Source: UK House of Commons
Date: July 1, 2025
URL:
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2025-06-05/57878

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2025-06-05/57879
Ref: http://www.me-net.combidom.com/meweb/web1.4.htm#westminster

[Written Answers]

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Health Services
Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Wiltshire

Sarah Gibson

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what recent assessment he has made of the adequacy of NHS services for people with myalgic encephalomyelitis.

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what support his Department provides to GPs to help improve the (a) early recognition and (b) management of ME in (i) Wiltshire and (ii) areas in Wiltshire with limited specialist services.

Ashley Dalton

Earlier this year, NHS England completed a long COVID and myalgic encephalomyelitis, also known as chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS), stocktake to provide a national overview of service delivery in commissioning and contracting, assessing access, activity, and outcomes. The findings confirmed widely recognised challenges, as well as significant variation in care delivery across England, and a lack of comprehensive activity data.

The Department is working with NHS England to develop an e-learning programme on ME/CFS for healthcare professionals, including general practitioners in Wiltshire, with the aim of supporting staff to be able to provide better care and improve patient outcomes. Sessions one and two of the e-learning programme are now available at the following link: https://learninghub.nhs.uk/catalogue/mecfselearning?nodeId=7288

The third session is currently being finalised and will be launched later in 2025.

The Medical Schools Council will promote the NHS England e-learning programme on ME/CFS to all United Kingdom medical schools, and will encourage those medical schools to provide undergraduates with direct patient experience of ME/CFS. The General Medical Council (GMC) is the regulator of medical schools, and it is important that education is reenforced at different stages of medical training. Royal colleges play an important role in this. The GMC has included ME/CFS in the content map for the new national exam, so all medical schools will need to teach it as a subject.

We are developing a final delivery plan for ME/CFS, which we aim to publish in due course. The plan will focus on boosting research, improving attitudes and education, and bettering the lives of people with this debilitating disease in Wiltshire and throughout England.

Source: UK House of Commons
Date: July 8, 2025
URL:
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2025-06-30/63894
Ref: http://www.me-net.combidom.com/meweb/web1.4.htm#westminster

[Written Answers]

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Health Services

Luke Myer

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what his Department's planned timetable is for the publication of its forthcoming delivery plan on Myalgic Encephalomyelitis and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

Ashley Dalton

The myalgic encephalomyelitis, also known as chronic fatigue syndrome, final delivery plan will be published shortly. The plan will focus on boosting research, improving attitudes and education, and bettering the lives of people with this debilitating disease.

Source: UK House of Commons
Date: July 9, 2025
URL:
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2025-07-04/65147
Ref: http://www.me-net.combidom.com/meweb/web1.4.htm#westminster

[Written Answers]

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Health Services

John Milne

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, when he plans to publish the Delivery Plan for ME/CFS.

Ashley Dalton

The myalgic encephalomyelitis, also known as chronic fatigue syndrome, final delivery plan will be published shortly. The plan will focus on boosting research, improving attitudes and education, and bettering the lives of people with this debilitating disease.

ME in Westminster (Helen Morgan MP letter)

Go to,
https://x.com/tessamunt/status/1942630617922810316
https://pbs.twimg.com/media/GvWcP9VW4AELHdL?format=jpg

Source: UK House of Commons
Date: July 10 and 11, 2025
URL:
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2025-07-04/65164
Ref: http://www.me-net.combidom.com/meweb/web1.4.htm#westminster

[Written Answers]

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Health Services

Monica Harding

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, pursuant to the Answer of 5 June 2025 to Question 55860 on Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Health Services, whether he has a new target date for publication of that plan.

Llinos Medi

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, if he will provide an update on the publication of the final cross-government delivery plan for Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

Ashley Dalton

The myalgic encephalomyelitis, also known as chronic fatigue syndrome, final delivery plan will be published shortly. The plan will focus on boosting research, improving attitudes and education, and bettering the lives of people with this debilitating disease.

Source: UK House of Commons
Date: July 10, 2025
URL:
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2025-06-24/62458

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2025-06-24/62459

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2025-06-24/62460
Ref: http://www.me-net.combidom.com/meweb/web1.4.htm#westminster

[Written Answers]

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Medical Treatments
Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Research
Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Health Services

Sarah Gibson

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether the delivery plan for ME/CFS will include a strategic framework to support research into treatment development.

