



The Royal College of
Midwives

RCM Workplace Representatives Conference

Policy and campaigning workshop

Sean O'Sullivan, Stuart Bonar

27 November 2009



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“It’s the economy, stupid!”





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UK Unemployment 2007-2009

3000000

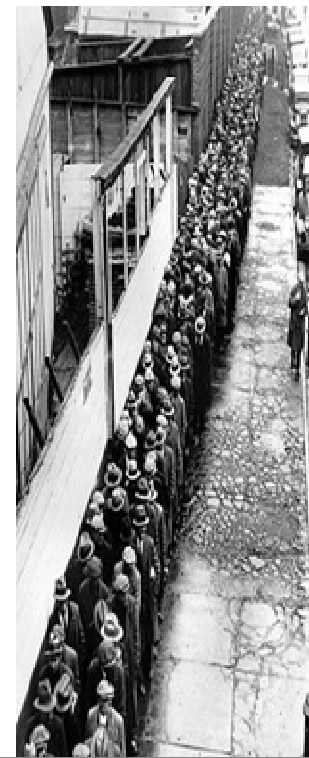
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2007

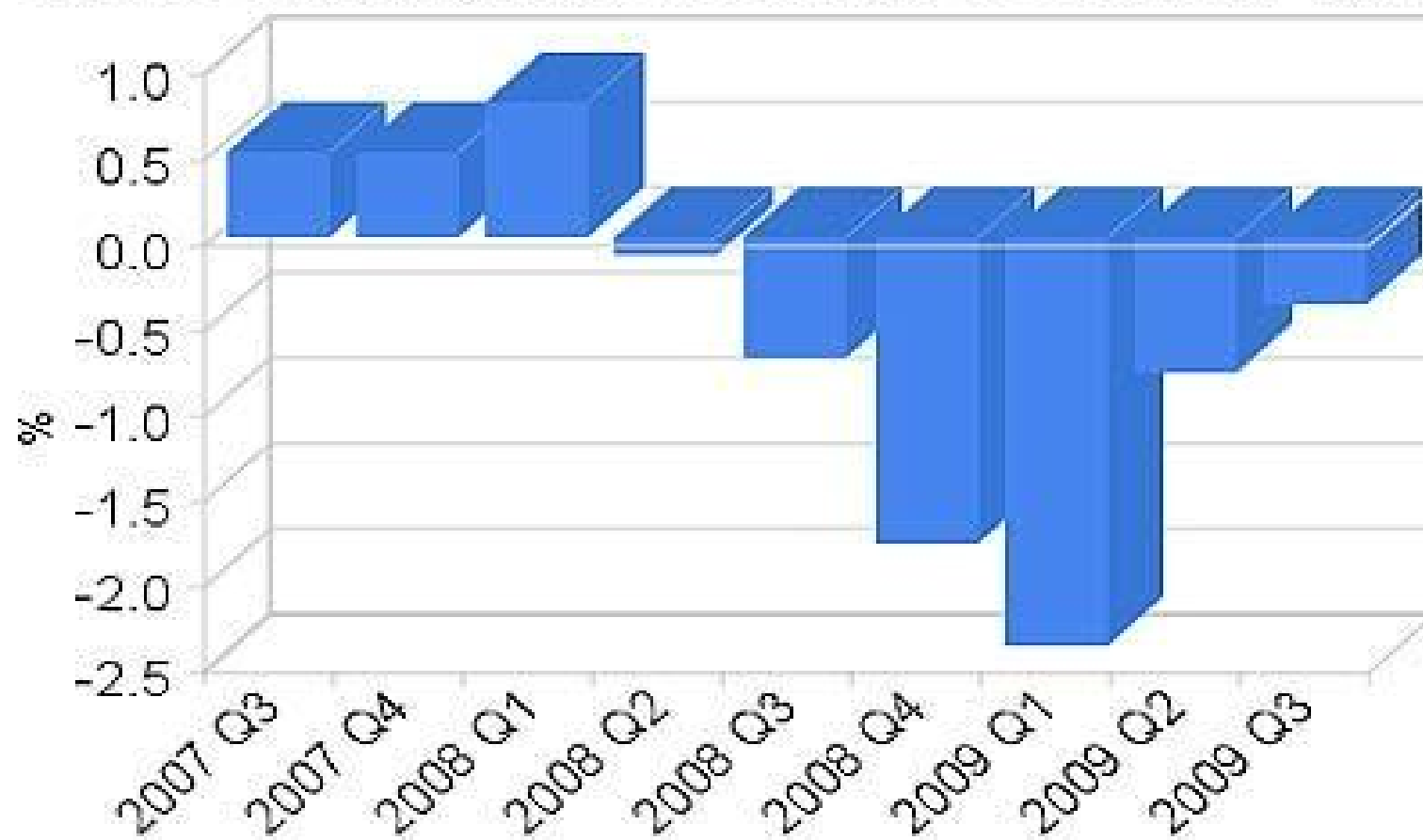


2009



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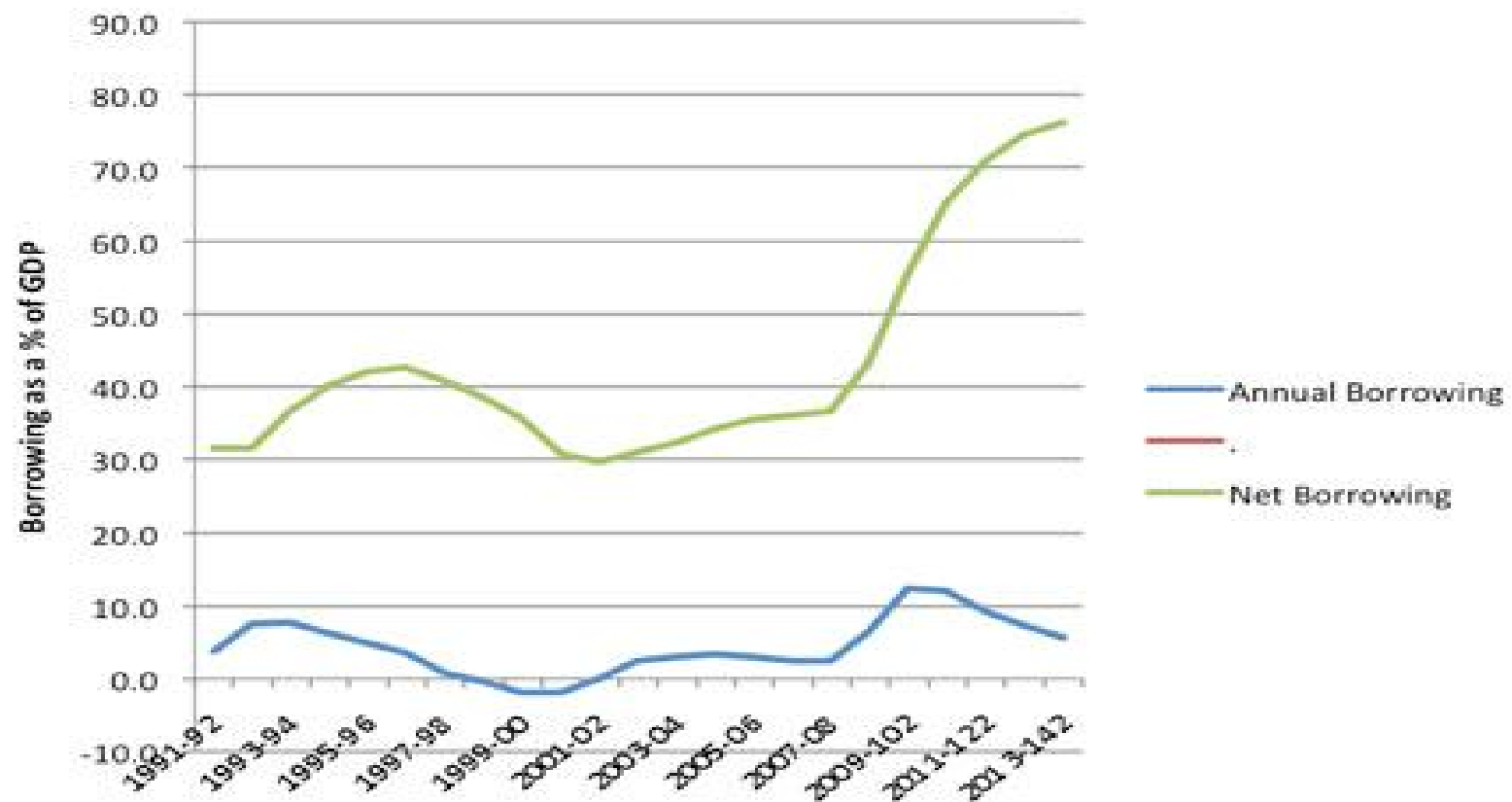
UK GDP: quarterly growth since the start of the financial crisis



