

Maintaining pride in the NHS:
The challenge for the new NHS Chief Exec

On 1st April 2014, Simon Stevens became the new Chief Executive of NHS England.

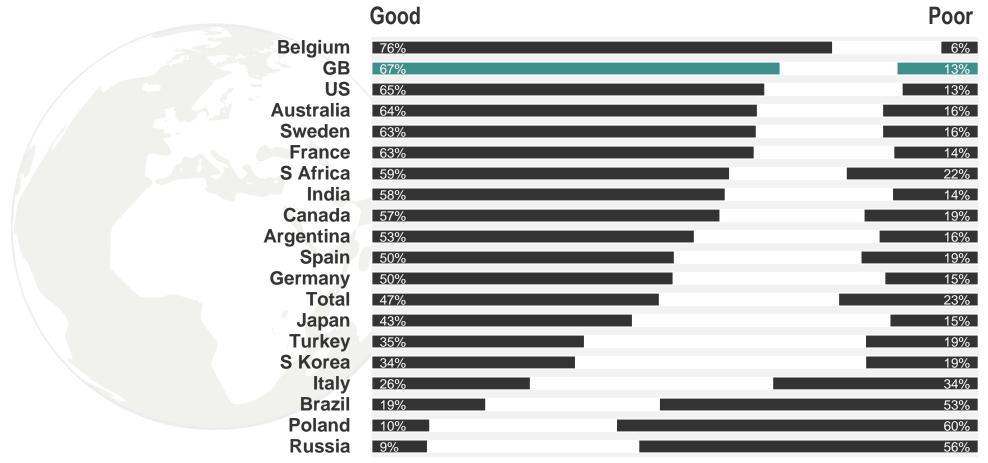
What, according to the public, are the key challenges he faces?





Positively, people in Britain rate the quality of their healthcare very highly in comparison to those in other countries...

How would you rate the quality of healthcare that you and your family have access to in...? By healthcare we include doctors, specialist physicians such as surgeons, hospitals, tests for diagnosis and drugs to treat various ailments.

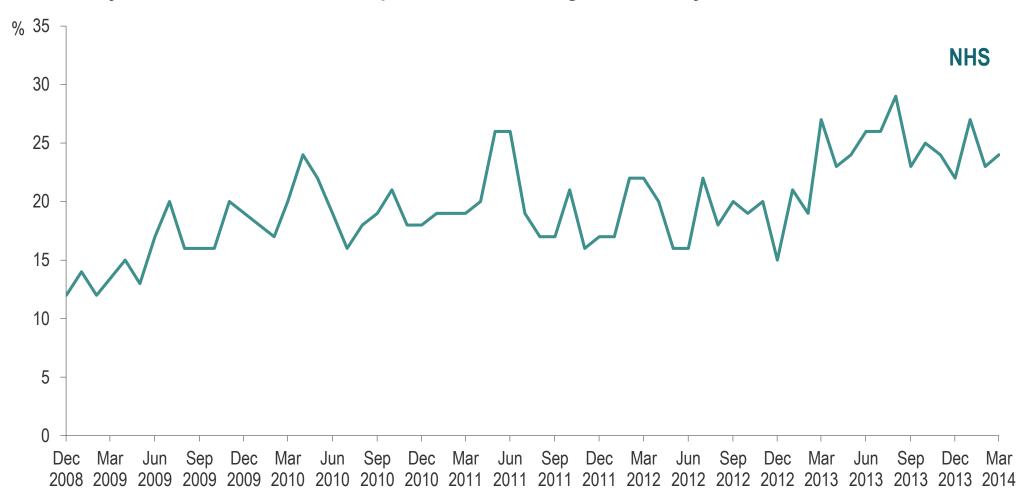


Base: Adults in 19 countries (15039 overall, 1000 Great Britain) September 2013



But concern about the NHS has been rising...

What do you see as the most/other important issues facing Britain today?



