

A Blueprint for the NHS – Fixing the problems

Thursday, 12th – Friday, 13th December 2024

Participant Biographies



Dr Amar Ahmed

Dr Amar Ahmed is a GP trainer and has been a GP partner for 24 years at a busy family GP surgery in Cheshire. He has pioneered innovation in primary care, implementing award winning, practical solutions to the front-line of the NHS. He has worked as a GP appraiser and CQC inspector and served as the national Sectoral Chair for the Conservative Policy Forum (Public Sector & Infrastructure) during David Cameron's government.



Jenny Chigwende

Jenny is the Chair and Health Lead at W12 Together. Her area of expertise – NHS, Mental health and working in community. She has worked in mental health within the NHS for over two decades, Jenny has seen the impact of stigma and psychosocial pressures that can have devastating impacts on adults, children and families. Through volunteering with W12Together she is excited to have the opportunity to serve the community and to support them to find health and wellbeing solutions that are self-sustaining. She is passionate about Community Psychology, Liberation Psychology and Social Justice.



Nuala Close

Nuala has over 30 years' healthcare experience in a variety of clinical and executive board roles within the NHS and Private Sector and brings significant operational experience across the full cancer pathway. She was until recently Vice President of Cancer for HCA UK and Sarah Cannon Research Institute – responsible for the optimisation of cancer services across the UK. Prior to this she was CEO of The Harley Street Clinic – a hospital specialising in cardiac and cancer surgery- and Leaders in Oncology Care - the largest private chemotherapy delivery unit in the UK.

Having undertaken both Chief Nurse and Chief Executive roles Nuala seamlessly bridges clinical leadership and strategic management and has used this to successfully build trust and foster collaboration between physician, provider, and payor to improve patient outcomes and to address the unsustainable rising costs of cancer treatment.

Nuala is co-founder of Jefferson Close Consulting which provides Leadership Coaching and Consultancy across a variety of sectors. In her spare time, she is also a Facilitator and Chair for Windsor Leadership – supporting transformational leadership development across senior leaders in the military, Civil Service, NHS, and corporate sectors.



Professor Martin Curley

Martin Curley is Professor of Innovation at Maynooth University and Director of the Digital Health Ecosystem at the Innovation Value Institute at Maynooth University, Ireland. Most recently Martin was Chief Information Officer and Director of Digital Transformation for Ireland's National Health Service (HSE) and previously was Senior Vice President at Mastercard and head of Global Digital Practice. Martin is chair of the UNGA Digital Health Symposium and has previously been Vice President, Senior Principal Engineer and Director of Intel Labs Europe as well as Global Director of IT Innovation at Intel Corporation.

He has held engineering management positions at Philips and General Electronic also. Martin has been identified as a top 10 global influential, inspiring and impactful health leader/educator by a number of international publications and was awarded European Chief Technology Officer of the year in 2015. He chaired the European Commission Open Innovation Strategy and Policy Group (OISPG) for seven years, is the creator of Open Innovation 2.0 and has served on multiple EU and European Advisory boards. He is author of eight books on Innovation, Digital and Entrepreneurship and has keynoted and led executive education across the world, from Boston to Beijing and Sydney to Sao Paolo. He was awarded Irish National Digital Leader of the Year award in 2024 and the world Public Sector Innovation award in 2020 from the International Chambers of Commerce. Most recently he was also senior advisor to Saskatchewan Health Authority in Canada and is a senior advisor to Bearing Point Consulting.



