

dig the first hole. Engineering solutions that reach higher and enclose what seem like huge volumes are possible.

### **BESPOKE MEDICINE**

**Dr David C Chilvers** chief executive, NHS Innovations London

Medicine and healthcare will be more personalised. Drug companies will use genetic profiles to develop therapies to provide more tailored treatments for individuals. Simpler tests will let GPs and

individuals test for and monitor medical conditions. In mental health, new computerised tools will be used as an alternative to drugs in depression, anorexia, dementia and learning difficulties.

The GP's surgery will also change radically. New, lower-cost technologies are allowing medical diagnostics to be moved out of acute hospital settings to the GP practice, pharmacies, supermarkets or even the home. With the latest IT, data can instantly be made available for diagnosis with experts anywhere.

Surgery itself will change. More serious medical conditions will be solved or managed through the keyhole deployment of medical devices into the body, which could support some organ functions or deliver drugs and wirelessly report back to the user and doctors."

### **GOVERNMENT EVERYWHERE**

**Tom Watson** MP

In 2020, government will be mobile. You'll discuss personal health diagnostics

with your GP on a mobile device. Children's knowledge management records from school will be available on a handheld gadget, and you'll see how they're behaving in the classroom, live on screen. Chips in your car will tell the government how many carbon credits you must buy. And the man from the ministry will video-call if he thinks the energy use in your home is deviating from the allocated amount. The Office of National Statistics will be renamed the Office of Data and will communicate with

the nation in real time: inflation, unemployment, crime figures by postcode and other key data will be published daily on a personalised government web page.

You'll be paying your taxes from a mobile. Finally, an apology in advance for the "opportunities to engage" messages that will be sent to you by political candidates in the run-up to the 2020 general election. The clever candidates, of course, will be using the new and novel technique of knocking at your door to see you."