

**Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP**  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London  
SW1A 2AA

18 December 2019

Dear Prime Minister,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your election victory last week. I am writing to you once more in my role as the President of the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS). Over recent days, you have set out your vision for a one nation government. One nation must, of course, include those of us who are disabled, older and frail, or mentally unwell and those of us who care for family members. By focusing on social care, we can ensure that all of us can access the care and support when we need it, enable people to remain part of their local communities for longer and ensure that millions of carers can remain economically active.

We hope that you will ensure that adult social care is one of your top domestic priorities during this upcoming parliament, and I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to outline the issues in more detail and discuss how we can work together to build a consensus around social care. It is eminently solvable, and the beginning of your new term is the time to do it.

Back in July we were delighted to hear your commitment to sorting out the crisis in social care 'once and for all'. This is just the beginning of a journey and there is now a real opportunity for you to make a difference for all of us to ensure we can access the care and support we need, when we need it.

Our recent Autumn Survey found that Directors of Adult Social Services' confidence in their ability to provide care is lower than ever. 93% of Directors we surveyed indicated that they have some concerns, or insufficient capacity to manage the failure of a large provider. 90% of Directors stated that they have either some concerns, or insufficient capacity to manage winter related pressures over the coming months. I have enclosed a copy of our findings for your perusal. On top of this, Age UK have found that 1.5million older people are now not receiving all the care and support they need – this is 100,000 more people than last year. In addition, many working age disabled people are similarly unable to access the care and support they need to live the lives they want to lead.

However, we believe things can get better. We believe that the new Government, with its significant majority has an opportunity to achieve something which has eluded predecessor administrations over the last two decades. Your Government can enable and provide three key things:

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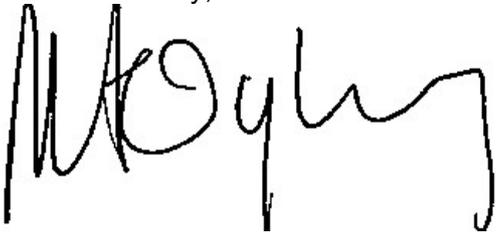
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1. **Certainty about funding** - setting out at the earliest opportunity what money will be available over the course of the whole of the next Parliament to ensure that those of us who need social care get the support we need to live our lives as we want to live them.
2. **Long-term reform** - that enables us to build care and support for the millions of us who need it and create an enabling social care system that is truly fit for the twenty-first century.
3. **A long-term plan for adult social care** – that plots out how social care links with other public services and supports resilient individuals, families and communities.

We have outlined what we think adult social care needs in our report “what we all need from the new government on adult social care”, which I have enclosed a copy of.

With the certainty that all of this can provide, the adult social care sector will be able to go forward focusing on what it does best: being a great connector with people and organisations; safeguarding people’s rights if they are being abused, neglected or where they cannot make decisions; helping people who are in the most difficult circumstances to re-engage with life and communities; and organising funding or providing care and support that enables individuals to live the lives they want to live. I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to outline the issues in more detail and discuss how we can work together to build a consensus around the difficult issues in social care.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Ogley', written in a cursive style.

**Julie Ogley**  
ADASS President

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ADASS Autumn Survey 2019  
“What we all need from the new government” ADASS Statement, December 2019