

Feedback from Members from the Members' Policy Seminar held 2 November 2009.

Question 1: We want to build a National Care System that is fair, simple and affordable. We think that in this new system there are six things that you should expect

- Care Services at home are different from that in Residential Care.
- More use of prevention service but needs additional funding.
- Information and advice at a "high quality" very local level.
- Practical problems on how it would work.
- Great opportunity for the future.
- Needs to be funded by tax eventually.
- Some want it to come from tax immediately.
- If it is going to be fair all should pay, even if on benefits.
- Fair, simple and affordable.
- Otherwise it is the same people paying as before, another tax on working people.

Question 2. We think that, in order to make the National Care Service work, we will need services that are joined up, give you choice around what kind of care and support you get, and are high quality. Making the National Care Service Work

- Care navigation must link to locality systems to support personalisation – assessment and brokerage – rather than being separate.
- Carers' needs should be assessed as part of an integral process.
- Assured funding from all partners and agreed standards.
- Agreed levels of funding.
- Safeguards and regulations.
- Need for a lead Authority (could be any of the Partners).
- Appeal system mandatory on all partners.
- Choice of location.
- Financial Pressures on Partners.
- Different Priorities.

Complex needs not being met because of standardisation.

Services not being available in your desired area of choice.

Private Sector might resist because of reduction in self funders and therefore less profit.

Question 3 The Government is suggesting three ways in which the National Care Service could be funded in the future

- Increase Pension payments to offset insurance costs.
- Consider that “Comprehensive” (option3) is the most favoured but difficult to determine a decision without knowing detail of options for National Insurance and those of working age.
- Should be a National Scheme.