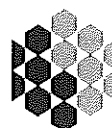


FROM THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH,
SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY



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Chair
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Our Ref: COR/1664/2015

Date: 22 December 2015

Dear

ROBIN

Further to your letter to the Department of Social Development seeking an update on the progress made in developing the Plan to consider both housing and care elements for the future care needs of older people with a learning disability and their families and carers; it was suggested my Department lead in this response as this is a joint action with DHSSPS.

The information requested is therefore provided in the attached Annex.

Yours sincerely

SIMON HAMILTON MLA

Q: The Monitoring report for Action 39 states:

*“Research is currently underway into the future care needs of older people with a learning disability and their families and carers. **A plan which will consider both housing and care elements will be developed in conjunction with DSD.** Phase one for carers of adults aged over 50 is complete and phase two for adults with a learning disability aged over 35 is currently underway.”*

The Committee would like to know what work DSD, has done (for instance with respect to housing) in developing the Plan?

- a)** Under the current commissioning arrangements proposals for supporting people schemes will be agreed by the Trust-level Area Supporting People Partnerships, which would then come to the Regional-level Commissioning Body for approval based upon funds being available. The Department for Social Development has not yet agreed the funding position for Supporting People for 2016/17 and over the whole of the next CSR period, therefore any indication over future funding cannot be provided.

The HSC Board has allocated £1m funding for 2015/16 and this will rise to £2m on 1 April 2016.

The NI Housing Executive intend to hold an event with the HSC (including Trusts) in January/February 2016, once their budgetary position is clearer, to clarify priorities for next 3 years.