



For immediate release: Friday 25th November 2011

Keep Our NHS Public welcomes the British Medical Association's affirmation that Health Bill be scrapped

Keep Our NHS Public congratulates the BMA on its vote yesterday to oppose Lansley's Health & Social Care bill entirely. We warmly welcome the BMA - representing 147,000 doctors - to join us, and the broad coalition of other health and patient organisations, as we continue the public campaign against the Health bill.

The tipping point for the BMA has been the leaked government document, 'Developing Commissioning Support: Towards Service Excellence', which makes clear that support services for clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) in England will be provided solely by large private companies after 2016. This makes mockery of Lansley's promise to put doctors in the driving seat.

Keep Our NHS Public, the NHS Consultants Association, Health Emergency and the NHS Support Federation, along with other leading health and patient groups, look forward to hearing how we may work with the BMA to carry forward this public campaign to its rightful conclusion: the scrapping of the Health & Social Care bill and the beginning of a real, informed debate on how to make the NHS *even better* than it is already. We have one the best health services in the world, and the last thing patients need is a major re-organisation of their service - a point confirmed in detail in the recent OECD report¹.

- ends -

For further information please contact:

Wendy Savage:
Co-chair, Keep Our NHS Public
Mobile: 07939 084 544
Email: co-chair@keepournhspublic.com

Ron Singer/Jacky Davis:
Respective Mobiles: 07976 141 199 / 07801 721 828 (**urgent enquiries**)
Email: campaignmanager@keepournhspublic.com

¹ *Coalition health bill will undermine NHS, says OECD thinktank, The Guardian, 23rd November 2011*