Proposal for Reformed Health and Social Care Act
Secretary of State for Health, Andrew Lansley, publishes the English White Paper Healthy Lives, Healthy People. It includes a proposal for reforming the public health system in England by establishing a new agency, Public Health England.

March 2012
Health and Social Care Act comes into force
Public Health England, NHS Commissioning Boards (NHS England), and various governing boards are established. Shifting the NHS funding sources and decision-making power to the new structure.

October 2014
Five Year Forward View comes into force
A blueprint for NHS quality improvement. It outlined expectations for the NHS to address health inequalities, improve care delivery, and meet projected budget deficits.

NHS improvement is established
Created to provide accountability metrics to the NHS to evaluate care delivery and gap closure on health inequalities

January 2017
NHS receives additional funding and 10-year plan
Under the direction of Theresa May, the NHS is given additional funding (although less than projections required) to meet new 10 year vision for the NHS.

NHS Long Term Plan published
A subsequent blueprint to show the vision for the NHS through 2028. It embedded goals for eradicating identified epidemics and implementing Integrated Care Systems to address ongoing health challenges within England.

March 2020
Delayed response to COVID-19 pandemic
COVID-19 strikes the UK in January 2020. However, the primary policy response is inaction until March 2020 when illness rates reach historic levels. The lack of government preparation and reactions shifts priority funding and staffing to pandemic response – pausing aspects of the Long Term Plan.
UK launches Test & Trace programme to combat COVID-19 with an allocated budget of £22 billion (eventually £37 billion total).

Abruptly and unexpectedly, the UK government announces the abolition of PHE to be replaced by two new agencies. Public announcement that Public Health England will be dissolved.

Replacement legislation for the Health and Social Care Act comes into force. This policy reform focuses on Integrated Care Systems – collaborative bodies tasked with transforming health and social care by improving population health and tackling health inequalities.

Test & Trace launches

August 2020

Replacement of Public Health England
Public Health England is replaced by the National Institute for Health Protection (renamed UK Health Security Agency [UKHSA]) and the Office for Health Promotion (later renamed the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities [OHID]).

July 2022

Health and Care Act 2022

May 2020

April 2021

Public announcement that Public Health England will be dissolved.

Test & Trace launches

£22 billion (eventually £37 billion total).