

# Campaigner of the week

BY DAVID SINGLETON

## ALAN MAK



### WHAT

The Conservative MP for Havant has been making the case for a reformed, digital-first NHS. Mak has put forward ten recommendations that he says the Department for Health should report on annually. They include technology training for medical staff, the creation of 'NHS Worldwide' to sell the most innovative technology overseas and improved use of data and apps. The Health Secretary has backed his colleague's efforts, with Jeremy Hunt stating: "I share his vision for a data-driven health service that can truly deliver patient power."

### WHY

According to Mak, as the NHS celebrates its 70th anniversary this year its operating systems are in need of an upgrade. The Tory MP says that his proposals would position the NHS to take full advantage of the digital age and technological change – and save substantial amounts of money that could then be reinvested in frontline services.

### HOW

Mak has set out his proposals in a report published by the Centre for Policy Studies. The report, *Powerful Patients*,



Jeremy Hunt at the launch of *Powerful Patients, Paperless Systems* earlier this month

*Paperless Systems*, claims to set out "how new technology can renew the NHS". It has been backed by Commons Health Select Committee chair Sarah Wollaston and was recently launched in Portcullis House's MacMillan Room with an event attended by the Health Secretary.

### NEXT STEPS

Mak will be watching Hunt closely to ensure that the health secretary gets moving on implementing his proposals. He says: "I hope the policy proposals in this report for empowering patients and prioritising paperless, digital systems will not only stimulate further debate within the Conservative Party, but also act as a blueprint for action. Jeremy Hunt accepted all of the proposals and I look forward to working with him to see them implemented."

## CONTENT

### PRO-EU PEERS

The government has plenty to think about as the EU (Withdrawal) Bill heads back to the Commons



## NOT CONTENT

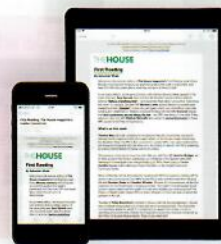
### DEBBIE ABRAHAMS

The former shadow DWP secretary is sacked over allegations of workplace bullying, which she denies



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