



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

Christine McAnea and Phil Hope  
Co Chairs  
Future Social Care Coalition

15 September 2021

Dear Christine and Phil,

Thank you for your email of 13 July to the Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP, about the social care workforce. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this policy area. I would like to offer my sincere apologies for the delayed response.

On 7 September, the Prime Minister announced that the Government will invest £5.4 billion in adult social care over the next three years, including unprecedented investment in the workforce.

Our 1.5 million strong social care workforce is an essential part of the social care system. Social care workers are at the front line, caring for and supporting people at the heart of their communities. A qualified and skilled workforce that is rewarded and feels valued is essential for high quality care that is sensitive to individual needs. We will therefore make care work a more rewarding vocation, offering a career where people can develop new skills and take on new challenges as they become more experienced. This will include developing a plan to support professional development and the long-term wellbeing of the workforce.

This will include at least £500 million in new measures over three years to:

- provide support in professionalising and developing the workforce, including hundreds of thousands of training places and certifications for our care workers and professional development for the regulated workforce;
- fund mental health wellbeing resources and provide access to occupational health funding to help staff recover from their extraordinary role in supporting the country through the pandemic, including through offering services such as counselling, peer-to-peer coaching and workplace improvements; and
- introduce further reforms to improve recruitment and support for our social care workforce, with further detail set out in the upcoming White Paper.

The Government will work with leaders in Local Government and the social care sector, service users and carers, as well as the NHS Chief Executive and the NHS, to develop and publish a White Paper for reforming adult social care, which will commence a once in a generation transformation to adult social care. It will:

- offer choice, control and independence to care users – so that individuals are empowered to make informed decisions and live happier, healthier and more independent lives for longer;

- provide an outstanding quality of care – where individuals have a seamless experience of an integrated health, care and community system that works together and is delivered by a skilled and valued workforce; and
- be fair and accessible to all who need it, when they need it – ensuring that fees are more transparent, information and advice is user-friendly and easily accessible, and no one is subject to unpredictable and unlimited care costs.

Thank you for taking the trouble to make me aware of these concerns.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Steve Barclay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line crossing through the middle of the letters.

RT HON STEVE BARCLAY MP