Professor Dame Lesley Fallowfield DBE, BSc, DPhil, FMedSci

Professor Dame Lesley Fallowfield is Director of Sussex Health Outcomes Research & Education in Cancer (SHORE-C) psycho-oncology group at the University of Sussex. Her research interests are wide and include the measurement of quality-of-life in national and international trials of cancer therapy and the development of evidence-based communication programmes for healthcare professionals. She has published over 500 papers, many book chapters, 3 textbooks and numerous evidence-based educational materials for the teaching of communication skills. She lectures and runs training workshops throughout the world in psychosocial oncology, quality of life assessment and communication skills. Professor Fallowfield has served on many committees and advisory boards including most recently as an expert on a panel in the Infected Blood Inquiry. She has given many eponymous lectures and been the recipient of several prestigious awards. She is a Fellow of the UK Academy of Medical Sciences an Honorary Fellow of the Association of Cancer Physicians and in 2016 was made a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to psycho-oncology.



Professor Ilora Baroness Finlay of Llandaff FRCP FRCGP FMedSci FHEA FLSW

Professor Ilora Baroness Finlay of Llandaff is an independent Crossbench Peer in the House of Lords, and a Deputy Speaker. She was a member of the House of Lords Special Inquiry Committee on the Integration of Primary and Community Care. She was appointed by the Ministry of Justice to set up and lead the National Mental Capacity Forum 2015-2022, which included running fast track webinars during Covid as different problems were encountered.

She has pushed legislation on many health issues, securing the Chief Coroner, banning smoking in public places, ensuring that the Health and Care Act now includes palliative care as a core NHS service and that high-street cosmetic procedures become regulated. She was a Member of the House of Lords Select Committee on the Assisted Dying Bill and chaired the Select Committee of Science and Technology inquiry into Allergy. She has co-chaired several All-Party Parliamentary Groups and been actively involved in the On Line Safety Act, support to victims of crime and compensation for victims of contaminated blood.

She chairs the Commission on Alcohol Harms; CO Research Trust; The Bevan Commission in Wales and was Vice-chair of NICE's ME/CFS guideline. She established Living & Dying Well, a think-tank around end-of-life issues. She is a member of The Times Commission on Health and Social Care.

At Cardiff University, where she holds an Honorary Professorship, she established the Palliative Care Diploma/MSc and led Palliative Care service development. At the Velindre Cancer Centre she integrated palliative care with cancer services, has taught and lectured widely and has over 230 papers in peer-reviewed journals.

She is President of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, a past-President of the Royal Society of Medicine, BMA, Medical Women's Federation and the Association for Palliative Medicine, and Vice-President of several charities, including City Hospice, Hospice UK and Marie Curie.



Dr Susan Galbraith

Susan Galbraith is Executive Vice President of Oncology R&D at AstraZeneca, with responsibility for transforming the productivity and scientific output from Oncology R&D. Over her career, Susan has helped develop 12 approved medicines. A Clinical Oncologist by background, Susan studied medicine at Manchester and Cambridge Universities and has a PhD from the University of London. In recognition of her contributions to Oncology drug development, she has been awarded an honorary Doctorate of Medical Science from the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR), is a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences and elected to the Academy of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR). Susan is a member of the Cambridge Cancer Centre Executive Committee and the Scientific Advisory Board of the ICR. From 2021 to 2024 she served on the Board of Directors of the AACR and currently serves on the European Association of Cancer Research (EACR) Advisory Council.



Dr Clare Hague

Clare Hague is the managing director of Oncology Access Solutions Ltd, which advises biotech companies on market access strategies for innovative cancer medicines. She has spent the past 30 years working as a health economist within the pharmaceutical industry, academia and the NHS (most recently as the Head of Real-World Evidence & Value Based Healthcare (EMEA) at Johnson & Johnson). Clare holds a PhD in health economics, an LLM in healthcare ethics & law and a BA (Hons) in international business. Her PhD in reimbursement methods informed the Government's Payment by Results Policy for Adult Critical Care Units.

Clare is currently supporting the Medico-Legal Knowledge Partnership (MLKP) as their research lead (the MLKP is a community for experts, lawyers and healthcare organisations to improve patient care and legal outcomes). She is also a trustee for Radiotherapy UK and member of the editorial board for Cell & Gene Therapy Insights.



