

Introduction to Sustainability and Transformation Plans

[STPs explained by the Kings Fund:](#)

“STPs are five-year plans covering all aspects of NHS spending in England. Forty-four areas have been identified as the [geographical ‘footprints’ on which the plans are based](#), with an average population size of 1.2 million people (the smallest covers a population of 300,000 and the largest 2.8 million). [A named individual](#) has led the development of each STP. Most STP leaders come from clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and NHS trusts or foundation trusts, but a small number come from local government.

The scope of STPs is broad. Initial guidance from NHS England and other national NHS bodies set out around 60 questions for local leaders to consider in their plans, covering three headline issues: improving quality and developing new models of care; improving health and wellbeing; and improving efficiency of services. Leaders were asked to identify the key priorities needed for their local area to meet these challenges and deliver financial balance for the NHS. The plans needed to cover all aspects of NHS spending, as well as focusing on better integration with social care and other local authority services. They also needed to be long term, covering October 2016 to March 2021.

The timelines for developing STPs and the process for approving them have been somewhat fluid. The original deadline for submitting plans to NHS England and other national NHS bodies was the end of June 2016. But this deadline was pushed back to the end of October 2016. Additional planning requirements have also been added as the process has gone on. As of 16 December, all 44 plans submitted in October are now publicly [available](#). From April 2017, STPs will become the single application and approval process for accessing NHS transformation funding, with the best plans set to receive funds soonest. For more detail on timescales, see our [STP timeline](#).”

To find out more about what STPs mean for the NHS please click [here](#).

London has been divided into 5 geographical footprints each with their own STP, please click on the relevant area below to be redirected to more information about their individual Sustainability and Transformation Plans.

[North West London](#)

[North Central London](#)

[North East London](#)

[South East London](#)

[South West London](#)

