

For immediate release:

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Age Concern's comment on Stephen Ladyman's announcement to review care home standards

Gordon Lishman, Age Concern's Director-General, said:

"The announcement to review care home standards is an opportunity to ensure that safeguards for older care home residents are improved. It must not be used to further dilute existing standards and regulations.

"The current standards for homes for older people must be brought up to the same level as those for younger adults. All residents should have the opportunity to make real choices about the care they receive, choices that support their basic right to privacy and dignity.

"Regulation has to be about more than just maintaining the safety of older people - it should guarantee all care home residents are treated with the respect they deserve. The Government must seize the opportunity to improve the quality of care for older people across the board."

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