



HOUSE OF COMMONS

25<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Dear local resident,

Thank you to those who have contacted me about dementia care.

I recognise that dementia can affect all aspects of a person's life as well as impact on the lives of loved ones. I also agree with you that it is important to ensure that those with dementia have access to the services they need, when they need them. I, therefore, welcome the measures the Government has already taken to improve dementia care.

For example, the Government remains committed to delivering its *Challenge on Dementia 2020* which it launched in 2015. This challenge sets out how dementia care, support, awareness, and research will be transformed by the end of this year. More information about the challenge can be found here:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/prime-ministers-challenge-on-dementia-2020](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prime-ministers-challenge-on-dementia-2020)

You will be pleased to hear that progress in the care, support and treatment of people with dementia is already being made, with more people receiving a diagnosis of dementia than ever before. Over 660,000 NHS staff and over 100,000 social care workers have already received dementia training and, since 2015, new care staff have been trained to receive the Care Certificate, which equips them with the knowledge and skills to provide safe and compassionate care, including for those with dementia.

The Government also recognises that research is crucial to understanding and tackling dementia, which is why research spending on dementia has been doubled and a commitment has been made to maintain the current expenditure of at least £60 million a year through to 2020. I am encouraged that over £83 million was spent on dementia research by the Government in 2016/17, the latest year for which figures are available. This is well in excess of the £60 million target.

With regards to funding beyond 2020, the Government has said that it is committed to publishing a Green Paper this year, which will outline a new social care policy, which is financially sustainable, accessible, and properly integrated with the NHS. I will ensure that Ministers are aware of your views as they shape future policy.



I hope that this information is helpful. If I can be of further assistance with anything else, please do let me know.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane Hunt', written over the printed name.

Jane Hunt MP