Mr Stephen Hammond

Stephen Hammond was the Conservative MP for Wimbledon from 2005-2024. From 2012-2014 he was a Transport Minister, and from 2018-2019 he was Minister of State for Health. He has been a member of the Treasury Select Committee. He maintained a keen interest in health policy during the 2019-2024 Parliament. Before entering Parliament Stephen worked as an investment banker.



Sir David Haslam, CBE

Sir David Haslam is Chair of the charity Young Lives vs Cancer, Chair of the Board of Itecho Health, and a Non-Executive Director of an NHS Trust in Dorset. He was previously Chair of NICE. President and Chairman of the Royal College of General Practitioners, President of the BMA, and was a GP in Ramsey, Cambridgeshire, for over 35 years. He was awarded CBE in 2004, and knighted in 2018 for services to NHS Leadership. His book – "Side Effects: How Our Healthcare Lost Its Way – And How We Fix It" –was Book of the Week in the Observer, and listed in Waterstones Best Books of 2022.



Richard Jones

Richard has a proven track record in founding/leading multiple tech startups, including in the field of AI/healthcare. He lectures on AI/digital health at masters level, is a mentor on the GE Edison Accelerator and NHS CEP and a Senior Innovation Fellow at Maynooth University and Fordham in the US (pending).

Richard has an electronics degree, Diploma of Engineering, MBA (distinction) from WBS, post-grad in research and is working on his PhD in technology strategy (paused). He is a published author on Strategy/business and Fellow of the British Computer Society, Royal Society of Public Health, IET, CIM, RSA, IPT and IoL.



Rt Hon Professor the Lord Kakkar KG KBE PC

Lord Kakkar is Emeritus Professor of Surgery, University College London, and President of the Thrombosis Research Institute in London. He is Chairman of King's Health Partners academic health sciences centre, the Office for Strategic Coordination of Health Research, the King's Fund and UK Biobank.

He completed his medical degree at King's College London and received his PhD from Imperial College London. His research interests include the prevention and treatment of venous and arterial thromboembolic disease and cancer-associated thrombosis.

Lord Kakkar was created a Life Peer in 2010 and sits on the cross benches of the House of Lords. He has served as the Prime Minister's Business Ambassador for Healthcare and Life Sciences from 2012-2018.

As a member of the House, he has also served on the EU Sub Committee on scrutiny of the Internal Market; The Science and Technology Select Committee; the Ad Hoc committee on the future sustainability of the NHS.

He was appointed by the Prime Minister as Chairman of the House of Lords Appointments Commission (2013 – 2018) and as Chairman of the Judicial Appointments Commission (2016-2022).

He has served as Chairman of The Royal Commission for the 1851 Exhibition since 2022 and became Chancellor of the University of Lincoln in 2023.

Lord Kakkar was appointed a member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council in 2014, created a Knight Commander of the order of the British Empire in 2022 and was appointed Knight Companion of the Most Noble Order of The Garter by His Majesty King Charles III in 2024.



Professor James P Kingsland OBE

James is a primary care physician, former Senior Partner in a nationally renowned, award-winning general practice in England, Honorary Clinical Professor in the School of Medicine at the University of Central Lancashire and Hon Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health (UK).

He has designed and led major national and international service transformation projects during a distinguished career in clinical practice spanning 40 years and is now regarded as a world authority on healthcare reform.

He is currently an advisor on health reform to the healthcare systems in India, Nepal and Singapore and former DHSC policy adviser in England.

He was awarded the OBE for services to Medicine and to Healthcare in the Queens Diamond Jubilee New Year's Honours 2012.

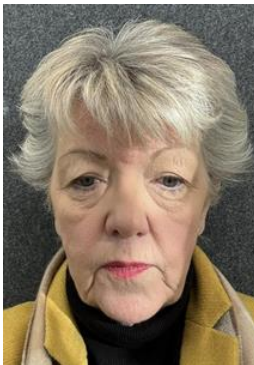
He is the co-designer of the blueprint for Primary Care Networks across England and has built on this work as the national clinical lead for a programme to address health inequalities across England.



