**Hot chips** 

Move over spuds, it's time for a new taste



This panel helps to market the paper by tempting readers inside. It tells readers about stories in other parts of the paper.

**g2** 

**Patricia Arquette** e's pressure tresses to realistic'

## **Deadline deals**

Which players have your team splashed out on?





#### £1.60 Tuesday 03.02.15 Published in London and Manchester theguardian.com

Newspaper of the year Winner of the **Pulitzer prize** 

#### **PRICE AND DATE**

Red noses for the Bake Off team

The Guardian costs £1.60p on weekdays and £2.50p on Saturdays. The price covers 60% of the cost of the newsprint. The rest comes from adverts.

# theguardian

#### **MASTHEAD**

The masthead is a specially designed logo that shows the name of the newspaper

# **STANDALONE** A picture that is unrelated to the main sories on the front page, such as this, is called a standalone. RELIEF It will have its own headline or strap, and a longer caption than other photos. Often the story connected to the picture will be further inside the paper.

Jennifer Saunders, Edna Everage, Lulu and Joanna Lumley are to join the Bake Off team for a Comic Relief series beginning on BBC1 on 11 February Photograph: BBC/PA 🖣

# The locums on £1,760 a day

# NHS bill for agency staff reaches £2.6bn a year to cover short The biggest headline on the

**Denis Campbell** Health correspondent Rajeev Syal

A&E specialists are profiting hortages by ind charging **BYLINE** Sometimes the writer's job title or where they today. for agency are writing from is

included. Staff writers are cruitingand always credited. l nurses, the also discloses.

'It costs the taxpayer £400,000 to train an emergency consultant, but there are claims that some consultants are choosing to leave the NHS to work on an agency basis at a substantial cost to the NHS, with typical charges of £1,760 per day," said plying all s Margaret Hodge, the former Labour min-kins added

ister who chairs tl STANDFIRST

committee of MPs Barking, Haver versity hospitals it to add detail that is paying such su was not included in half the number the headline. needs to cope wit

Matthew Hopkins, its chief executive told the MPs that his trust was paying consultants in emergency medicine £110 an hour to work at its two hospitals, Queen's in Romford and King George's in Ilford, both in Essex. Asked whether it could end up paying £1,760 for an A&E consultant to work a 16-hour shift, Hopkins replied: "That is what the market is dictating."

His trust's struggle to hire salaried staff was so acute that it was paying £1.5m a month to employment agencies for supplying all sorts of temporary staff, Hop-

The College of Emergency Medicine, which represents A&E doctors, blamed the NHS's failure to recognise the unique stresses on them for the nationwide shortage and hospitals' consequent "shocking

expenditure" on locums.

"It is retention that is at the heart of the problem, with 50% of emergencymedicine doctors leaving their training posts each year and almost 100 consultants emigrating," said Dr Cliff Mann, the college's president. That amounts to "a waste of human resource and taxpayer

He added that the NHS should give A&E doctors extra time off to help them avoid the burnout that can accompany such demanding work. This would make the iob more attractive and reverse the growing "brain drain" in A&E.

The amount that staff shortages force Continued on page 13  $\rightarrow$ 

the NHS to spend on agency all medical rotas are filled in a single year from £2.1bn in 2012-13 to £2.6bn in 2013-14, the committee found.

Richard Douglas, the Department of Health's director general for finance, told the MPs that such spending "has grown exponentially in the past couple of years" The £2.6bn total is understood to include the cost of all non-payroll, bank and agency staff combined

The committee also reports that the proportion of NHS trusts in the red has soared from 10% in 2012-13 to 80% by July, August and September last year. "From all our work across all of government, the fragility of NHS finances causes me greatest concern," Hodge said. "The financial health of NHS bodies has worsened in the

# **Budget** for schools will face cuts, Tories admit

#### Sally Weale **Frances Perraudin Patrick Wintour**

English schools face a budget cut of an estimated 10% in real terms during the next parliament if the Conservatives win the election after David Cameron conceded that his party could not promise to inflation-proof education funding.

Schools would have to pay 5% more to fund rising teachers' pension and national insurance contributions, while economists said the prime minister's admission

would mean a further cut in real terms. Cameron initially sought to dress up the funding pledge as a "flat cash per pupil" deal, because the amount of money following each child would remain unchanged. Speaking at Kingsmead school in Enfield yesterday, he added: "So I can tell you, with a Conservative government, the amount of money following your child into school will not be cut."

But when questioned, Cameron con-

#### **CAPTION** Captions give a description of educa-

a photograph or graphic. Often they include the photographer's

page is called the "main splash".

jokes are made in the headline.

This is a serious story so no

not going up by inflation, the amount of cash is staying the same," he said.

nister did say that there rise in overall school the number of pupils in

hat that

e for Fiscal Studies ecoiid the real-terms budgd in the next parliament ot inflation-proofed.

The impact would amount to a 7% fall in real terms. The IFS added that employers' pension contributions for teachers had increased by 2%. Employers' national insurance contributions were also going up because of the introduction of the single-tier pension, which would cost schools an extra 3%.

Economists said it was not possible to simply add together all the cuts, but it was estimated that they would amount to a 10% real-terms cut to the schools budget for England over the lifetime of the next parliament.

Luke Sibieta, the thinktank's education programme director, said: "The schools budget was ringfenced in the 2010

Mobile charges may apply

# Housing policy will wreck social mix, minister warned

### **Robert Booth**

Britain's biggest property companies last night condemned a new government policy allowing them to avoid potentially hundreds of millions of pounds in affordable housing contributions because they fear it risks wrecking the social mix of London.

British Land, Land Securities, the

**EDITION STARS** States were

We normally print three e different editions per night on weekdays, and sometimes more at the weekends. Three stars means this is the third

The Westminster Property Group, which includes several Tory donors, said it was "deeply flawed". In a letter seen by the Guardian, the group's chairman, Daniel Van Gelder, said: "It removes an important element of developer contribution to the provision of affordable housing. The unintended consequences of such policies will lead to a further erosion of the ability of people from a wide range of backgrounds to live in the heart of the capital."



ers' recent

ipty build-

y, a lobby

rote to the

vis, urging

Brandon Lewis the housing minister, was warned the exemption on affordable housing contributions for empty properties was 'deeply flawed'

The group also said it encouraged weakening the economy in central London. The lobby group's memb BODYT include Berkeley Homes, Lond

gest housing developer, and the The main "body" of a arm of the Qatar royal family, Qa news story. Often the The attack on the policy by t only part written by the erty firms, some of which have pr

negotiated hard to reduce the ar the Guardian's standard affordable housing on their own s will be a blow to Lewis, who had reform as removing a "stealth to Egyptian.

Egyptian. body text. The font is hindered regeneration and end properties to be left empty.

Councils estimated that Lewis's policy could boost property companies' profits by hundreds of millions of pounds, while the City of Westminster said it stood to lose £1bn in affordable housing contributions. The director of planning at the Conservative-controlled authority, John

ped the policy as "insane" ment for Communities conhad not formally assessed ipact, even though its own affects cash payments to s affordable housing totals England last vear.

s of the policy coming into ber, town halls realised the ve their affordable houstatters. In one planning eeting last month, Westminster council

lost £29m on three housing schemes after developers invoked the new rules.

Continued on page  $6 \rightarrow$ 

