



Department
of Health &
Social Care

From Caroline Dinéage MP
Minister of State for Care

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Your Ref: Council-Care-20191106

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23 JAN 2020

Dr Carolyn Wilkins OBE
Chief Executive
Oldham Council
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Dear Dr Wilkins,

Thank you for your correspondence of 18 December to Matt Hancock about free personal care.

I note the Council's motion.

Putting social care on a sustainable footing, where everyone is treated with dignity and respect, is one of the biggest challenges we face as a society. The number of people over 75 is expected to rise by 1.5 million in the next ten years, and there is a growing population of people under the age of 65 with care needs, so a social care system that works for everyone has never been more important. High-quality care transforms lives, enabling people to live the lives they want and do the things that are important to them. The fact that 84 per cent of adult social care providers are rated as good or outstanding by the Care Quality Commission is testament to the fantastic job that social care staff are doing. However, we know there is more to be done.

As the Prime Minister said, this Government will deliver on its promises. We will bring forward a plan for social care this year. There are complex questions to address, which is why we will seek to build cross-party consensus, but we have been clear that everyone will have safety and security, and nobody will be forced to sell their home to pay for care.

I hope this reply is helpful.

CAROLINE DINENAGE