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what recent assessment he has made of the adequacy of (a) UK Research and Innovation and (b) National Institute for Health and Care Research funding for biomedical research into (i) myalgic encephalomyelitis and (ii) chronic fatigue syndrome.

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps his Department is taking to monitor progress on the delivery plan for myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome.

Ashley Dalton

The Government funds research through the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) and the Medical Research Council (MRC).

We have assessed the myalgic encephalomyelitis, also known as chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS), research portfolio funded through the NIHR and the MRC and acknowledge that this is an under-funded area. The level of funding awarded is directly related to the number and quality of applications received and we have historically received a small number of applications for funding in this area. Between 2019/20 and 2023/24, the NIHR committed approximately 3.7 million pounds to research projects and programmes on ME/CFS. In the same period, the MRC committed approximately 2.9 million pounds to research into ME/CFS. We welcome funding applications for research into ME/CFS. These applications are subject to peer review and judged in open competition, with awards being made based on the importance of the topic to patients and health and care services, value for money, and scientific quality.

We aim to publish the final delivery plan for ME/CFS shortly. The plan will focus on boosting research, improving attitudes and education, and bettering the lives of people with this debilitating condition.
Following the publication of the final delivery plan, we will monitor the progress across all actions in the delivery plan, with project management arrangements in place to ensure timely implementation and periodical reports to stakeholders as appropriate.

Together with the MRC, we are actively exploring next steps for research in ME/CFS, and we will outline in the delivery plan further research actions and the additional support we will offer to the research community to increase the volume and quality of applications. This includes a new funding opportunity for a development award focussed on evaluating repurposed pharmaceutical inventions for post-acute infection syndromes and associated conditions, including ME/CFS. This funding opportunity is a key component of our response to the need for further research-based evidence related to the diagnosis, management, and treatment of post-acute infection conditions, including ME/CFS. We are also planning an NIHR and MRC hosted showcase event for post-acute infection conditions, including ME/CFS and long COVID, research later this year to stimulate further research in this field.

Source: UK House of Commons
Date: July 21, 2025
URL:
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2025-07-11/67192
Ref: http://www.me-net.combidom.com/meweb/web1.4.htm#westminster

[Written Answers]

Universal Credit: Chronic Fatigue Syndrome

Tom Morrison

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, whether she has made an assessment of the potential impact of the Universal Credit Bill on young people under 22 with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis.

Sir Stephen Timms

The Universal Credit Bill makes no change to the eligibility of young people under 22 for the Universal Credit Health element. The proposal to restrict access to the element was the subject of a consultation which closed on 30 June. The responses to the consultation are now being reviewed, and the Government's conclusion will be announced in a white paper in the autumn.

Source: UK House of Commons
Date: July 22, 2025
URL:
https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2025-07-22/debates/25072227000020/MECFSFinalDeliveryPlan
Ref: http://www.me-net.combidom.com/meweb/web1.4.htm#westminster

[Written Statement]

ME/CFS final delivery plan

Ashley Dalton

I am pleased to announce to the House that today the Government has published its final delivery plan for myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS).

This government has a clear commitment to ensure that people with long-term conditions like ME/CFS can live as independently as possible and see their overall quality of life enhanced. This plan will help us take an important step towards achieving this.

ME/CFS can be an incredibly disabling condition to live with, for as many as 390,000 people living in the UK. Its fluctuating symptoms can make it difficult for those affected to take part in everyday activities, enjoy a family or social life, access services they need and engage in work or education. Those with severe or very severe ME/CFS face particular challenges, finding even the most basic daily tasks or activities impossible.

The aim of the final delivery plan for ME/CFS is to improve the experiences of those affected, with a focus on boosting research, improving attitudes and education, and enhancing care and support. The plan sets out a series of actions, which will help address the key challenges and drive forward improvements to outcomes and quality of life for people living with ME/CFS in England.

