

# The NHS costs YOU £5,000 a year – and the burden on taxpayers is only going to rise

TAXPAYERS are coughing up nearly £5,000 a year each for the NHS it was revealed today, as experts warned the astronomical cost of the service is only going to rise.

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The NHS costs taxpayers £5,000 a year each.

That means despite people thinking of the service as free, they are actually paying out the price of a hip replacement each year in the form of higher taxes.

Now a leading medical service has warned that Government plans to take a million low-paid workers out of the tax system altogether within the next five years will only heap further misery on hardworking families.

It will mean those who are left paying tax will end up forking out £5,283 a year for the health service by the end of this parliament.

David Cameron has pledged to pour £8bn more into the NHS by 2020 on top of its current £115bn a year budget.

Online [medical helpline Dr Morton's](#), which has been set up as a rival to the problem plagued NHS 111 phone line, has calculated that the average taxpayer in England will pay £4,666 towards the health service this year.



David Cameron's plans to take a million people out of tax will only increase the cost.

Chief executive John Wilkes said the figures would shock many people who think of the NHS as free.

He said: "We calculated the cost to the taxpayer of the NHS from the latest available data because we think most hard working individuals have no yardstick by which to judge the true cost of good healthcare

**Just because the NHS is largely free at the point of delivery does not mean that it is actually free**

John Wilkes

"Just because the NHS is largely free at the point of delivery does not mean that it is actually free.

"We believe many people will be shocked by just how much access to healthcare via the NHS already costs, even though studies have in the past shown that the NHS is very good value compared to other health systems around the world.

"The logical conclusion is that if you are already paying for it you should use it, but as we already know from both GP surgery waiting time and A&E statistics, the NHS is already buckling under the strain."

Last month it emerged that the NHS is spending a record £3.3bn on locum doctors and nurses at up to £3,200 per shift.

Outraged campaigners called for private healthcare recruiters "ripping off" the NHS to be banned, with ministers set to launch a probe into the issue.

Meanwhile overspending at NHS trusts across England totalled £822m over the last year, more than seven times their combined deficit of £115m at the beginning of 2014.

Much of the rise was blamed on patient pressure, with hospitals treating a record 10.7m emergency cases during that period, up half a million from the year before.