



**South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board**  
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**South Yorkshire ICB Response to Healthwatch Speak Up Report**

We are extremely grateful to Healthwatch & Sheffcare for producing this sensitively written report and highlighting some of the difficulties and challenges faced by care homes both currently and during the pandemic

Our sincere thanks also go to the staff who worked tirelessly and often selflessly to support those living in care homes during the pandemic and beyond. Your bravery and resilience are admirable, and we are extremely grateful to you for this.

As this report highlights, the impacts of the pandemic on care homes are far from over, it is still a reality for many. We are committed to supporting care homes across Sheffield to provide the best possible care for our citizens living within them. We have a dedicated Care Home Quality team who support care homes to ensure that they provide the best possible care for their residents. We will continue to work alongside the homes to achieve this, championing them and the services they provide at every opportunity.

The report also supports what we know from working with care homes in that, generally speaking, our care home workforce went above and beyond to ensure their residents were able to communicate with relatives during lockdowns when visiting was not permitted.

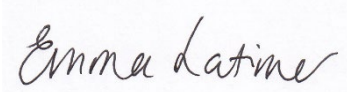
We are keen to see a return to 'normal' life for all citizens of Sheffield, including those living in a care home and will work with partners across the city to ensure that this is achieved in a safe way.

From an ICB Sheffield Place Team perspective we will:-

- a) Ensure the report is shared with relevant commissioning teams e.g., primary care, mental health and with our IPC / quality / CHC teams
- b) Through the Ageing Well programme in Sheffield, we will ensure that we share the report with leads within the Enhanced Health in Care Homes workstream
- c) Work across health and social care to ensure that the learning within the report and its recommendations are considered in the event of future system challenges

Thanks again to all involved in preparing this insightful report.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emma Latimer". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Emma Latimer  
Executive Place Director, Sheffield