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For Immediate Release

THEATRE ROYAL PLYMOUTH ANNOUNCE FULL CAST FOR THE BRAND-NEW PRODUCTION OF NHS THE MUSICAL

Theatre Royal Plymouth today announce the full cast for the brand-new production of ***NHS The Musical*** by **Nick Stimson** and **Jimmy Jewell**. **Stephen Fletcher** directs **Sabrina Alouche** (Politician), **Jordan Castle** (Porter), **Peter Caulfield** (Doctor), **Alice Frankham** (Jillian), **Jimmy Johnston** (Arthur), **Justina Kehinde** (Consultant) and **Neil Stewart** (Robert). *NHS The Musical* runs 17 - 25 September in The Lyric at Theatre Royal Plymouth, with discounted tickets available across the run for NHS staff.

Informed by first-hand accounts from NHS staff, *NHS The Musical* gets under its skin, and celebrates the people who make its heart beat. Sharper than a scalpel, this fast-paced comedy show takes you from the surgical theatre to musical theatre, pumping with songs, satire, sass – and gas and air. But beware! This beloved institution may be the perfect tonic, but it can also be the bitterest pill. The UK's largest employer and government's biggest spender has its own ailments, that just never seem to be cured.

With a combined company of 7 cast and 7 band members live on stage, *NHS The Musical* will be a rousing celebration of the people who have cared for us and our families for more than 70 years.

Adrian Vinken, CEO of Theatre Royal Plymouth and Executive Producer of *NHS The Musical*, said today, *"We feel so lucky to have secured such a talented ensemble cast for NHS The Musical. Even in the auditions, they brought the show's comedy and satire to life and reminded me just how fabulous the music and songs are. I can't wait to see how they develop the show with Stephen over the coming weeks as we build to the premiere in September."*

NHS The Musical is made possible thanks to a grant from the Weston Culture Fund.

Nick Stimson is a freelance playwright and theatre director and Associate of Theatre Royal Plymouth. His theatre credits as a writer and director include *A Winter's Tale* (Rose Theatre/UK tour – Offie Award for Best Off West End Musical), *Sailors and Sweethearts* (Theatre Royal Plymouth/The Venue), *Korczak* (Theatre Royal Plymouth/Rose Theatre Kingston/International tour) and *The Day We Played Brazil* (Exeter Northcott Theatre). His writing credits include *Hello Mister Capello* (Watford Palace Theatre), *Promised Land* (Red Ladder Theatre/The Carriage Works), *Who Ate All The Pies?* (Tristan Bates Theatre) and *This Land* (Theatre Royal Plymouth).

Jimmy Jewell is a composer and songwriter. His credits as composer include *The Amazing Tour is Not On Fire* (UK tour/international tour), *The Tempest* (Exeter Northcott Theatre), *Peter Pan* (UK tour), *Walk With The Angels* (Institute of

Contemporary Arts/Soho Theatre), *Frankenstein* (Cochrane Theatre), *Who Ate All The Pies?* (Theatre Royal Plymouth, Tristan Bates Theatre), and *Solitary Confinement* (King's Head Theatre); and as a conductor, *Evita* (European tour), *The Prince and the Pauper*, *Strike Up The Band!*, *Jesus Christ Super Star* (US tour), *All You Need is Love!* (Queen's Theatre) and *Fiddler on the Roof* (Exeter Northcott Theatre).

Sabrina Alouche plays Politician. Her theatre credits include *Brooklyn The Musical* (Greenwich Theatre), *Starlight Express* (The Other Palace), *Chess* (London Coliseum), *Great American Trailer Park Musical* (Waterloo East Theatre), *Rent* (The Cockpit), *Sleeping Arrangements* (Landor Theatre), *We Will Rock You* (Dominion Theatre) and *Les Misérables* (Palace Theatre/Queen's Theatre).

Jordan Castle plays Porter. His credits include *St. Anne Comes Home* (The Actors' Church, Covent Garden), *The Pirate Queen* (London Coliseum), *The Light in the Piazza* (Royal Festival Hall London/LA Opera/Chicago Lyric Opera), and *Cats* and *21 Chump Street* (international tours).

Peter Caulfield plays Doctor. His previous theatre credits include *Last Easter* (Orange Tree Theatre), *A Christmas Carol*, *Aladdin* (The Old Vic), *Edgar Allen Poe and the Haunted Palace* (Adelaide Festival/Bergen International Festival), *Sketch You Up!* (Edinburgh Festival Fringe), *Jerusalem* (Watermill Theatre), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre), *The Tempest* (Southwark Playhouse), *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* (West Yorkshire Playhouse), *Cinderella* (Lyric Hammersmith), *One Man, Two Guvvors* (National Theatre/UK tour/Theatre Royal Haymarket), *Nicked* (HighTide Festival), *Enron* (Chichester Festival Theatre/Royal Court Theatre/Noël Coward Theatre), *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Wind in the Willows* (Derby Theatre), *Eric's* (Liverpool Everyman), *White Liars* (Etcetera Theatre), *The Man of Mode* (National Theatre), *The Wild Duck* (Donmar Warehouse) and *Larkrise to Candleford* (Finborough Theatre). His television credits include *The Mystery of DB Cooper*, *Absentia*, *Modus*, *Banana* and *Cucumber*, and for film, *Strangeways Here We Come* and *After the End*.

