# Policy priorities for 2025/2026

### Golden thread: health inequalities, lived experience, co-production and evidence to underpin all policy work

## End unequal access

• Advocate for people digitally excluded to improve support and choice, and drive NHS app and AI inclusivity

• Improve support and data for people with long-term conditions around diagnosis and mental health

• Address transport concerns blocking access

• Standardisation of ICB interpretation services - no one turned away at reception/triage

## Transfer power to people & communities

• VCSE and co production engagement in ICBs

• Engage system on screening / community prevention to accommodate differing needs

• Reduce admin/ comms barriers so people can better advocate for themselves

• Improve access and choice to treatments/ medications/med devices

## Shift the measures of success

• Engage ten-year plan team to improve patient experience insight and data frameworks

• Work with Elective care plan team to monitor implementation of patient experience/health inequality promises including data

• Develop better ways of implementing ‘I statements’ at ICB level

# Strategic opportunities

### National Voices has increased its involvement in high profile DHSC/ NHSE England (NHSE) strategic plans. To support priorities implementation, it is important we understand our strategic opportunities.

## 10-year plan

Co-chair of health inequalities vision group, with LEP involvement, and continued engagement in final plan

### Next steps

Continue to influence meaningful change in how people with health inequalities use the NHS, including pushing for better patient experience measurement

## Elective recovery plan 2025

Landed important concessions on health inequalities, including data and impact of transport

### Next steps

Ensure actioning of Integrated Care Board health inequalities plans and minimum patients’ standards are robust and meaningful, with transport needs addressed

## Red tape review

With Lived Experience Partners leveraged role in External Review Groups and other groups to land concerns on medication shortages and poor patient communication/ admin processes

### Next steps

Ensure implementation of review reflects these priorities, and push for better admin across the NHS

## 3 big shifts

Involved in conversations with NHSE/DHSC/Number 10 (Cabinet office)

### Next steps

Help aligned Gov policy to align with our priorities:

• Digital exclusion;

• Grass roots prevention/screening

• Build trust in new community structures

• VCSE involvement and co-production across all shifts