



Department
of Health &
Social Care



easy
read

A letter about the ‘Out of sight - who cares?’ report



This is an Easy Read version of a letter from the **Minister of State for Care** to the **Care Quality Commission (CQC)**.



The **Minister of State for Care** is called Helen Whately. She helps to run the government’s Department for Health and Social Care.



The **Care Quality Commission (CQC)** is an organisation that checks the standard of health and social care services in England.

Dear Ian,



Thank you for the report you wrote called 'Out of sight - who cares?'.



The report is about the **use of force** and **segregation** in care services for people with a learning disability and autistic people.



Use of force means to make somebody do something, or stop doing something.



Segregation is when you are kept away from other people in a hospital, care home or **mental health unit**.



A **mental health unit** is where people stay for treatment for their mental health condition. We will use the word 'hospitals' in this letter.



We want to make sure that things change for people with a learning disability and autistic people.



Out of sight - who cares?

The government is concerned about the issues that are in the Out of sight - who cares? report.



We are concerned about people with a learning disability and autistic people who may not be getting their **human rights**.



Human rights are the things that every person should have like:

- the right to be treated fairly
- the right to be safe from harm.



We are telling all services that people should be getting their rights.



Independent Care (Education) and Treatment Review

We have also had a report from Baroness Hollins who leads the Independent Care (Education) and Treatment Review Oversight Panel.



Baroness Hollins' report was about the situation of people who are in long term segregation. This means they are being kept away from other people for a long time.



Who is responsible?

The 'Out of sight - who cares?' report says that there are several things that should be done.



As Minister of State for Care, I will be making sure that these things happen.

Building the Right Support Delivery Board



We have started a group called the 'Building the Right Support Delivery Board'. They will work to improve care for people with a learning disability and autistic people.



I will lead the Board and it will include people from other government departments, local councils and organisations involved in care.



The CQC are part of this Board.



Baroness Hollins is also part of this Board.



The Board will be doing work on:

- housing



- moving up to adult services from children's services

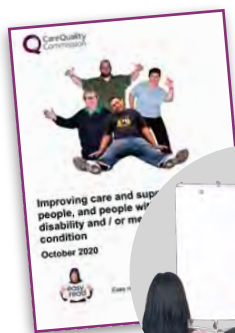


- support in the community



- making sure we have the right number of trained staff.

The right number of trained staff



The Out of sight - who cares? report says that there are not enough staff trained to work with people with learning disabilities and autistic people.



We are working with **Health Education England** and **Skills for Care** to set up training for all health and social care staff. It is called the ‘Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training’.



Health Education England works to train staff in the NHS.



Skills for Care is an independent organisation that trains people who work in health and care services.



More community services

We are making sure that local health and care services do more to make sure there are good community services for people with a learning disability and autistic people.



People staying in hospitals

We will make sure that every person with a learning disability that has to stay in hospital, has a care and treatment plan.



The person with a learning disability should be involved in writing this plan.



Using force

Sometimes staff in hospitals use force to make people with a learning disability and autistic people do something, or stop doing something.



There must be a record when force is used. We must make information about use of force available for people to see.



We should work towards using force less and less.



Finding out if someone is autistic

You say the CQC are concerned about how long people have to wait to get a test for autism.



We are working out how to improve the information about the amount of time people are waiting.



Helen Whately, Minister of State for Care.