

The NHS White Paper, Equity and excellence: Liberating the NHS, sets out the Government's long-term vision for the future of the NHS. The vision builds on the core values and principles of the NHS - a comprehensive service, available to all, free at the point of use, based on need, not ability to pay. It sets out how the NHS will:

- put patients at the heart of everything the NHS does;
- focus on continuously improving those things that really matter to patients - the outcome of their healthcare; and
- empower and liberate clinicians to innovate, with the freedom to focus on improving healthcare services

The Department of Health is currently consulting on elements of these proposals – the consultations close **on 11 October 2010**. For full details of the White Paper and the supporting consultations, please visit our website at:

http://www.see.nhs.uk/content.asp?page_id=493