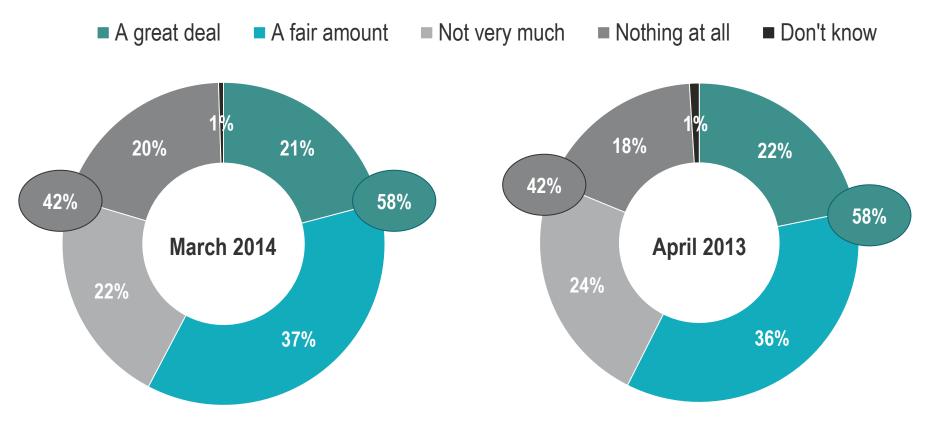
Base: Adults aged 18+ in Great Britain (c. 1000 per month)

Source: Ipsos MORI Issues Index



Most people remain aware of the issues at Mid Staffs...

As you may know, a report was recently published into the problems at Mid Staffordshire hospital trust. The report said that because of poor quality patient care in the hospital, there were between 400 and 1,200 more deaths than expected between 2005 and 2009. Before today, how much had you heard about the problems at Mid Staffordshire?



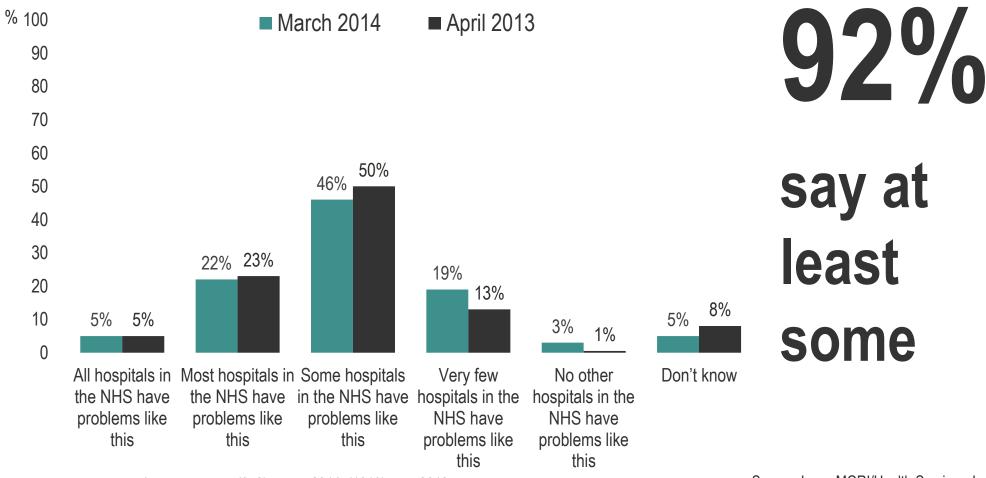
Base: Adults aged 15+ in England: (978) March 2014; (1010) April 2013

Source: Ipsos MORI/Health Services Journal



...and the majority still think at least some NHS hospitals have the same problems

The report described 'a tolerance of poor standards' at Mid Staffordshire. To what extent, if at all, do you think other hospitals in the NHS have these problems?



