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AGE CONCERN'S COMMENT ON STEPHEN LADYMAN'S PROGRESS REPORT ON CONTINUING CARE

Gordon Lishman, Director-General of Age Concern England, said:

"It is extremely worrying that this process is taking such a long time and so few people have received compensation to date. Many older people may have lost thousands of pounds over the years as a result of unfairly paying for continuing care.¹ We want to know how the Strategic Health Authorities have identified cases for review and seek an assurance that all of those entitled will receive their rightful compensation.

"We are particularly concerned that the Department of Health has failed to address the root cause of this problem. The guidance about who qualifies for funding is hugely complex and baffles health care professionals, advisers and older people alike. As a matter of urgency, the DoH must provide straightforward guidance to ensure that those in need of care are fully funded."

-Ends-

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Notes to editors

¹ Care that should be fully funded by the NHS