



Department
for Work &
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Rt Hon Sir George Howarth MP
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Our ref: MC2021/10738

1 March 2021

Dear Sir George

As you may be aware, your correspondence of 29 January to HM Treasury on behalf of a number of your constituents regarding the Department for Work and Pension's evaluation into how the benefit system supports those nearing the end of their lives, has been passed to this Department. I am replying as the Minister for Disabled People, Health.

The Department has conducted a wide-ranging evaluation which considered the views of stakeholders, claimants and clinicians on how it supports those nearing the end of their lives. I am grateful to the MNDA, Marie Curie and other groups that played a significant role in providing us with insight of the first-hand experience of those individuals.

The Department is committed to delivering an improved benefit system for claimants that are nearing the end of their lives and is working across Government to bring forward proposals following the evaluation.

The Secretary of State and I remain committed to implementing the key areas identified in the evaluation; the desire to change the six-month rule; improving consistency with other services used by people nearing the end of their lives; and raising awareness of the support that is available.

I hope your constituents will find this reply helpful.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Josh." with a horizontal flourish underneath.

Justin Tomlinson MP
Minister for Disabled People, Health and Work