Base: Adults aged 15+ in England: (978) March 2014; (1010) April 2013

Source: Ipsos MORI/Health Services Journal



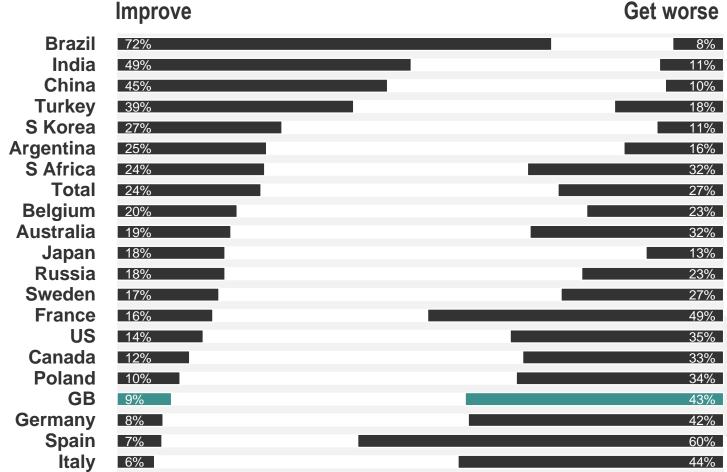
...and we are particularly worried about the future...





We are more negative than those in other countries about the sustainability of our health services

Over the coming years, do you expect the quality of healthcare that you and your family will have access to locally will improve, stay the same or get worse?



Base: Adults in 20 countries (16039 overall, 1000 Great Britain) September 2013

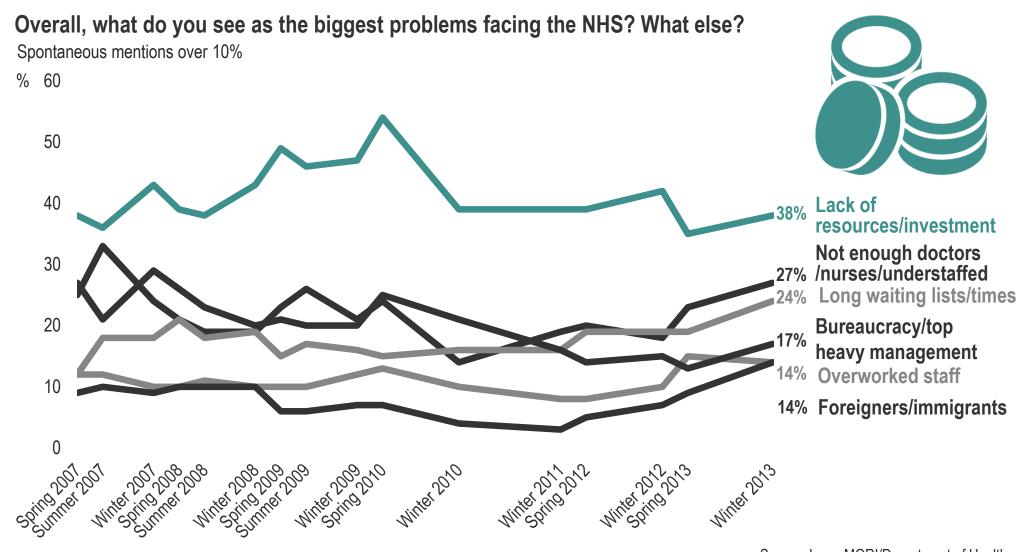


So why are we worried about sustainability?





Lack of resources and investment continues to be seen as the biggest problem facing the NHS



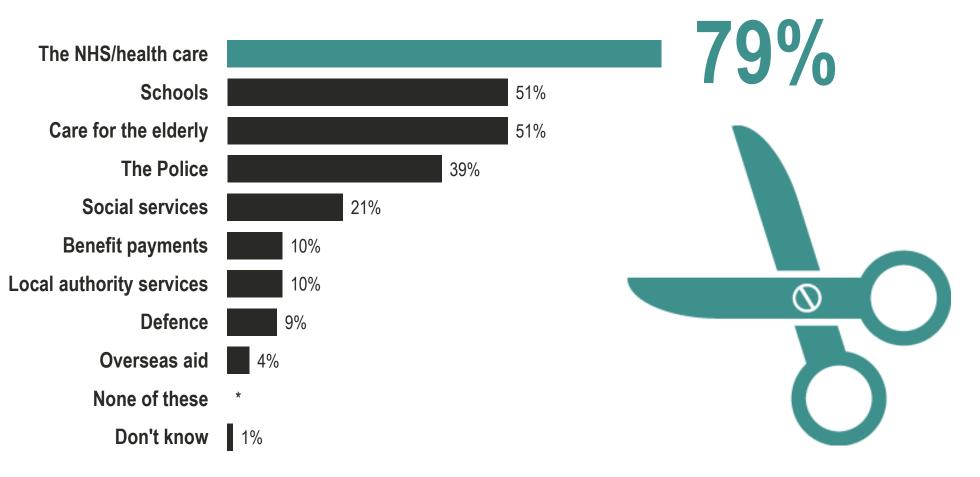
Base: Adults aged 16+ in England (1016) November - December 2013, (c. 1000 per wave)

