An unhealthy workforce hurts England’s economy and society due to lost productivity, reductions in income tax receipts, increases in long-term sickness, informal caregiving, and increased healthcare costs.

In the UK, the total annual economic cost of:
- sickness absence
- lost productivity through worklessness
- health-related productivity losses
- informal caregiving

The yearly costs to the UK Government – benefit payments, additional health costs, and forgone taxes and National Insurance – are estimated to be £50 billion.

The yearly costs to the public health sector – healthcare, informal caregiving, and other related costs – are estimated to be over £100 billion.

Department for Works & Pensions, Department of Health (2016), Work, Health and Green Paper Data Pack