



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

August 2019

Dear Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about dementia care.

I can assure you that dementia is a priority for the Government. In 2015, the *Challenge on Dementia 2020* was launched and I know that the Government remains committed to delivering this. This sets out the vision for dementia care, support, awareness and research to be transformed by 2020. I fully support the ambition to ensure England offers the world's best dementia care.

Progress in the care, support and treatment of people with dementia has been made, with more people receiving a diagnosis of dementia than ever before. Over 660,000 NHS staff have received dementia training with further training opportunities rolled out to all NHS staff by the end of 2018. Over 100,000 social care workers have received some form of dementia awareness training. 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.

I believe it is important to increase public awareness and understanding of dementia among the wider public to ensure that people are supported to live well with the condition and I am encouraged that there are almost 2.5 million Dementia Friends.

Research is crucial to understanding and tackling dementia, which is why the Government has doubled research spending on dementia and remains committed to maintaining the current expenditure on dementia research 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, well in excess of the £60 million target.

The Government is integrating and improving health and social care to protect people at every stage of their lives. I am informed that the Government 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.



Thank you for your invitation to the Dementia Care: The Crisis Behind Closed Doors event. Unfortunately I had a prior commitment on that afternoon, but I will continue to speak up in support of Dementia research and care wherever possible.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris".

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY