

Dear Party Leader,

Show Us You Care.

We're writing to you to say for social care it's time for actions, not just words.

Good care supports people to live their lives. To get up and out, work, see the people they love, be independent as long as possible. Yet currently, at least 2.6m people go without the care they need. Social care provision has slipped far below an acceptable level and is having very real consequences for millions of older and disabled people and their unpaid carers.

Promise that you will make change happen in the next Parliament, come up with sustainable funding and support the social care workforce. Millions of older and working aged disabled people and their carers desperately need a social care system that works, and a failure to act would be a betrayal.

The Care and Support Alliance of over 50 charities, and everyone who has joined this letter, agree that to make social care work for people, we need a government that:

- 1) Addresses the shortfall in current social care spending and puts in place a long-term funding commitment to meet current and future demand. Piecemeal pots of funding will not deliver the change, services or stability the sector and care users need.
- 2) Addresses the core issues facing the workforce, including pay, conditions, career development and skills recognition, as part of a new, fully funded social care workforce strategy.
- 3) Enables local authorities to tackle social care assessment and carer's assessment waiting lists through enhanced dedicated funding.
- 4) Develops a new National Carers Strategy including investing in carers' breaks, introducing paid carer's leave, and urgently reviewing Carer's Allowance and other social security benefits carers can claim.
- 5) Removes social care charging entirely for working-aged disabled adults so they don't have to part-fund their care from state benefits designed to pay for daily living costs, like food and heating.

If you are in the privileged position of leading the next government you could transform the lives of millions of older and disabled people and their carers. You could ensure our care workforce is recognised and valued.

It's time for actions, not words: please Show Us You Care - commit to reform social care once and for all.

Kind regards,

- Kari Gerstheimer, CEO, Access Social Care
- Leo Sowerby, Chief Executive, Affinity Trust
- Caroline Abrahams CBE, Charity Director, Age UK
- Jolanta Lasota, Chief Executive, Ambitious about Autism
- Deborah Alsina MBE, Chief Executive Officer, Versus Arthritis
- Kathy Roberts, Chief Executive, Association of Mental Health Providers
- Clive Parry, England Director, ARC England
- Andrew Langford, Chief Executive, British Association for Music Therapy
- Adam Micklethwaite, Director, Autism Alliance UK
- Professor Martin Green, Chief Executive, Care England
- Karolina Gerlich, Chief Executive Officer, The Care Worker's Charity

- Kirsty McHugh, CEO, Carers Trust
- Helen Walker, Chief Executive, Carers UK
- John Cowman, Chief Executive, Chartered Society of Physiotherapy
- Libby Herbert, CEO, Colostomy UK
- Sally Tsoukaris, General Secretary, Civil Service Pensioners' Alliance
- Frances Lawrence, CEO, Dementia Carers Count
- Dr Hilda Hayo, Chief Executive, Dementia UK
- Anna Galliford, Chief Executive, FitzRoy
- Steve Veevers, Chief Executive Officer, HFT
- Toby Porter, Chief Executive, Hospice UK
- Jane Townson, CEO, Homecare Association
- Mark Henderson, CEO, Home Group
- Ruth Owen OBE, Chief Executive, Leonard Cheshire
- Jacqueline Cannon, CEO, The Lewy Body Society
- Matthew Reed, Chief Executive, Marie Curie
- Jackie O'Sullivan, Acting CEO, Mencap
- Tanya Curry, CEO, Motor Neurone Disease Association
- Nick Moberly, CEO, MS Society
- Catherine Woodhead, Chief Executive Officer, Muscular Dystrophy UK
- Karen Walker, CEO, Multiple System Atrophy Trust
- Neel Radia, Chairman, National Association of Care Catering
- Caroline Stevens, Chief Executive, National Autistic Society
- Professor Vic Rayner OBE, CEO, National Care Forum
- Kate Henderson, Chief Executive, National Housing Federation
- Jacob Lant, CEO, National Voices
- Georgina Carr, Chief Executive, The Neurological Alliance
- Sarah Miller, Chief Executive, Papworth Trust
- Caroline Russell, Chief Executive, Parkinson's UK
- Rachel Power, Chief Executive, Patients Association
- Rebecca Packwood, Chief Executive, PSP Association
- Helen Wildbore, Director, Care Rights UK
- Mark Atkinson, Director General, Royal British Legion
- Matt Stringer, Chief Executive Officer, Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB)
- Richard Kramer, CEO, Sense
- Peter Beresford, Co-Chair, Shaping Our Lives
- Kate Steele, CEO, Shine
- Nik Hartley OBE, Chief Executive, Spinal Injuries Association
- Jonathan Senker, CEO, VoiceAbility
- Diane Lightfoot, CEO, Business Disability Forum
- Rhidian Hughes, CEO, Voluntary Organisations Disability Group (VODG)
- Neil Riley, Chairman of Trustees, The ME Association
- Dr Mary-Ann Stephenson, Director, Women's Budget Group
- Donna Covey CBE, Interim CEO, The Advocacy Project

Along with 24,009 campaigners.

For a full list of signatures, please get in touch with us at csa@nas.org.uk.

The Care and Support Alliance (CSA) is a coalition of over 60 of England's leading charities, campaigning alongside the millions of older people, disabled people and their carers who deserve decent care.

For more information, please contact csa@nas.org.uk, visit our website www.careandsupportalliance.com or X : @candsalliance