



Department
of Health &
Social Care

*From Helen Whately MP
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The Rt Hon Sir George Howarth MP
By email to: george.howarth.mp@parliament.uk

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Dear Sir George,

Thank you for your correspondence of 9 July about social care workforce pay.

I appreciate your constituents' concerns.

The 1.5million people who make up the paid social care workforce provide an invaluable service to the nation. They work tirelessly to support those most in need of care and support, and as this pandemic has made clear, we as a nation are indebted to their selfless dedication.

The vast majority of care workers are employed by private sector providers who ultimately set their pay, independent of central government. Local Authorities work with care providers to determine a fair rate of pay based on local market conditions.

We are providing councils with access to over £1billion of additional funding for social care in 2021-22 on top of the significant support provided over the last year to support the sector deal with COVID-19.

This funding is designed to ensure key pressures in the system are met, including National Living Wage and National Minimum Wage. An increase in the rate of the National Living Wage means many of the lowest paid care workers will have benefited from at least a 2.2 per cent pay rise effective from 1 April.

I hope this reply is helpful.

HELEN WHATELY