Alice Frankham plays Jillian. Her theatre credits include *One Man, Two Guvvors* (Derby Theatre/The Queen's Theatre, Hornchurch), *Miss Julie* (UK tour), *Jesus Hopped The A Train* (HOME), *Sleeping Beauty* (Theatre Royal Stratford East), *Marriage Blanc* (Asylum Chapel, London), *Days of Wine and Roses* (53Two, Manchester), *Strindberg's Women* (Jermyn Street Theatre), *Wuthering Heights The Musical* (The Actors' Church, Covent Garden), *Jurassic Lark - The Musical* (Leicester Square Theatre), *The Pint* (Waterloo East Theatre), *Jack and the Beanstalk* (Buxton Opera House), *Fred and Georgie* (Greenwich Theatre), *NewsRevue* (Canal Cafe Theatre), *The Rivals* (Panache Theatre), *Vanessa and Virginia* (Riverside Studios) and *Pretty Ugly* (Rose Theatre Kingston). Her television credits include *Genius* and *The Royals*; and for film, *Borderline* and *Love Me Do*.

Jimmy Johnston plays Arthur. His theatre credits include *Dreamboats and Petticoats* (Playhouse Theatre/UK tour), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Aberystwyth Arts Centre), *Soul Man* (Stephen Joseph Theatre), *Les Misérables* (Queen's Theatre), *The Phantom of the Opera* (Her Majesty's Theatre), *Oklahoma!* (National Theatre/Lyceum Theatre – nominated for the Olivier Award for Best Supporting Performance in a Musical), *The Pirates of Penzance* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre - nominated for the Olivier

Award for Best Actor in a Musical), *Miss Saigon* (Theatre Royal Drury Lane), *Sherlock Holmes: The Musical* (Exeter Northcott Theatre), *Cats* (New London Theatre), *King* (Prince Edward Theatre), *Barnum* (Victoria Palace Theatre), *The Wizard of Oz* (Bristol Old Vic), *Doctor Dolittle* (UK tour) and *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (Theatre Royal York). His television credits include *Atlantis* and *Heathcliff*, and for film, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Robot Overlords*.

Justina Kehinde plays Consultant. Her theatre credits include *Hot in Here* (Camden People's Theatre), *This Little Earth*, *Passengers* (Adelaide Fringe Festival/Vault Festival) and *Around the World in 80s Days* (Grand Theatre, Blackpool).

Neil Stewart plays Robert. His theatre credits include *Mrs Henderson Presents* (Theatre Royal Bath/Noël Coward Theatre), *Oresteia* (Trafalgar Studios), *Jersey Boys* (international tour), *Spring Awakening* (Hope Mill Theatre), *The Queen's Nose* (The Other Palace), *My Fair Lady* (European tour), *Chess*, *Love Story* (Union Theatre), *Oh, What A Lovely War* (UK tour) and *The Wind in the Willows* (Theatr Clwyd); and for film, *U Want Me 2 Kill Him?*, *Pokemon the Movie 2000* and *The Fountain of Death*.

Stephen Fletcher directs and is an Associate Director of the Liverpool Playhouse and Everyman Theatres. His credits include *A Life in the Theatre* (The Actor's Studio, Liverpool – also writer) and *Mam! I'm 'ere!* (Royal Court Liverpool – also writer). He is Director and Producer of Life in Theatre Productions, producing, *The Sunshine Boys* and *The Last 5 Years*. As an actor his credits include *The Perfect Murder* (UK tour), *Special Measures*, *Noises Off!* (Royal Court Liverpool), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Liverpool Playhouse), *Dead Heavy Fantastic* (Liverpool Everyman) and *Mary Stuart* (Donmar Warehouse/Apollo Theatre).

NHS THE MUSICAL

LISTINGS

Theatre Royal Plymouth - The Lyric Theatre
Royal Parade, Plymouth PL1 2TR

17 – 25 September 2021

Press Night: Tuesday 21 September at 7.30pm

Box Office

www.theatreroyal.com / 01752 267222

Tickets

General: From £18

NHS discount: £15 (Bands A, B and C)

ENDS

For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on mediaandcommunications@theatroyal.com / 01752 230439

Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP) is a registered charity providing art, education and community engagement in Plymouth and across the region. It engages and inspires with the aim of touching lives. Theatre Royal Plymouth presents a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales as the South West's principal centre for performing arts.

Theatre Royal Plymouth works with partners to understand the challenges people face accessing the arts, especially vulnerable and disadvantaged people. It creates pathways that are genuinely accessible to those who might otherwise never get to engage with the arts. They collaborate to co-create and co-author work that represents the community, creating the space needed for people to tell their story in their own way.

Theatre Royal Plymouth is the UK's largest regional producing theatre. With a focus on embracing the vitality of new talent and supporting emerging and established artists. It collaborates with a range of partners to provide dynamic cultural leadership for the city of Plymouth.