Professor Mark Lawler

Mark is Professor of Digital Health at Queen's University Belfast and Scientific Director of DATA-CAN, the UK's Health Data Research Hub for Cancer. He chairs the International Cancer Benchmarking Partnership and the Lancet Oncology European Groundshot Commission. He co-Leads the All Island Cancer Research Institute (AICRI) a coalition of 10 universities across the island, co-leading two AICRI HEA-funded North South Research Programmes in precision medicine and digital health. He co-led an influential report on the precision oncology and digital health landscape on the island of Ireland and its enormous potential.

His pioneering work on Covid-19 and cancer received the Royal College of Physicians Excellence in Patient Care Award and the prestigious European Communique Award. His team won the prestigious HDR-UK Impact of the Year Award for providing the crucial intelligence informing a change in policy for treating colorectal cancer. Mark was one of the leadership involved in developing and launching a radical new data-informed UK plan for cancer research and cancer care in the House of Commons, Westminster. In January 2024 he provided the crucial evidence on the need to re-establish a National Cancer Plan to the Health and Social Care Select Committee in the House of Commons.



Angela McFarlane

In 2020, Angela established the UK Clinical Research Coalition (CRC), to embed the research learning from the first wave of COVID-19. Many of the recommendations were embedded in The Future of UK Clinical Research Delivery.

In 2021, Angela led an IQVIA team to support members of the UK 100-day mission team understand the clinical research capabilities of 6 LMICs to be able to implement trials to discover treatments for the next global health pandemic.

Angela spent a decade in pharmaceutical leadership roles, prior to starting the world's second market access agency in 1998 and is a Subject Matter Expert in health policy for research and life science investment, market access, rare disease, biosimilars, and effective engagement with Governments, Payers and Providers.



Siobhan McShane

Siobhan was an intern at St George's House from 2018-19, and returns occasionally to act as rapporteur for consultations. She is now conducting PhD research in Durham University Classics Department. Her research topic is Ovid's exile poetry and its use by modern exiled writers in novels. In her free time she enjoys dancing, mostly Ballet, and reading fiction.



Will Morrison

Will is a senior policy official at the Department of Social Care. He works in the cancer policy and performance team, with a specific focus on treatment



Dr James Mountford

James is Editor-in-Chief of the journal BMJ Leader, a senior advisor at Douglas Knowledge Partners and Health Strategy Officer for Galileo Global Education.

James began his career as an NHS doctor, followed by a spell in consulting before NHS management and policy roles, including as Director of Quality at UCL Partners and at the Royal Free, London. From 2020-2022 he was the Director of National Improvement Strategy at NHS England.

James has a medical degree from Oxford and a Master's in Public Health from Harvard, and was a Commonwealth Fund/Health Foundation Harkness Fellow based at Massachusetts General Hospital, and at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI). He lives in London with his wife Jenny, a surgeon at the Royal Marsden Hospital, and their two children.



Sir John Oldham

Sir John is a GP by background. His practice won several awards. This led to him being asked to create and head the National Primary Care Collaborative which launched in February 2000. At the time the Primary Care Collaborative was the largest improvement programme in the world covering 32 million patients in 40 months. He designed a similar programme in Scotland, Australia and other countries.

In 2003 Sir John also created the concept of the award winning Healthy Communities Collaborative with residents of deprived areas as the improvement team members, now spread throughout Scandinavia (as Passion for Life). He also worked in Education, successfully raising performance of underperforming pupils in 400 schools. He has been a keynote speaker at many international conferences on large system change, quality and safety and has spoken at Davos.

He was a member of the National Quality Board, National Clinical Lead for Quality and Productivity at the Dept of Health in England and subsequently Chair of an Independent Commission on Whole Person Care. He was Senior Independent director at the Care Quality Commission in England until the pandemic and in 2023 an advisor on NHS reform to the then Shadow Secretary of State for Health and Social Care until the general election.



