

Ipsos MORI poll for the Nuffield Trust
 Topline Results: Fieldwork 22-25 November 2012

Technical notes

1,006 British adults 18+ were interviewed by telephone between 22nd and 25th November 2012. Data weighted to the national population profile. An “*” indicates a finding of less than 0.5%, but greater than zero. Where percentages do not add up to exactly 100% this is due to computer rounding, the exclusion of “don’t knows” or to multiple answers

- Q1. **If the overall level of public spending is going to be reduced as part of the process of reducing borrowing and rebalancing the public finances, should spending on some services be protected from cuts even if that means bigger rises in taxation and/or deeper cuts in other areas of public spending, or should no services be protected from cuts?**

<i>Base: All 18+</i>	June 2009	Nov 2012
	%	%
Yes, protect some services	77	79
No, do not protect any services	20	15
Don't know	4	6

- Q2. **Which TWO or THREE, if any, of the following main areas of public spending do you think should be protected from any cuts?**

	June 2009	Nov 2012
	%	%
<i>Base: All who think some services should be protected (773)</i>	(733)	(809)
The NHS/health care	82	79
Schools	58	51
Care for the elderly	46	51
The Police	35	39
Social services	15	21
Benefit payments	8	10
Local authority services	6	10
Defence	13	9
Overseas aid	5	4
None of these	*	*
Don't know	1	1

- Q3. **Many experts argue that it is becoming more expensive to fund the NHS because of increasing costs of treatments, an ageing population and several other factors. This means that even in order to maintain the current level of care and services provided for free by the NHS, spending on the NHS would have to increase. With that in mind, which, if any, of the following would you most like to see?**

<i>Base: All 18+</i>	%
Increase taxes in order to maintain the level of spending needed to keep the current level of care and services provided by the NHS	48
Reduce spending on other services such as education and welfare in order to maintain the level of spending needed to keep the current level of care and services provided by the NHS	21
Reduce the level of care and services provided by the NHS so that you do not need to increase the current level of taxation and spending on the NHS	11
None	11
Don't know	8