



WHY THE DILNOT SOCIAL CARE REFORMS MISS THE POINT

OUR SOCIAL CARE SYSTEM IS ON THE BRINK; THE GOVERNMENT RISKS IGNORING THE POOREST PENSIONERS

Sadly Andrew Dilnot's 2011 report seems to be the only serious social care debate in town. Whitehall departments have been locked in negotiations about how to respond to the report's ideas for 18 months. And now the Coalition looks set to announce plans to implement his key recommendations – subject to some inevitable scaling back. Whatever the merits of his proposed model, implementing such reform to the cost of many billions of pounds during the next Parliament should fall much further down the Government's social care 'to do list'.

The current social care system is in crisis. Far too many older people, often Britain's poorest and most vulnerable pensioners, are suffering silently in ways that would spark national outrage if happening to our children. Based on our two year review of poverty in later life – a process packed with evidence, research and consultation – the Centre for Social Justice has uncovered a number of serious systemic failings. For the sake of those they serve, it is time Ministers and officials asked themselves the fundamental question: **which of the most glaring social care problems will the Dilnot reforms solve?**

SOCIAL CARE CHALLENGE	TACKLED BY THE DILNOT REFORMS?
Preventative care and support to help the poorest elderly people remain independent in their own homes for as long as possible	NO
An all-out effort to reduce the loneliness and isolation which generates considerable social care needs	NO
An end to neglect and sub-standard treatment arising from understaffed and poorly-regulated care homes	NO
A fair wage for care workers to prevent staff churn and ignite a demoralised workforce	NO

<p>An end to the ignominy of ‘15 minute flying visits’ for people receiving care at home</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>An end to the ‘rationing’ of care – 800,000 people who currently need care can’t access it</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>Tackling the destructive underpayment from Councils to care homes which forces many providers to cut corners</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>Rigorous dementia training for all care workers</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>A decrease in the number of unplanned emergency admissions of older people to hospital</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>Protection for people who don’t want to sell their homes to pay for any future care</p>	<p>YES</p>