Source: Ipsos MORI/Department of Health Public Perceptions of the NHS and Social Care Tracker Survey



Most people want the NHS protected from spending cuts

Which two or three, if any, of the following main areas of public spending do you think should be protected from any cuts?



Base: Adults aged 18+ in Great Britain who think some services should be protected from spending cuts (809) November 2012

Source: Ipsos MORI/Nuffield Trust



...and more are in favour of increasing funding to maintain the current service than limiting services

Please give me a number between 1 and 5 to show where your view fits on this scale...



The NHS should be given more funding so that it can continue to provide services in the same way it does at the moment



The NHS should provide fewer services or only a set range of vital services so that it stays within the same budget it has at the moment

Base: Adults aged 15+ in England (1244) September - October 2013

Source: Ipsos MORI/Foundation Trust Network



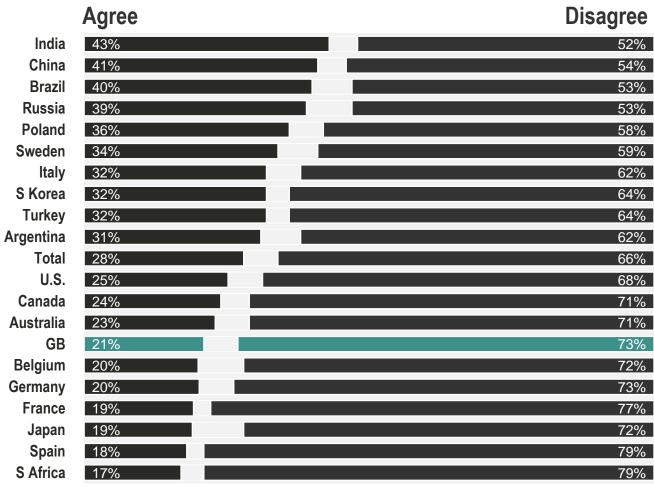




We are concerned about online privacy, particularly when compared with the rest of the world

To what extent do you agree or disagree: People worry too much about their privacy online - I'm not concerned about what companies or the government know about me.



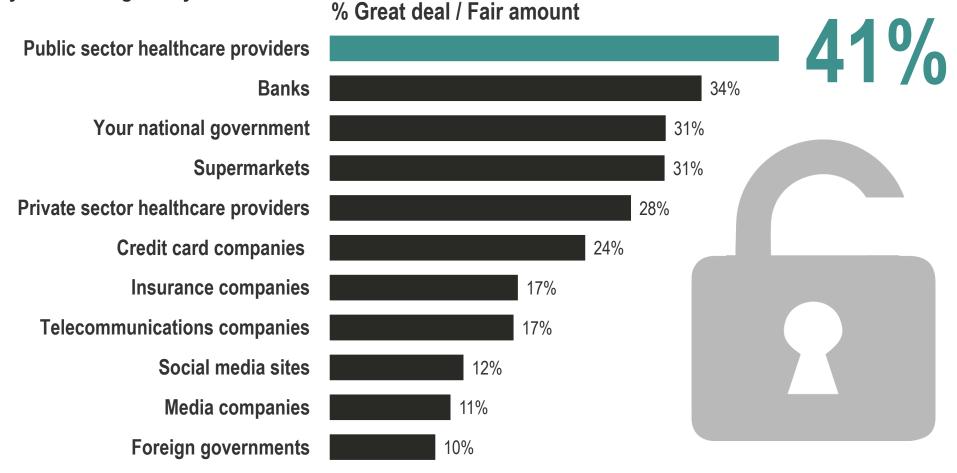


Base: Adults in 20 countries (16167 overall, 1000 Great Britain) October 2013



...though we are more likely to trust public sector healthcare providers than other groups to use our data responsibly

To what extent, if at all, do you personally trust the following to use the information they have about you in the right way?

