UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
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CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING MASTERS DISSERTATION ABSTRACT

The Feasibility of Government Soft Landings in the English Healthcare Sector by 2016 - An Industry Perspective.

Government Soft Landings are set to shape the way public sector projects are designed, constructed and operated from 2016, yet very little is currently known about their feasibility. This study attempts to address this knowledge gap, focussing particularly on the healthcare sector.

The research first looks at the unique challenges of the healthcare sector in England along with the predecessors of Government Soft Landings. The result of this is a series of barriers and drivers, which may also apply to the feasibility of achieving Government Soft Landings in the healthcare sector by 2016. This theory is tested through the distribution and analysis of an online questionnaire to healthcare professionals working for acute NHS foundation trusts in England, which asks respondents to rank the drivers and barriers identified in the literature review.

The results of the study show that many of the identified barriers and drivers do also apply to the feasibility of Government Soft Landings in the healthcare sector and that certain categories of drivers and barriers, such as organisational barriers or financial drivers, will have a greater impact on the success of the initiative.

The research concludes with recommendations to the Government on how they can increase the chance of Government Soft Landings being implemented into the English healthcare sector successfully by 2016. The implications of the study stretch far beyond the healthcare sector and the findings will be of interest to all clients, designers, contractors and operators who will be faced with implementing Government Soft Landings in the public sector.

As this study may be considered to be the first of its kind, several recommendations for further research are made as a final note to ensure that some of the limitations of this research are addressed in further works.

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