



BETTER HEALTH, BETTER CARE:

ACTION PLAN

WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOU

EASY READ SUMMARY

**BETTER HEALTH,
BETTER CARE:**
ACTION PLAN
WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOU

EASY READ SUMMARY

© Crown copyright 2008

ISBN 978-0-7559-1731-0

The Scottish Government
St Andrew's House
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

Produced for the Scottish Government by RR Donnelley B55799 06/08

Published by the Scottish Government, June 2008

BETTER HEALTH, BETTER CARE

The Scottish Government has a plan to make the health service in Scotland better. We think that this is so important that we say everyone in the government must help to make it happen.

But it is your health service, so you should have a say in how it is run. We will be talking to people all over Scotland about how we can make sure this really happens.

In the meantime this is what we plan to do



Help people live healthier lives

We want the people of Scotland to live healthier lives. We need to find new ways of getting people to lead healthy lives and

- Stop smoking
- Drink less
- Stop abusing drugs
- Live healthy lives



It is not fair that people who live in poorer areas have worse health and die younger than people who live in well-off areas. We want to help everyone live longer, healthier lives.

We will make sure that all children get a good start in life. We are also doing things to make it better and easier for everyone to use the health service.

Seeing your doctor

We want to make sure that people can

- see someone in their doctor's surgery within 48 hours
- book an appointment with the same doctor every time if they want
- talk to their doctor on the phone or email for advice



Prescriptions

By 2011 no-one will have to pay for prescriptions.

Hospitals

We know that people worry about picking up an infection when they go into hospitals. We are spending a lot of money on equipment to check for infections and to make sure that our hospitals are clean and safe.

Waiting times

From 2011, if you need to get treatment in hospital, the longest you will have to wait is 18 weeks. Of course, if you are very sick you will start treatment much more quickly. If it is an emergency you will go to hospital at once.

Lifelong conditions

Some people need health care for their whole life. We want to make sure that these people can see health care staff when they need to and get the help they need to look after themselves the rest of the time.



Information

We want to make sure you can get the information you need, when you need it.

We will give you information in a way that you can understand.

A modern health service

We are testing ways of bringing more services to local areas. We also want to make sure that older people can get the health care they need at home.



**The Scottish
Government**

© Crown copyright 2008

ISBN 978-0-7559-1731-0 (web only)

This document is also available on the Scottish Government website:
www.scotland.gov.uk

RR Donnelley B55799 06/08