



Allied Health Professions Strategy for England Easy Read

2022 to 2027
AHPs Deliver

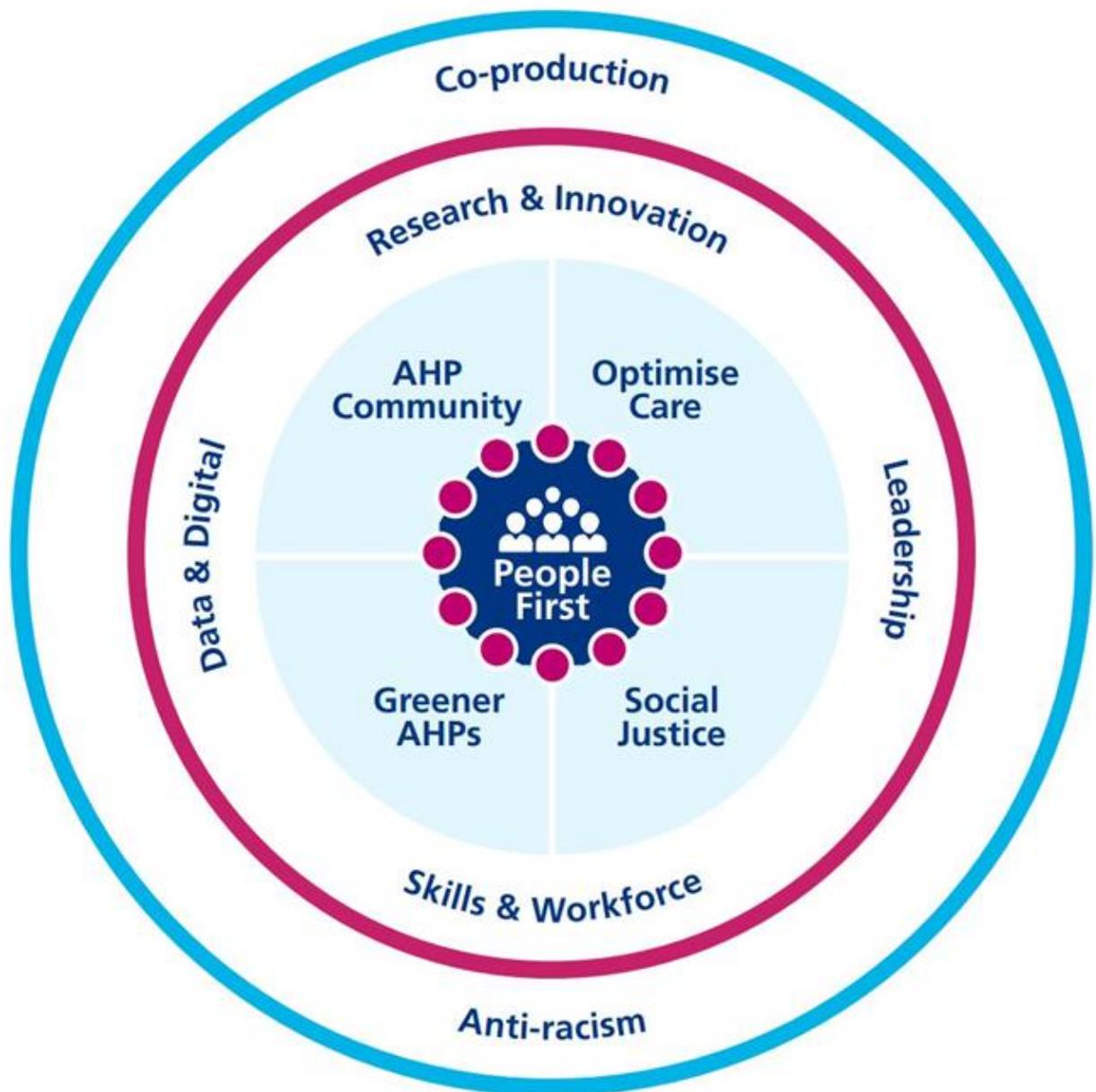


Who are the Allied Health Professions?

