



Department
of Health &
Social Care

*From the Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care*

*39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU*

020 7210 4850

POC_1176941

Clive Betts MP, Chair, HCLG Committee
Dr Sarah Wollaston MP, Chair, HSC Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

17 JUN 2019

Dear Clive and Sarah,

Thank you for your letters of 20 May and 7 June inviting me to give evidence to the HSC and HCLG inquiry on Social Care on Tuesday 9 July. As you know, I am unable to accept due to the demands of Parliamentary and other business. However, Caroline Dinenage, the Minister of State for Care will be attending to speak about the progress towards the Government's Green Paper on social care.

In terms of your questions, the Green Paper remains a priority for the Government. We are continuing to work on it closely, taking the time to consult with key stakeholders and take their feedback into consideration. As such, it will be published at the earliest opportunity.

It is unfortunate to read that LD Voices were disappointed by our recent letter to the Committees, however we feel that LD Voices' response reiterates a number of points already addressed by our Ministers; our position remains unchanged and, regrettably, it is unlikely that providing further detail or comment at this stage would resolve any disagreement.

Until the Supreme Court passes its judgment, the Court of Appeal judgment constitutes the authoritative interpretation of the law. Whilst we appreciate that this does expose providers to a degree of uncertainty, making legislative changes ahead of any Supreme Court consideration would be premature and, if the Supreme Court ruling overturns that judgment, the Government will review the ruling and its implications at that stage.

Yours ever,

MATT HANCOCK