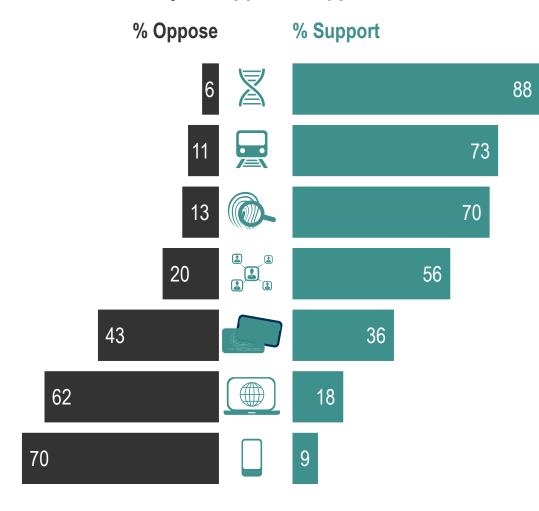


Base: Adults in Great Britain (1000) October 2013



...and we are supportive of data being used for medical reasons

To what extent do you support or oppose each of the following specific uses of people's data?



Creating a DNA database of cancer patients, in order to help develop more effective treatments for cancer

Using data from electronic travel cards (such as Oyster cards) to improve the scheduling of buses or trains for passengers

Using police and crime data to predict and plan for crimes that might take place in the future

Combining the data held in multiple government departments and using them to better tailor public services to individuals

Using data from shop loyalty cards to target products at people who are more likely to want them

Websites using people's online browsing histories to create personalised adverts for products that people are more likely to be interested in

Offering discounted mobile phone calls and texts, funded by personalised adverts based on the content of people's text messages

Source: Ipsos MORI/Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
Public Attitudes to Science Survey

Base: Adults aged 16+ in the UK (446) July - November 2013



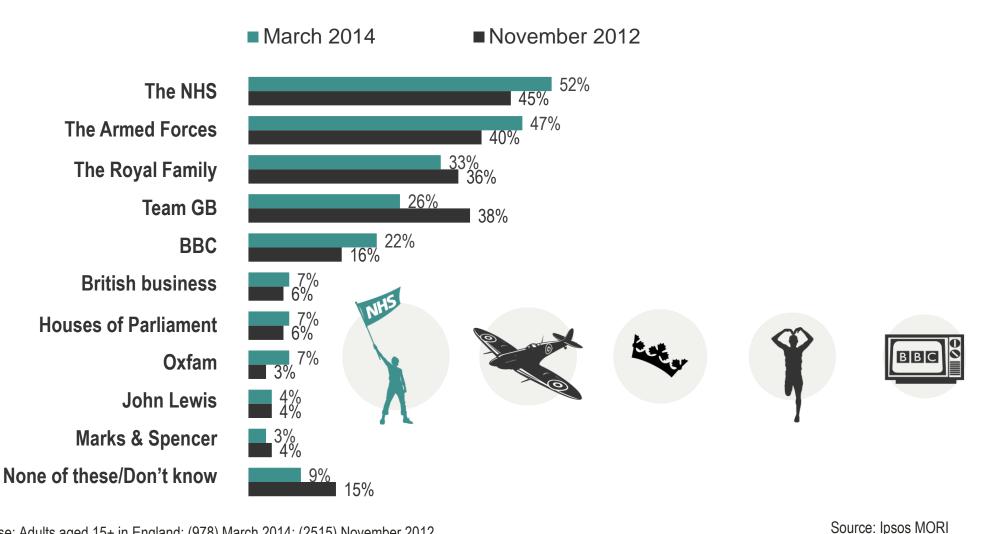
Nevertheless...





...the NHS remains the thing that makes people most proud to be British

Which two or three of the following, if any, would you say makes you most proud to be British?



Base: Adults aged 15+ in England: (978) March 2014; (2515) November 2012



So, how can Simon Stevens maintain pride and confidence in the NHS given its current challenges?



And can he harness the goodwill the public feels towards the NHS to reassure them about its sustainability?



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