AHPs help people to live full active lives within their family, community and workplaces. It is the third largest clinical workforce in the NHS.



What We Plan To Focus On Between 2022 And 2027





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Glossary/Key Words

Co-production – a way of working where people and services they use work together to reach an outcome that is best for everyone.

Enhanced foundations – these represent the commitments from the first strategy which have now been developed further to be included into this new strategy

Environmental sustainability – the responsibility to maintain natural resources and not risk further damage to the earth.

Health inequality – the unfair and avoidable differences in people's health across the population and between specific population groups.

Inclusive – acting based on the belief that everyone has equal rights.

Optimising care – making sure services are running as efficiently as possible to deliver the best care.

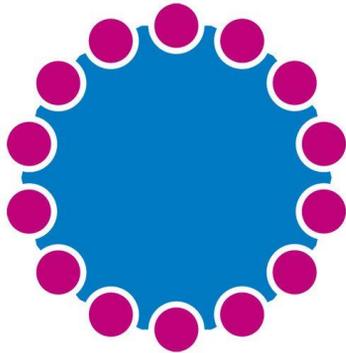
Protected characteristics – groups that often face discrimination due to race, disability, gender, sexual orientation, religion and more. These groups should be treated fairly like all other communities.

Social justice – fair and equal relations between individuals and society.

Strategy – a plan of action to guide all AHPs to work better together.

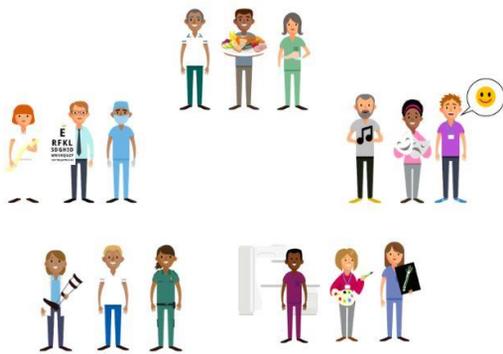
Sustainability – we must look after the environment in a way that makes sure that we have enough to provide for the future.

Underrepresented communities – groups that can often face discrimination or vulnerabilities and this can impact the quality of care they receive.



About this document

This easy read explains how Allied Health Professionals (sometimes called AHPs) can work together to improve services for our communities.



Strategy purpose

This strategy will guide AHPs on how to work better together and to make sure you and your loved ones get the best care.



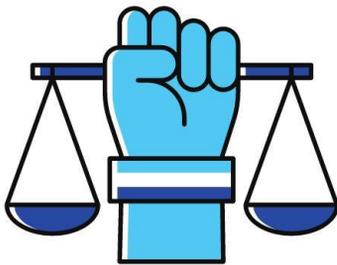
What this means to you

Look out for the question mark icon at the end of each page as this explains why the work that we are doing is important to you and your loved ones.



We commit to being Anti-Racist:

Anti-racism is taking action by making sure everyone is treated fairly.



We want everyone in the community and every AHP to be treated fairly and have equal opportunities. This will reduce health inequalities.



We aim to support more ethnic minorities in leadership roles and more educational support for AHP students.

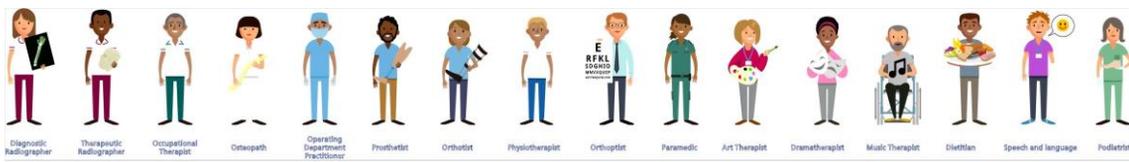
What this means to you...

We will:



Work together with you towards creating a community where racist behaviour is not tolerated.

Improve opportunities and make services and jobs easier to access for underrepresented groups.



