

**For immediate release
4 November 2009**

'Trust us', Ministers say on the care Green Paper sums

Charities working with older people, carers and disabled people are up in arms after the Government has reneged on a promise to publish the financial modelling behind the care funding Green Paper.

With just ten days to the closure (13 November 2009) of the consultation on the green paper's funding options, stakeholders have been told that the financial modelling will now not be published until some time in 2010.

The decision not to publish has cast doubt on the sustainability of the funding options presented in the green paper as well as the reasons given by Ministers for not including taxation as an option for funding care in the future.

In a joint statement, members of the Care and Support Alliance said: "We welcome the DH's publication of the Green Paper and the direction of travel for adult social care. However we are being asked for views on one of the most important social and economic policies facing Britain and our disabled and ageing populations. How we fund the growing demand for better care is critical to all our futures. But we are expected to decide on funding options without the facts and figures they are presumably based on.

"Ministers want us to accept the 'mathematics' underpinning the Green Paper but don't seem to trust the figures sufficiently to publish them. People rightly want to know how much they may have to pay for care in the future and how much it will cost the taxpayer, and they want to know what care they will get in return. These are reasonable questions but we are being denied the information to reach reasonable conclusions on the Green Paper options.

"We asked for the financial modelling to be released in July when the Green Paper was published. It has taken over three months for the Government to finally decide not to provide the details, despite several reassurances to the contrary in the last fortnight. We will now have to obtain the material through FOI requests."

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For further information contact:

Madeleine Starr, Strategic Projects Manager, Carers UK on 07769 703374 or Madeleine.starr@carersuk.org

Emily Holzhausen, Director of Policy and Public Affairs, Carers UK, 0794 127 3108 or Emily.holzhausen@carersuk.org

Notes to Editors

Purpose of Alliance

The Care and Support Alliance (England) exists to ensure that reform of the care and support system in England is of the highest priority, and that a robust national debate results in concrete proposals for a system fit for purpose.

Its purpose is:

1. To take forward the debate on the Government's Green Paper *Shaping the Future of Care Together*, subsequent debate and White Paper.
2. To ensure that in the current recession and in the run up to a General Election, the key issues and challenges in the debate on care and support are given the highest priority.
3. Members include: Age Concern and Help the Aged, Alzheimer's Society, Carers UK, Counsel and Care, Crossroads, ECCA, Grandparents Plus, Huntingdon's Disease Association, Joseph

Rowntree Foundation, King's Fund, Mencap, Motor Neurone Disease Association, MS Society, Muscular Dystrophy Campaign, National Autistic Society, National Care Forum, Parkinson's Disease Society, PRTC, RADAR, Resolution Foundation, RNIB, Sense, Vitalise.