People living with ME/CFS often face stigma and misunderstanding, stemming from a lack of awareness and education about the condition. This lack of awareness and understanding can significantly impact the quality and availability of services and support for those affected.

Research too will be particularly important in helping to improve understanding of the condition, informing improved diagnosis, the development of new effective treatments and better support for patients.

In this respect, the plan sets out a long-term vision for a coordinated, well-funded, and inclusive research environment that reflects the complexity and severity of ME/CFS. As part of this, we will launch a new funding opportunity with a National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Application Development Award focussed on evaluating repurposed pharmaceutical inventions for post-acute infection syndromes and associated conditions, including ME/CFS.

On education and awareness, the plan commits to increasing knowledge of ME/CFS among public sector professionals, as well as the wider public, by ensuring that information and learning resources are up to date, publicised and signposted.

Through a range of measures, the plan also commits to: improving the quality and accessibility of health services and adult social care; appropriate and timely support for children and young people in education, and helping people with ME/CFS to find and maintain employment.

While many actions in the plan are specific to ME/CFS, others relate to wider initiatives that will benefit people with long-term conditions, including those with ME/CFS. The recently published 10 Year Health Plan set out the three big shifts our NHS needs to be fit for the future: from hospital to community; from analogue to digital; and from sickness to prevention. Services will be moved closer to, and into, people's homes, providing faster diagnosis and faster access to treatment for patients with long-term conditions like ME/CFS. By 2028/29, neighbourhood health teams will be organised around the needs of their patients. Joined up working across hospitals and into community settings will be created, with multi-disciplinary teams, which can provide wrap around support services.

I would like to thank the many people with ME/CFS, carers, health and care professionals, researchers and research funders, charities and patient groups, and other interested organisations and individuals who contributed to the public consultation on the interim delivery plan. Their insights into the realities of living with the condition will help ensure that the agreed actions will meet real needs and help address the health and care inequalities people living with ME/CFS can experience.

I would also like to thank members of the ME/CFS Task and Finish Group, who so generously gave their time to contribute to the development of the plan, and for their continued support in agreeing further actions where these will be required. We have listened very carefully to Group members and recognise that further work will be needed, and we will continue to build on the foundations of these actions well beyond the publication of this plan.

Whilst the final delivery plan covers England, the devolved governments have considered the policy implications arising from the consultation on the interim delivery plan and discussions within the Task and Finish Group for their own nations.

A copy of the final delivery plan will be placed in the Libraries of both Houses.

Source: UK House of Lords
Date: July 22, 2025
URL:
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2025-07-22/hlws885
Ref: http://www.me-net.combidom.com/meweb/web1.4.htm#westminster

[Written Statement]

ME/CFS final delivery plan

Baroness Merron

My hon. Friend the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Public Health and Prevention (Ashley Dalton MP) made the following Statement:

I am pleased to announce to the House that today the Government has published its final delivery plan for myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS).

This government has a clear commitment to ensure that people with long-term conditions like ME/CFS can live as independently as possible and see their overall quality of life enhanced. This plan will help us take an important step towards achieving this.

ME/CFS can be an incredibly disabling condition to live with, for as many as 390,000 people living in the UK. Its fluctuating symptoms can make it difficult for those affected to take part in everyday activities, enjoy a family or social life, access services they need and engage in work or education. Those with severe or very severe ME/CFS face particular challenges, finding even the most basic daily tasks or activities impossible.

The aim of the final delivery plan for ME/CFS is to improve the experiences of those affected, with a focus on boosting research, improving attitudes and education, and enhancing care and support. The plan sets out a series of actions, which will help address the key challenges and drive forward improvements to outcomes and quality of life for people living with ME/CFS in England.

People living with ME/CFS often face stigma and misunderstanding, stemming from a lack of awareness and education about the condition. This lack of awareness and understanding can significantly impact the quality and availability of services and support for those affected.

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In this respect, the plan sets out a long-term vision for a coordinated, well-funded, and inclusive research environment that reflects the complexity and severity of ME/CFS. As part of this, we will launch a new funding opportunity with a National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Application Development Award focussed on evaluating repurposed pharmaceutical inventions for post-acute infection syndromes and associated conditions, including ME/CFS.

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