

# Archbishops' Commission on Reimagining Care

## CARE AND SUPPORT REIMAGINED A National Care Covenant for England

A REPORT OF THE ARCHBISHOPS' COMMISSION



# What did we hear?

---

- The care system is complex, confusing, and difficult to navigate
- Unpaid carers and care workers feel overstretched and undervalued.
- Social care and the NHS are poorly coordinated and work as separate systems.



# What did we hear?

---

- Communities, including churches and faith communities provide vital informal support
- Proactive local authorities delivering community-led initiatives
- Family carers and care workers providing amazing support under difficult circumstances



# Our vision of care and support in England is that:

- Care and support enables people to **flourish** and live life to the full.
- Access to and funding of care and support is **universal** and **fair**.
- How we care for one another reflects **loving kindness** and **empathy**.
- Society, including churches, are **inclusive** of all people, of all ages and abilities.
- How care and support are delivered promotes **mutuality** and is based on **trust**.



# The Commission's recommendations fall into three areas:

---

1. Rethinking attitudes
2. Rebalancing roles and responsibilities
3. Redesigning the system



# Rethinking attitudes

- We must rethink the way care is viewed – care and support is not only about meeting people’s basic needs, but the spiritual, emotional and practical support we all need to live a full life.
- Care and support affects us all – at different times in our lives almost all of us will either be caring for someone, or being cared for by someone.
- These shifts in attitudes to care must go hand in hand with a challenge to current negative attitudes towards old age, disability, and mental illness.



# Rebalancing roles and responsibilities

---

**A National Care Covenant that sets out the mutual responsibilities of individuals, families and communities, alongside local and national government.**

- Empowering communities
- A new deal for unpaid carers
- A stronger role for the state
- Our responsibilities as engaged citizens



# Redesigning the system

**We need a radical redesign of the system to make it simple, consistent and person-centred.**

**With a long-term aspiration of making care and support a universal entitlement, the report argues for:**

- A simplified assessment process that leads to a guaranteed budget
- People to be trusted to manage their own care and decide what support they need
- Independent advocacy to help people access their rights and entitlements
- A renewed emphasis on the personal qualities and values required for care worker roles





# Diverse housing options

---

Accessible housing, supported living options for adults with disabilities and other integrated community-based housing options for older people

How the Church of England uses its assets and investments

Social investment to support expansion of care requires patient long-term capital



---

# Harnessing technology

---

Build in flexible person centred assistive technology from the start

Power of everyday digital technology giving users more control

Potential of AI and robotics to be tested

Training for carers and care workers to make use of tech

Making it inclusive and accessible

