

Mr Bryan Turner

Chairman
Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee

e-mail address: bryan.turner@westsussex.gov.uk

website: www.westsussex.gov.uk

County Hall
West Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1RQ



19 November 2019

Mrs Amanda Jupp
Cabinet Member for Adults and Health

Dear Amanda,

**Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee Task and Finish Group -
Local Assistance Network**

Thank you for attending the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee Task and Finish Group (TFG) on 13 November, which considered the proposed decision to reduce the Local Assistance Network, as outlined in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

The overriding Member concern in relation to this proposed decision was how this will impact on the most vulnerable residents in West Sussex and how moving forward those who find themselves in crisis can be supported. It was recommended by the TFG that you, as Cabinet Member, work with partners, potentially through the West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board, to undertake a mapping exercise to provide a holistic view of what provision is currently in place, where the gaps are and how these can be filled. In particular Members discussed working more closely with district and borough councils and the voluntary sector. In regard to furniture provision, it was suggested that more partnership working with district and borough councils was required, especially in the re-use of furniture collected.

In terms of the report presented to members, the TFG concluded that the proposal did not detail the potential unintended consequences and impact on other services, and that there had not been enough time to evaluate the impact from the previous reduction in funding. The TFG felt that a delay would be advisable in relation to a potential change in Government and therefore funding, following the General Election on 12 December. Through the discussion, Members did note that the impact on single people who had been in receipt of the LAN following the Cabinet Member's previous decision, was not the subject of this further decision.

The TFG did not support the proposed Cabinet Member decision, although Members sympathised with the financial challenges faced by the Cabinet. Members did also note that the County Council does not have a statutory duty to fund the LAN. If the decision was to go ahead, the TFG requested that any additional funding received by the County Council from a future government be used to prioritise these services in the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BY" followed by a stylized flourish.

Mr Bryan Turner
Chairman, Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee