

# £6bn extra a year for the NHS and care

Today, we've announced our first election manifesto commitment; we will invest an extra £6bn a year in our NHS & Social Care system.

This new funding will be paid for through an immediate 1p rise on all rates of income tax.

This funding will be ring-fenced to be spent only on the NHS and social care and will provide vital services with the money they desperately need until a longer-term solution can be found.

This is our flagship spending commitment and our first major policy announcement for the election.

Our manifesto will also set out a 'five-point recovery plan' for NHS and social care services.

As he made the announcement, Liberal Democrat Leader, Tim Farron, said:

"Theresa May doesn't care about the NHS or social care. People are lying on trolleys in hospital corridors and she has done nothing. The truth is you can't have a strong NHS with a Hard Brexit."

"The Liberal Democrats will rescue the NHS and social care. We are prepared to be honest with people and say that we will all need to chip in a little more."

"It is not too late to change Britain's future. The Conservatives want absolute power, Labour are too weak to stand up to them, so we will. The Liberal Democrats will be the strong opposition Britain needs."

Liberal Democrat Shadow Secretary of State for Health, Norman Lamb, added:

"The NHS was once the envy of the world and this pledge is the first step in restoring it to where it should be."

"A penny on the pound to save the NHS is money well spent in our view."

"Simply providing more money on its own is not enough and that's why this is just the first step in our plan to protect health and care services long-term."

"We also need to do much more to keep people fit and healthy and out of hospital, and that is why this new funding will be targeted to those areas that have the greatest impact on patient care such as social care, general practice, mental health and public health."

## **This our five-step plan for the NHS & Social Care:**

1. Introduce a 1% raise in income tax, generating £6bn a year

2. Ring-fence ALL of this for the NHS and care, investing efficiently and effectively in social care, primary care, mental health and public health
  3. Consolidate all health and care taxes into a single, dedicated Health and Care Tax, showing on people's payslips exactly what we spend it on
  4. Establish a cross-party health and care convention, consulting and working with patients, the public, NHS staff and care workers, to ensure our systems are sustainable and integrated
  5. Introduce an independent agency to monitor health and care budgets, which would report every three years on how much money the system needs to flourish
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## [Yunnan police bust drug trafficking case](#)

Police in southwest China's Yunnan Province have busted a drug-trafficking case, with three suspects detained, authorities said Saturday.

More than 57 kg of methamphetamine and two vehicles were confiscated in a raid on Tuesday, according to the public security bureau of Zhenyuan County.

On Tuesday, police intercepted an SUV on a local highway in Zhenyuan and detained a suspect surnamed Xie. Later, another SUV carrying another two suspects was stopped.

Further investigation is under way.

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## [Ancient city ruins discovered in southwest China](#)

The ruins of an ancient city have been discovered in southwest China.

Archaeologists have found the remains of several walls in Yunnan's Midu County, believed to be part of Baiya City, and dating back to the early years of the Tang Dynasty (618-907) more than 1,000 years ago.

Accounts of the old town of Baiya City first appear in a history book written by military official Fan Chuo during the Tang Dynasty. Fan said that Baiya City had an old town and a new town, which were closely connected. A previously discovered "old town" was about two kilometers from the confirmed

new town, contradictory to the book, according to historian and archeologist He Jinlong.

“From the location of these newly discovered ruins, much closer to the new town, we are pretty confident that it is the authentic old town,” He said. “As excavation continues, we will know more details.”

Domestic and foreign records about Baiya City are quite limited, and the new discovery will provide valuable evidence for research into the ancient civilization of west Yunnan, He added.

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## [Large number of wild Milu deer sighted in Hunan](#)

A large group of milu Deer have been spotted in central China’s Hunan Province, authorities said.

Staff with Hunan Provincial Forestry Department found 62 wild milu deer during a drone inspection in a state nature reserve near Dongting Lake, the second-largest freshwater lake in China. It is the biggest group of wild milu deer ever seen in the area.

Staff with the department found the deer foraging during a survey on Thursday.

Last year, authorities found 41 of the deer in the reserve.

“The extra deer spotted this year must be the calves,” said Zhang Hong, an official with the administration of the nature reserve.

Milu, also known as Pere David’s deer, is a species endemic to China, but overhunting and loss of habitat led to its near extinction in the early 20th Century.

In 1986, the British government gifted 39 milu deer to Dafeng Milu National Nature Reserve in east China’s Jiangsu Province, starting a revival of the population in its homeland.

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## [Chinese Academy of Social Sciences has](#)

## 18 think tanks

There are a total of 18 professional think tanks under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), president of the academy Wang Weiguang has said.

Wang made the remarks at an international forum on Chinese philosophy and social sciences held in Beijing Friday, saying that the academy is dedicated to fostering national high-end think tanks with extensive influence both at home and abroad.

The tanks primarily focus on Marxism, economics and finance, social culture, international relations and border areas, according to the academy.

As this year marks its 40th anniversary, Wang said the academy has become a prestigious institute in the study of philosophy and social sciences in China.

By the end of 2016, the academy has completed almost 13,000 monographs, over 147,000 papers and more than 27,000 research reports, Wang said.

The CASS also has over 160 cooperation agreements with academies, think tanks, international organizations or higher education institutes in more than 100 countries or regions.