



Less than 5% of NHS staff think government has handled pandemic well - GMB poll

14 Feb 2021

Survey of almost 3,500 health workers shows almost half think Ministers have handled covid crisis 'badly' and have made the situation worse

Less than 5% of NHS staff think the Government has handled the pandemic well, a GMB poll shows.

In the survey of almost 3,500 health workers, only 4.9% answered that the Government was doing a good job during the covid crisis.

“ It’s a year into the crisis and we’ve still got ambulance workers attending patients with flimsy gowns and paper masks instead of proper PPE and nurses in hospitals working amongst covid patients given only the most basic of surgical masks.

Rachel Harrison, GMB National Officer

Almost half (47%) said they thought the Government had handled the pandemic badly and had made the situation worse.

GMB has campaigned throughout the pandemic for NHS workers to have proper PPE, covid testing and pay justice after a decade of Conservative cuts which has seen their real terms pay slashed.



Rachel Harrison, GMB National Officer, said:

“NHS staff have been badly let down by Ministers throughout this pandemic – it's no wonder they don't think the Government is doing a good job.

“It's a year into the crisis and we've still got ambulance workers attending patients with flimsy gowns and paper masks instead of proper PPE and nurses in hospitals working amongst covid patients given only the most basic of surgical masks.

“And while other key-workers have been given recognition for their efforts – NHS staff are still waiting. They are still suffering negative consequences from the last pay settlement - which GMB members rejected.

“Ministers admitted this week the NHS needs radical reform to repair ten years of Tory privatisation – the first change they must make is to give staff the pay and protection they need to carry on saving lives.”

Contact GMB Press Office for survey responses

