



Department
of Health &
Social Care

CARE

Adult Social Care Group
Department of Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
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Letter to Adult Social Care Sector to Launch Co-Production on System and Charging Reform

To: Sector Leaders and ASC Representative Bodies

As you will have seen on 7th September, the Prime Minister set out plans for reform of the adult social care system. Build Back Better: Our Plan for Health & Care committed additional investment into the sector including the introduction of cap in care costs, financial assistance for those without substantial assets and investment of at least £500m in the social care workforce. This was alongside a commitment to bring forward further proposals in two forthcoming White Papers: on System Reform and Integration.

The Government knows how important wider system reforms are to achieving a transformation of adult social care. We are committed to working with leaders in Local Government and the social care sector, service users and carers, as well as the NHS and others, to develop and publish the System Reform White Paper for adult social care.

I am writing to you today to ask for your support in co-producing this. Many of you have expressed how much you valued the co-production that went into the Care Act and we will be following as similar as possible an approach here. There is a separate programme of work to support the development of the Integration White Paper.

We will work with you to:

1. shape how we describe, present and make our vision for reform real for current and future users of the care system and those who work within it;
2. co-develop policy detail. We will establish White Paper Advisory Groups for each planned chapter - workforce, housing, unpaid carers, models of care, information and advice, assurance, and digital and technology; and,
3. design our priorities for reform beyond the next Spending Review period. We will also be reaching out to our local networks in every area of England and in particular working with organisations who represent people with lived experience of care – and care users themselves – to understand what they want to see in a reformed system.

We will be tackling questions such as how can we best support care users to live independently, and as part of a community? How can we ensure adult social care is a rewarding career with clear training and development opportunities? How can we support local places to innovate and embed new models of care?

We know that there is a wide range of views on what the adult social care system should look and feel like in the future. We look forward to working with you on the System Reform White Paper and beyond

My teams will be in touch within the week to discuss specific areas and the wider vision for system reform with you.

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Dyson.
Director General, Adult Social Care.