Co-production

Co-production brings together all AHP professions, people and communities to share equally in making decisions to improve how we work.



Working together to make sure actions are inclusive and representative of what the community needs.



The strategy brings together AHPs as one workforce where we can share ideas and the best ways of working.

What this means to you...



In this 5-year strategy we listened to lots of different voices to make sure underrepresented communities were involved.

This means that the services we provide to you have been shaped by you and your communities.



Enhanced Foundations Leadership:



Creating a more inclusive workforce boosts the chances of the NHS Long Term Plan being achieved



We want more AHPs with protected characteristics in leadership roles all over the country.



A more diverse AHP workforce will help to prevent the risk of outdated practice.

What this means to you...



Having AHPs in high up roles is important in delivering the best quality care for you through improving representation of different communities.



Securing the workforce:



As AHPs we want to build as strong of a workforce as we can, this is done through looking at the skills of both new and retained AHPs and seeing what works best to provide good quality care.



We want to aim for more places on AHP courses and offering more support for newly qualified students.



We will increase the amount of support for current AHPs so they can progress in their careers.

What this means to you...



During the pandemic, AHPs took on new roles and developed new skills to provide the best care for you and we want to build on this.



Keeping up to date:



As AHPs we need research to make sure the care we provide is backed up by evidence.



We seek to use methods and tools to try to keep improving outcomes for all people and communities.



We are committed to continually listen and understand people, community and cultural needs.



What this means to you...

We will make sure there are always good quality AHP services for you and your family in the future.



Technology:



As the world becomes more technology driven, AHPs must keep up with these changes.



We want to work towards being paper-free at the point of care where possible.



We want to be more flexible as AHPs, so we need to offer services digitally to reach more people.

What this means to you...



As we move with the times, we want to try to enable better access to technology for all communities.

As well as this, we will aim to support people and families who have limited access to technology.



Focus 1: People first

People and communities who access care are at the core of the AHP strategy.

AHPs support people with the right tools to manage their mental and physical health.



AHPs work to prevent illness and treat people early to help improve health and wellbeing in communities.



What this means to you...



People first means that AHPs aim to improve the quality of care that you receive, and so you receive the best care when and where you need it.

AHPs work with you and those important to you to help you to look after yourself and to reduce pressure on health services.



Focus 2: Optimising care

The NHS is facing increased pressure and AHPs can help to reduce this by working in different areas of care.



AHPs can support the care of people with major health conditions.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, AHPs have shown that they can help systems get back up and running.



The AHP community can use their skills to make sure services are running efficiently.

What this means to you...



There will be an AHP working with services for children and young people with cancer, learning disability and autism, mental health, maternity and neonatal care.

The NHS will ensure AHPs are supported well so that they can deliver quality care in these areas.



Focus 3: Social justice



The COVID-19 pandemic increased health inequalities by affecting specific communities more than others. This includes ethnic minorities, older people, people living with obesity and people living with a disability or long term-condition.



AHPs must focus on working with their local communities to reduce health inequalities and improve outcomes for all.

What this means to you...



We want high quality services to be accessible to all.

AHPs aim to support mental wellbeing in their services.

AHPs want to empower you and your community to shape the future of our services.



Focus 4: Environmental sustainability

The climate emergency is a health emergency.

The NHS has committed to produce zero carbon emissions for the care we provide by 2040.



By doing this, it tackles climate change, improves health, and saves lives.



To achieve this, AHPs must act now by working more sustainably.

What this means to you...



In partnership together, we can all aim to reduce carbon emissions by being aware of how many resources we use and thinking about our actions for the future.



Focus 5: A stronger AHP community

To raise awareness of what AHPs do, we want to champion AHP professions and the services that they can offer to communities.



The strategy aims to unite all AHP professions to create a safe community where AHPs feel they belong; therefore discrimination, violence and bullying has no place here.

What this means to you...



By telling you who AHPs are, we can support you to make informed decisions about your care.

This may also help people to know more about all the AHP professions.