

The Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP  
Chancellor of the Exchequer  
11 Downing Street  
London  
SW1A 2AA

6th December 2023

Dear Chancellor

## **IT'S TIME TO UNLOCK THE ECONOMIC POWER OF CARE**

Today, former health and care ministers, employers and unions, attended the FSCC's first Social Care Summit to call for urgent action to fix care.

We all share a cast iron belief that it is time to unlock the economic power of care.

Our '[Carenomics](#)' report makes a compelling case for urgent investment in social care. Two social care workers hand-delivered a copy of the report to both you and the Prime Minister, but regrettably we have not yet had the courtesy of a response. We very much hope that you will now do all you can to focus on the findings in Carenomics and reply to all those involved in the fight for a fair deal.

We were also very disappointed that your Autumn Statement delivered so little to fix the recruitment and retention crisis. A rise in the minimum wage, although welcome, is simply not enough and will not fix social care for good. Given the current economic climate and the growing demand for social care, the UK simply cannot afford not to act or acknowledge the dividend that investment in social care would bring.

For every £1 invested in social care, £1.75 is generated for the wider economy.

We will all rely on care at some point in our lives. Carenomics demonstrated that social care makes up 1.79m jobs in England alone — and the sector generates over £50bn for England's economy. Given the prevailing recruitment and retention tsunami, it is not sustainable for any care workers to leave the job they love to work in other industries. A staggering 4 out of 5 of UK jobs pay more despite social care being a vital and highly skilled service. It's time for all those who work in and/or rely on care to get a fair deal. It's time for you to unlock the labour market and power up growth. Investing in the social care sector makes economic sense. The

FSCC's [Social Care People Plan Framework](#) sets out a clear pathway for career progression to curb retention issues.

The National Audit Office's report, [Reforming Adult Social Care in England](#), demonstrated that Government has failed to deliver on its promises for social care. More than a billion pounds of the £1.7 billion committed to reforming the adult social care system in December 2021 has been diverted to other care priorities, plans to cap lifetime care costs have been delayed, and despite progress in some areas the DHSC is behind schedule even on its revised plans.

We want to see urgent investment into the future of social care and recognition that all those who work in care will receive the pay, parity and progression needed to fix social care once and for all. This will only pay social and economic dividends to the Exchequer.

Given the urgency of the crisis, we would like to meet with you to discuss the evidence set out in Carenomics which demonstrates the need for urgent investment in care. In the meantime, we look forward to receiving your detailed and urgent response.

We look forward to your reply and having the opportunity to meet with you. To reply and to fix a time to meet with us and other members of the FSCC, please contact the secretariat at [fsc@inflect.co.uk](mailto:fsc@inflect.co.uk).

Yours sincerely



FSCC Co-Chairs

Christina McAnea, General Secretary, UNISON  
Phil Hope, former Minister of State for Care Services  
Rt Hon Stephen Dorrell, Former Secretary of State for Health

FSCC Advisory Board

Caroline Abrahams, Co-Chair, Care and Support Alliance



**FUTURE  
SOCIAL CARE  
COALITION**  
TIME FOR A FAIR DEAL

**Carenomics**

UNLOCKING THE ECONOMIC POWER OF CARE

**Nadra Ahmed OBE, Chair, National Care Association**

**The Rt Hon Alistair Burt, former Minister of State for Community and Social Care**

**Andy Burman, Chair, Allied Health Professions Federation**

**Andy Burnham, former Secretary of State for Health, Mayor of Greater Manchester**

**Alastair Henderson, Chief Executive, Academy of Medical Royal Colleges**

**Paul Burstow, former Minister of State for Community and Social Care and Chair of Social Care Institute for Excellence**

**Sir Norman Lamb, former Minister of State for Community and Social Care**

**Vic Rayner, Executive Director, National Care Forum**

**Helen Walker, Chief Executive, Carers UK**

**Clenton Farquharson MBE, Chair, Think Local Act Personal**

**Jackie O'Sullivan, Co-Chair, Care and Support Alliance**