Professor David Pendleton

David is a psychologist, educator, consultant, and author. He completed a doctorate in Psychology at Oxford University and has spent his career applying his discipline in a variety of practical contexts: education, healthcare and commerce. His career has focused on two areas: on communication in healthcare and on leadership.

In the field of healthcare, he has held a variety of advisory roles with the RCGP and as a Trustee. He is best known for his co-authored book *The Consultation: an approach to learning and teaching* which first described the feedback principles that have become known as the Pendleton Rules.

As a consultant, he co-founded the Edgecumbe Consulting Group (1995-2015) and Pendleton King in 2015 where he specialises in assessment-led development of leaders and leadership in the commercial, public and charity sectors.

His work in leadership is based on his Primary Colours Approach described in his book *Leadership: no more heroes* (2021). He was appointed Professor in Leadership at Henley Business School in 2017 and, since 2007, is an Associate Fellow of Green Templeton College Oxford.



Professor Pat Price MA MD FRCP FRCR

Pat Price trained in general medicine in Cambridge and in oncology at the Royal Marsden Hospital. She has been a clinical oncology consultant for 35 years; as a clinical academic oncologist at Hammersmith Hospital and in 2000, she established the first Ralston Paterson Chair in Radiation Oncology at the Christie Hospital and set up the new Wolfson Molecular Imaging Centre at the University of Manchester. Pat returned to Imperial College in 2010 as Visiting Professor in Oncology and is now involved in a large-scale international research programme to develop new quantitative in vivo imaging technology as well as a large scale biology and physics programme to develop laser based productions of high energy ions for new therapy in cancer. Professor Pat Price.

Pat founded and is Chair of Trustees of the national charity Radiotherapy UK Radiotherapy UK which is appointed as the secretariat for the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Radiotherapy (APPGRT) aiming to improve radiotherapy in the UK APPG for Radiotherapy. She set up the high profile #CatchUpWithCancer campaign to lobby the Government for a new national cancer recovery plan and frequently appears in the media. She also co-founded and chairs the NGO the Global Coalition for Radiotherapy which has developed a radiotherapy taskforce to support cancer therapy in Ukraine and other areas of conflict in the world. She contributed to the *Lancet Oncology* series of papers developing suggestions for a new UK Cancer Control plan. She is committed to evidence based improvements in cancer care and the development of technology in medicine.



Sarah Quinlan MBE

Sarah is a passionate advocate for the rights and dignity of cancer patients in the UK. With a strong background in the charity sector, she has been a driving force for change, impactful service delivery, and organisational development. Since becoming the director of Radiotherapy UK in 2022, she has significantly enhanced the charity's support services and championed the provision of high-quality radiotherapy services across the UK. Sarah has also amplified the voices of radiotherapy patients and the workforce, bringing their stories and experiences to the heart of government through the work of the APPG-Radiotherapy, for which Radiotherapy UK is the secretariat. She collaborates with diverse stakeholders and has co-authored landmark reports, including "World-class Radiotherapy in the UK: Right Patient, Right Treatment, Right Time" and key articles in *Lancet Oncology* on the future of cancer care and reaching world-class radiotherapy.



Dr John Sheehan

John is a Consultant Radiologist whose expertise transcends medical imaging, reaching into the vanguard of digital health innovation and transformative healthcare leadership. With fellowships at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, John's clinical acumen is matched by his strategic roles at Blackrock Health, Dublin, Mobile Medical Diagnostics (MMD), and xWave Technologies.

As a regular invited keynote speaker, John addresses pivotal topics around healthcare and technology, including data, cybersecurity, and the legal and ethical dimensions of medical practice. This role underscores his position as a thought leader, influencing the discourse on how technology can be harnessed to advance healthcare while navigating its complexities with integrity.

