



MEN AND BOYS
COALITION

Charity 1183014

www.menandboyscoalition.org.uk

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Embargoed (00:01)

24 April 2025

Men's Health Strategy Call for Evidence – Government Has Listened

The Men and Boys Coalition, the representative charity for the men and boys health and wellbeing sector, who have been campaigning for a men's health strategy for a decade, fully support the Government's announcement today on a call for evidence for such a strategy.

The charity has been working with the Government, Parliamentarians and a wide range of charities and stakeholders on a men's health strategy including giving evidence to the Health and Social Care Select Committee last year. Two of its trustees (Mark Brooks and Associate Professor Caroline Flurey) produced a draft men's health strategy for England last year and Brooks, also wrote a report for the All-Party Parliamentary Group in Men and Boys' Issues on the need for a men's health strategy (See notes to editors).

Mark Brooks, national policy adviser on men's health and inclusion and trustee of the Men and Boys Coalition, said:

"Men's health is in crisis and we are pleased the Government has listened to the long-standing call, that we and others have made, for a strategic, not piecemeal, approach. The call for evidence is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for men, organisations and those who care about men's health to make their voices heard.

"Too many men die early. One in five do not reach 65, suicide rates are increasing with cancer and heart disease mortality rates still far too high. This is why we need a men's health strategy, backed by a plan and targets, as it requires a co-ordinated national effort. One that addresses the causes of poor men's health, and, makes the health system more accessible and responsive to men.

"This must be alongside a society that does more to encourage and support men with their health needs rather than expecting them to ignore problems and 'man up'. Addressing wider social causes is important too such as domestic abuse, homelessness and loneliness and isolation."



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Targets should include:

- Improvements in men's life expectancy and mortality rates
- Reductions in prevalence rates, and, improved clinical outcome measures for men and boys in all health conditions
- Increased numbers of men accessing health services
- Increased numbers of men being diagnosed earlier for major health conditions
- Reductions in workplace-related injuries and deaths
- Reductions in men suffering from addictions and obesity
- Increased funding for men's health, wellbeing services and research
- Increased numbers of men working in health and social care roles

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

(1) "A Men's Health Strategy for England: Core Principles" – Mark Brooks OBE and Associate Professor, Caroline Flurey:

<https://www.menandboyscoalition.org.uk/uncategorized/mens-health-strategy-for-england-core-principles/>

(2) "The Case for a Men's Health Strategy" - All-Party Parliamentary Group on Men and Boys' Issues: <https://equi-law.uk/mens-health-strategy/>

(3) For further information, please contact Mark Brooks via mark.brooks@marcommsformen.org.uk / 07834 452357