

<u>Health Foundation responds to launch of</u> <u>'Keep Britain Working' Review</u>

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Commenting on the launch of the "Keep Britain Working" Review led by Sir Charlie Mayfield, David Finch, Assistant Director at the Health Foundation said:

"The "Keep Britain Working" Review, led by Sir Charlie Mayfield, presents an important opportunity to drive a new approach to building a thriving workforce.

"We welcome the review given the indispensable role of employers in helping people stay healthy and connected to work. For those in the workforce with health issues, early and targeted action by employers is essential in keeping them attached to the labour market. This aligns with recommendations from our Commission for Healthier Working Lives. In the Spring, the Commission will put forward further recommendations for action from Government and employers, to improve working-age health, and to help more people with health conditions remain and thrive in the workforce.

"The Review comes at a critical moment. 300,000 people leave the workforce each year and report work-limiting health conditions. Once out of employment, they are nearly three times less likely to return than those in good health. Early and preventative action is key. This is better for employers, individuals and the wider economy.

"Economic growth depends on a healthy workforce and co-ordinated action from employers and government.

"We look forward to working with Sir Charlie [Mayfield] and the Review team, as this work progresses."