



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Rt. Hon Philip Hammond
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Councillor Nick Taylor

Brighton & Hove City Council
c/o Hove Town Hall
Norton Road
Hove BN3 3BQ

4th February 2019

Dear Chancellor,

I write in my position as Opposition Spokesman for Health and Social Care at Brighton and Hove City Council.

Brighton and Hove, like many upper tier authorities, is facing severe cost pressures caused principally of the rising demand for adult social care services. Whilst there has been a sustained effort by Council officers to manage the demand and reconfigure services to deliver cost effective solutions, it is clear that increasing complexity of need, increasing co-morbidities and increasing personalisation of care cannot be met without significant reassessment of current funding structures.

Like many Conservatives I was dismayed to hear that the Social Care Green paper has been delayed again at the behest of the Treasury. Ostensibly this is due to the increasingly busy Parliamentary schedule.

Whilst I am pleased that the Government is taking seriously its duty to prepare for any outcome it is wrong to ignore such vital work in social care. In Brighton and Hove home ownership is falling and therefore, without radical thinking there is a ticking time bomb of social care costs that need new funding models to fully address.

It is not only just the case that budget gaps need to be addressed – although that is imperative – there is an opportunity to integrate health and social care and genuinely improve outcomes for all.

The Government has shown initiative in preparing a green paper on this issue of crucial importance in attempting to grasp the problem; no Government for nearly twenty years has opted to do this. However, I believe the delay to the green paper's publication is regrettable and would urge you to find the necessary time to ensure this vital work is completed as soon as possible.

I look forward to hearing from you.

*Your ever
Nick Taylor*

Cllr. Nick Taylor

Tel: 01273 291898
Email: nick.taylor@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Conservative Member for Withdean Ward

Telephone: 01273 290000
www.brighton-hove.gov.uk
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