

Message

From: Simon Ridley [simon.ridley@cabinetoffice.gov.uk]
on behalf of Simon Ridley <simon.ridley@cabinetoffice.gov.uk> [simon.ridley@cabinetoffice.gov.uk]
Sent: 03/04/2020 10:31:24
To: Alexandra Burns [ABurns@no10.gov.uk]
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Subject: Re: Social Care

Thanks Alex. I agree more scrutiny of the position in social care and what we are doing is important. We have been working with departments and we are proposing to SoS DH today we take at hMIG early next week. It would be very helpful to make sure we have a shared view of what the key priority questions and issues are. The team will follow up.

Simon



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On Fri, 3 Apr 2020 at 10:19, Alexandra Burns <ABurns@no10.gov.uk> wrote:
Team,

I know that social care is front and centre of a range of conversations that are happening on eg PPE or testing (though of course is always second to NHS) – but do we know whether there is a coherent overall strategy for care homes? In either DHSC or in MHCLG or between them? It feels like maybe we need one in the way that we have one for the NHS.

Most of what I've seen on care homes has been about supporting the NHS and capacity – ie extra £ but primarily to improve hospital discharge to free up beds, or small bits of medical guidance on handling coronavirus in a care home. In our priority projects list it is down as: **Social Care: Enhancing adult social care resilience by (a) maintaining and increasing workforce, (b) maintaining and increasing bed-package capacity, (c) extra funding and (d) capacity tracking** – but I wonder if this really covers it.

Just looking at some of the stuff coming out of the rest of Europe and it feels like something we need to be properly ahead of given that once someone gets it in one of these places many die:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-52094491>

And I'm wondering whether we've considered more extreme measures or guidance – on staff rotations for example (I've seen reports of some care homes having staff literally move in: <https://www.lincolnshirelive.co.uk/news/care-home-staff-move-in-4005126>) etc.

I'm checking with you guys because I'm aware that it might just be something that's happening that I haven't seen – eg is the healthcare IMG looking at it properly?

Alex

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