



Department  
of Health &  
Social Care

From Helen Whately MP  
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Rt Hon Sir George Howarth MP  
By email to: [george.howarth.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:george.howarth.mp@parliament.uk)

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Dear Sir George,

Thank you for your correspondence of 5 May on behalf of a number of your constituents, about social care reform. I apologise for the delay in replying, which has been caused by an unprecedented volume of correspondence throughout the pandemic.

The Government has been implementing the findings of the Prime Minister's Challenge on Dementia 2020 report, to ensure that dementia care, support, awareness and research are transformed. We have committed to updating this strategy and will be setting out our plans for dementia in England in due course. Additionally, the Social Care Institute for Excellence has published advice on COVID-19 and dementia in care homes, in collaboration with NHS England and NHS Improvement. It is aimed at supporting residents, carers and care homes, and is available at [www.scie.org.uk/care-providers/coronavirus-covid-19/dementia/care-homes](http://www.scie.org.uk/care-providers/coronavirus-covid-19/dementia/care-homes).

Our country's adult social care system has never been under such pressure as over the last year. The COVID-19 pandemic posed unprecedented challenges to the sector and beyond. However, the problems that our social care system faces predate the pandemic and it has long been recognised that reform is needed.

The Government is committed to reform of the adult social care system and will bring forward proposals this year.

I hope this reply is helpful.

**HELEN WHATELY**