

Chief Executive's View

The Chancellor's Budget has put enormous extra costs into social care without understanding how these will be funded. While the Chancellor ignored social care, she put eye-watering amounts of extra money into the NHS. Over the past few months, we have heard from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care and the Prime Minister, saying that there would be no extra money for the NHS without significant changes in the way in which it works. Quite clearly, this is untrue, and the repeating pattern of successive government, to prop up a service, which is not fit for purpose in the 21st-century and needs radical reform, continues.

When it comes to the NHS, there are two areas that governments refuse to debate. The first is whether we are getting value for money, and the second is why we focus on the NHS as an organisation rather than identifying what outcomes we would like to achieve. The Government needs to shift the dial, stop talking about organisations and processes, and think clearly about people and outcomes. If they did that, they would acknowledge that the challenge of the 21st century is long-term conditions, and we need to have much better funding of social care, and the budgets need to be more equally divided. The Government talks about growth; well, this is a budget that will lead to the contraction of the social care sector.

The other big issue for social care is the implosion of the CQC and the reports by Dr Penny Dash and Professor Sir Mike Richards, which clearly show how rotten and dysfunctional the CQC is. Nobody has yet addressed that we have been paying

for this substandard service, and in light of that, there needs to be a discussion about refunds. In any other part of the economy, you get a refund if you do not get what you pay for, so the CQC should be forced to live in the same world as the rest of us. Even though the CQC has been called "not fit for purpose" by the Secretary of State, the Board, who have obviously failed miserably in their role in oversight and governance, continues to cling on to their positions. It is time that they either had the decency to resign or were removed by the Secretary of State.

Within a few days of taking power this government signalled that social care was a low priority and sadly the budget has reinforced this.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Martin Green'.

Professor Martin Green OBE

Chief Executive: Care England

DH: Independent Sector Dementia Champion

X [@ProfMartinGreen](https://twitter.com/ProfMartinGreen)