AA

10 April 2025

**Ref: Abolition of NHS England**

Dear Mr Streeting,

Following the announcement of the abolition of NHS England (NHSE) by Prime Minister Starmer on 13 March 2025, we are writing to you on behalf of the British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (BAPIO) to convey the collective views of our members on this significant step and make an offer of support in ensuring a smooth transition.

Since its launch in 1996, BAPIO has grown into a large healthcare organisation representing doctors, dentists, and nurses of Indian origin in the NHS. BAPIO has not only been a stalwart and a thought leader in the fight for equality, diversity, and inclusion in the NHS but also in raising professional standards and promoting excellence. The organisation has played a key role in triggering the recent progress made in the NHS in reducing the inherent inequality in many aspects of education, training, and career progression. As His Majesty's Government begins the process of improving healthcare delivery in the NHS, BAPIO can serve as an invaluable sounding board and guide in ensuring that the reform of the NHS is fair and equitable for all stakeholders.

BAPIO is acutely aware of the increasing difficulties faced by doctors and other healthcare staff in the NHS to deliver the standard of care our patients deserve. Our members routinely raise concerns about their ability to deliver high-quality care in very constrained circumstances leading to patient harm and moral injury to staff. All attempts to reduce bureaucracy, remove duplication, and increase accountability within the NHS to free up resources to ensure better care provision are therefore welcome.

However, from having observed and lived through previous NHS reorganisations, we remain aware of the challenges this can cause – in the past, these have led to significant disabling disruption as it takes time to negotiate new pathways and goals, which causes further loss of efficiency, decision paralysis, and consequent disillusionment of staff leading to poorer patient outcomes. As with many similar endeavours in the past, there is a real risk that the reorganisation process will consume more time and money than anticipated, resulting in a

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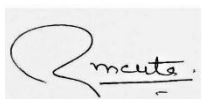
delay in the implementation of actual changes that will impact NHS staff and patients, and it is therefore imperative that the mistakes of previous reorganisations are not repeated.

BAPIO will always support any endeavours that prioritise patient as well as staff well-being and would be keen to work closely with you and the entire team at the Department of Health and Social Care as you lead the process of NHS reform. We are confident that we can bring significant added value and provide an independent perspective on the important decisions that will need to be made in the weeks, months, and years ahead.


Furthermore, as the NHS reinvents itself, we believe it is essential for it to learn from best practices and experiences in other countries. BAPIO has close linkages with healthcare institutions in several countries, including India, and would be delighted to help facilitate discussions between the NHS and the relevant healthcare bodies in these countries.

BAPIO would welcome an opportunity to meet you and your team to discuss our ideas and suggestions in more detail.

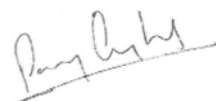
Yours Sincerely



Dr Ramesh Mehta  
President, BAPIO



Dr Joydeep Grover  
Vice President, BAPIO



Prof. Parag Singhal  
Hony. Secretary, BAPIO

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