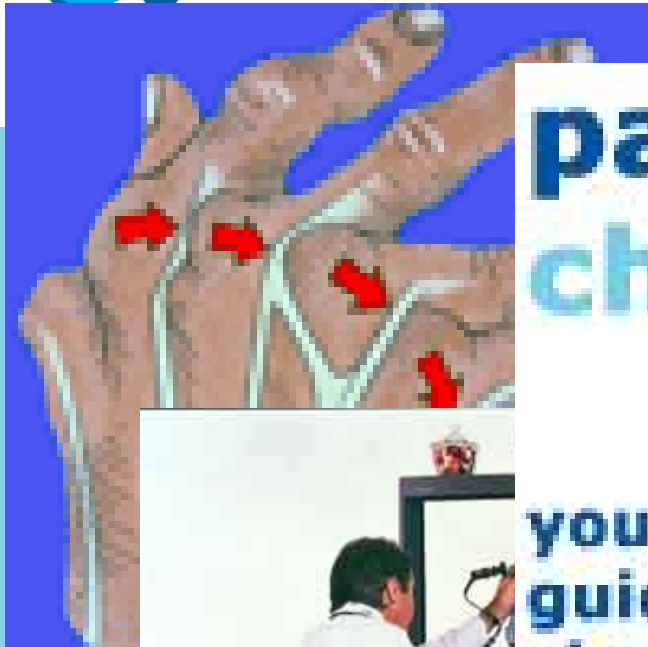


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UK Government Borrowing

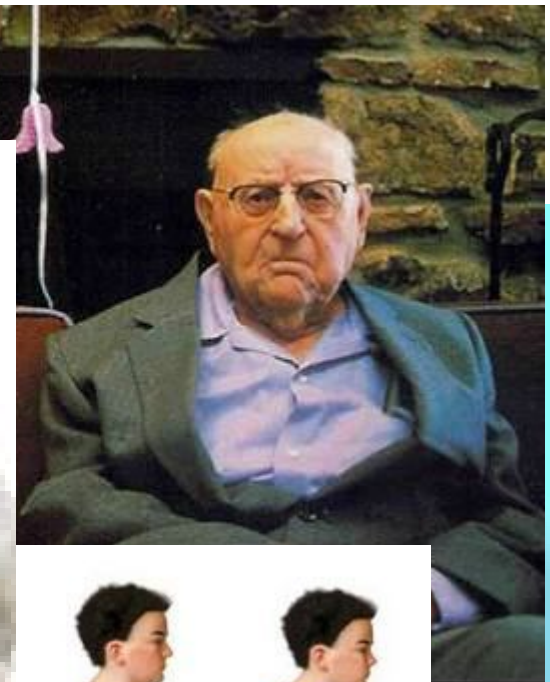


www.economicshelp.org - Source: H.M. Treasury



**patient
choice**

**your
guide to
choosing
NHS
services**



Spending

- 5% increase in NHS budget 2009/10 & 2010/11
- £15 - £20bn productivity savings 2009 – 2012
- Cuts to back office costs

Quality

- % Trust income linked to quality improvement
- Best Practice Tariffs
- Quality Accounts

Patient empowerment

- Measuring patient satisfaction
- Legal entitlements
- Choice of GPs



Spending

- Year-on-year increased NHS spending in real terms
- Less bureaucracy
- Decentralisation

Stability

- No more reorganisations
- Moratorium on closure of DGHs

Performance

- More power and independence for Foundation Trusts
- More competition from private & voluntary sector
- GP commissioning



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**LIBERAL
DEMOCRATS**

Resources for patient care

- Cut DH bureaucracy by 50%
- Scrap quangos
- Abolish SHAs

Liberate NHS staff

- Staff to have greater say in how NHS is run
- Employee owned Trusts
- Greater powers for ward sisters

Making NHS work better

- Hospitals rewarded for preventative care
- Tariff prices based on best run hospitals



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Politicians agree about ...

