

APPG on Allied Health Professions Call for Evidence: Neighbourhood Health

The **All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Allied Health Professions (AHPs)** is launching a **Call for Evidence** to inform their Inquiry into the role of AHPs in delivering and enabling **neighbourhood health**.

Neighbourhood health is central to the Government's 10 year health plan to improve population health, tackle health inequalities and shift care closer to home. Allied health professionals play a vital role across diagnosis, prevention, early intervention, treatment and rehabilitation supporting people to live as independently as possible in their communities. However, there remains significant variation in how neighbourhood health services are designed, delivered and integrated across the country, reducing the potential impact of allied health professions.

This Inquiry will examine how AHPs contribute to neighbourhood health and how policy, commissioning, workforce and service design can better support neighbourhood-based models of care to improve outcomes for individuals and communities.

Areas of Interest

The Inquiry is particularly interested in evidence, case studies and best practice relating to:

Allied health professions and leadership

- Do allied health professionals provide leadership within neighbourhoods, contributing to prevention, patient outcomes and reducing health inequality?
- What are the opportunities and barriers to increasing the number of allied health professionals in leadership roles?
- How do allied health professionals contribute to the design, leadership and delivery of multidisciplinary partnerships within neighbourhood health models? (*This could include local government, social care, voluntary and community organisations and groups*).
- What evidence exists that investment in allied health professions-led neighbourhood services improves outcome or value for money?

Funding and commissioning

- How do current commissioning arrangements, funding mechanisms and policy frameworks enable or constrain the contribution of Allied Health Professionals to neighbourhood health?

Health inequalities

- Are health services designed for the needs of the local population they serve? (*This could also include babies, children and young people*).
- How can allied health professionals working within neighbourhood health models help address health inequalities and improve access, experience and outcomes for underserved populations?

Workforce

- Which commitments within the NHS 10 Year Health Plan depend on greater deployment of AHPs, and what policy changes are needed to realise this contribution?
- What are the key workforce challenges and opportunities, including recruitment, retention, advanced practice, leadership and training for allied health professionals?
- If Government were to make one policy or commissioning change to support the expansion and development of allied health professionals, what should it be and why?

Submitting Evidence

Your submission **should**:

- Be concise - submissions should be no longer than 3,000 words and be a single Word document.
- Include an introduction to you or your organisation and your reason for submitting evidence, including your expertise in the area. Expertise can include lived experience.
- If you are a clinician please provide your professional group and region/country.
- Outline which questions your evidence addresses – you do not have to respond to every question.

We welcome **written submissions from organisations and individuals**, including:

- Professional bodies and representative organisations.
- AHP clinicians, support workers and students
- Integrated Care Boards, NHS providers and commissioners.
- Local authorities.
- Academic and research institutions.
- Voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations.
- Patient and service user groups.
- Individual practitioners, researchers and people with lived experience.

Submissions may draw upon research and evaluation, service data, innovations, case studies and examples of good practice demonstrating improved outcomes, lived experience, productivity or system sustainability through neighbourhood health approaches.

We would welcome concise submissions (up to four pages), although contributors are encouraged to reference supporting publications, reports and evidence where relevant. Please include contact details for a nominated individual should we require any clarification. If you need any assistance in providing a submission, please contact Brynna at appgahp@csp.org.uk.

Next steps

The evidence gathered through this Inquiry will be used to draw up recommendations for Government, Integrated Care Boards and Foundation Trusts, local health and care partners and other stakeholders on how AHPs can help realise the ambitions of neighbourhood health, improve healthy outcomes and reduce health inequalities.

Deadline for Submissions: Submissions should be sent to appgahp@csp.org.uk no later than 5pm Tuesday 1 September 2026
