



28 July 2023

Dear Clive

Thank you for your letter of 12 June 2023. As you know, the government's long-term ambition is the 10-year vision, which I know that your committee supports.

You requested updates on how the government plans to implement the recommendations in the committee's report on the 'Long Term Funding of Adult Social Care'. As you are aware, the *Next Steps to put People at the Heart of Care* publication sets out plans for the majority of recommendations in the committee's report.

More details on specific milestones can be found [here](#). The department is internally monitoring progress against these milestones to ensure we are on track and that we are making progress towards our 10-year vision. I will consider how best to keep the House updated on progress.

Of those recommendations not covered in the timeline above, where there is an update, please see below:

Recommendation 13: We intend to deliver a 'Commissioning for the Future' training programme for adult social care (ASC) commissioners in England that will aim to enhance strategic leadership skills. We plan to launch the procurement process for this programme in the autumn, with the intention of running the programme from June 2024 to March 2025. A new duty on the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to assess local authorities' delivery of their Care Act 2014 duties went live on 1 April 2023. CQC have already undertaken a review of available information published by local authorities about their market shaping and commissioning activity and will use five pilots due to be completed by the autumn to further test how they will judge the effectiveness of market shaping activity. After these pilots have been completed, the CQC will begin a two-year process of baselining all local authority's delivery of their Care Act duties, with market shaping and commissioning activity as one of the key themes they will assess.

Recommendations 22/23: We are already delivering the intent of these recommendation through Building the Right Support.

Recommendation 25: The Older Peoples Housing Task Force held its inaugural meeting in May. It is finalising its work plan and final recommendations are due in Spring 2024.

Recommendations 29 and 30: The 2023-25 Better Care Fund (BCF) Policy Framework and Planning Requirements have been published and ask all local BCF partnerships to set out how this funding is being used to support unpaid carers. This will give us further insight into areas of best practices, or local systems that would benefit from further support.

Recommendations 32 and 33: We have commenced the review of s75 arrangements and have met with stakeholders to consider and refine our approach. We intend to launch a call for evidence in the coming months and following this will engage further with stakeholders to seek views on any proposed changes. I trust you will find this update useful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Helen Whately', with a large, sweeping underline.

Helen Whately MP