- Cutting bureaucracy
- More rights for patients
- Publishing outcome measures
- Liberating staff





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Politicians disagree about ...

- **Competition and role of private sector**
- **Restructuring**
- **Foundation Trusts**
- **Local priorities**

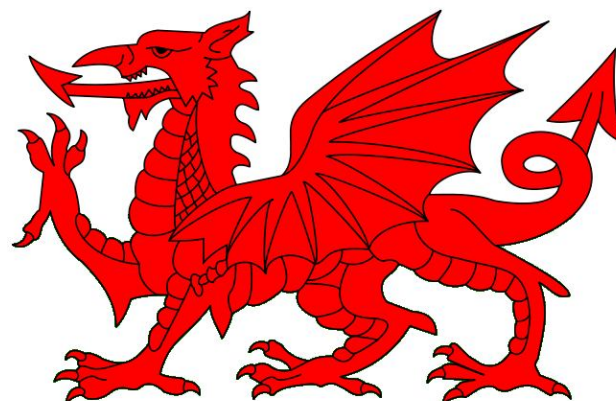


Any comments....

Bureaucracy – how realistic? What is the scope for making savings to divert to frontline care?

Competition – is there a role for private and voluntary organisations in providing maternity care?

Work across the UK





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Working across the parties

**We speak with
Labour**





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Working across the parties



**We speak with the
Conservatives**



Conservatives



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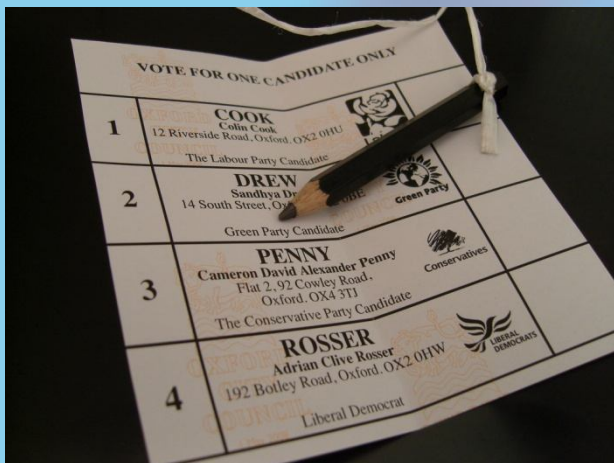
Working across the parties

**We speak with the Liberal
Democrats**



Lobbying parliamentary candidates

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Everyone wants more midwives



Labour: 4,000 more by 2012
(3,400 FTE)

Tories: "at least" as many as
Labour

Lib Dems: 6,400 FTE

**All this, despite the spending
crunch**



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More £££ for maternity care

Maternity services are a priority for NHS funds; if necessary money should be taken from elsewhere in the NHS budget.

Health minister
Mike O'Brien MP





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More £££ for maternity care



“So one of my priorities for the year ahead is to get maternity funding through to the frontline, in order to deliver greater access and choice for mothers.”

**Shadow Health Secretary
Andrew Lansley MP**



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More £££ for maternity care

**Generate £150m more per
year to invest in maternity
care by abolishing the
Health in Pregnancy
Grant**

**Shadow Health Secretary
Norman Lamb MP**



RCM's manifesto

- Putting frontline NHS services first
- Eliminating inequality at the start of life
- Rewarding public service
- Meeting the challenge of obesity
- Delivering tomorrow's midwives

RCM influencing

- We lobby across the UK
- We speak with all three parties
- We speak with the MPs of the future
- We've won cross-party agreement on:
 - 1000s more midwives
 - Millions more for maternity care
- We'll be promoting our manifesto at the election



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When candidates come knocking.....





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What should midwives ask parliamentary candidates?

What three questions should midwives ask any parliamentary candidate who comes knocking on their door at election time?