Co-chairing the American Irish Medical Summit with Prof. Peter Naughton and the Digital Health Symposium at the UNGA in NY alongside Prof. Martin Curley, John spearheads international healthcare dialogues. His leadership roles as Clinical Director at MMD, Clinical Advisor at xWave, and Vice Chair of Ireland's Digital Health Association with Prof. Curley, highlight his commitment to AI-driven diagnostic advancements and the betterment of community healthcare.

Inspired by visionaries like Michael Dowling, John champions a healthcare ethos centered on accessibility, equity, and integration. His contributions to MMD and xWave are a testament to his dedication to leveraging digital innovations to remove patient care barriers and drive transformative change.

John's leadership style is marked by an unwavering commitment to innovation and a solution-focused approach. He is deeply invested in mentorship, nurturing a culture of disruptive thinking and compassionate action among emerging healthcare professionals.

Balancing a demanding career with family life and personal passions in music, gardening, and photography, John exemplifies the synergy between personal well-being and professional excellence. As he navigates the evolving landscape of healthcare, his vision remains clear: to make healthcare not just a service, but a universally accessible and fundamentally equitable right.



Professor Richard Sullivan

Richard Sullivan is a Professor of Cancer & Global Health at King's College London and Guy's Hospital Comprehensive Cancer Centre. At King's, he is the Director of the Institute of Cancer Policy and Director of the Centre for Conflict & Health Research. Richard is the NCD advisor to the World Health Organisation, a Fellow at the Centre for Global Development, and a UK representative to the WHO IARC Scientific Governing Council. His global cancer research programs cover cancer systems strengthening, political economy (value & affordability), pharmaceutical policy, and global cancer surgery, with a special interest in cancer care in conflict. He directs several major research programs in conflict and health with a special focus on the Middle East and Sub-Saharan African regions, specifically in health security intelligence and health systems strengthening in conflict. Professor Sullivan trained in surgical oncology with a PhD in Biochemistry from University College London. Richard was previously Clinical Director of Cancer Research UK, a board member of UICC, and past Director of the Council for Emerging National Security Affairs.



Professor Gordon Wishart

Professor Gordon Wishart is the Visiting Professor of Cancer Surgery at Anglia Ruskin University and former Director of the Cambridge Breast Unit from 2005-2010. He has a strong track record in clinical research & innovation, with more than 200 peer-reviewed scientific publications, and in 2010 he led a team of clinicians and scientists that developed the PREDICT breast cancer treatment and survival model, now used worldwide.

As founder & Chief Medical Officer of Check4Cancer, he has built an award-winning tech-enabled early cancer detection company in the UK that recently developed an AI model for skin cancer detection with Innovate UK funding.



Richard Wyatt-Haines

Richard is the founder of the HCI and has been working in digital health for 10 years. He has over 30 years' business experience which also includes founding a consultancy firm, director of an insurance company and a leadership fellow at the University of Exeter. He is also the author of 'Align IT: Business Impact Through IT' and the joint author of "Delivering Digital Transformation for Healthcare: Activating Patient Self Care Maturity to deliver Shift Left Stay Left."

HCI is a groundbreaking and award winning digital health company that enables health systems to adopt new and sustainable ways of delivering health and care by educating and supporting patients with any disease or treatment so that care can be delivered closer to home in order to reduce demand and waiting lists.

HCI achieve this through their CONNECTPlus platform and our library of over 1,000 patient facing videos.



Robert Yates

Robert is a political health economist specializing in universal health coverage (UHC) and progressive health financing. He is a Visiting Professor in Practice at the London School of Economics and an Honorary Associate Professor at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Between 2019 and 2024 he was the Executive Director of the Centre for Universal Health at Chatham House and was previously a long-term consultant to The Elders on their universal health programme. He has special expertise in the political economy of UHC, with a focus on advising political leaders and government ministries on how to plan, finance and implement national UHC reforms.