

Social Services: Minimum Wage

Written Answers

Sarah Wollaston Chair, Health and Social Care Committee, Chair, Liaison Committee (Commons)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, pursuant to the Answer of 11 May 2018 to Question 141873, what progress has been made on evaluating the potential impact to the sector of sleep-in back-pay liabilities; and which care sector representatives have been consulted with respect to that evaluation.

Caroline Dinenage Minister of State (Department of Health and Social Care)

The Government commissioned market analysis in order to understand the scale of the national minimum wage back-pay liabilities across the social care sector, which was open to all providers across the social care sector. This work is currently subject to further analysis and refinement.

Due to the sensitive nature of this work, no data that could be used to identify providers or local authorities has been shared with any Government department.

Officials meet regularly with various sector representatives including members of Learning Disability Voices, Voluntary Organisations Disability Group, Care England, the Local Government Association, the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services, and others “to better understand the impact this issue is having on the sector.”

Sarah Wollaston Chair, Health and Social Care Committee, Chair, Liaison Committee (Commons)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, pursuant to the Answer of 26 March 2018 to Question 133443, on Social Services: Minimum Wage, what timescale he has for discussions with the European Commission.

Caroline Dinenage Minister of State (Department of Health and Social Care)

Officials opened discussions with representatives from the European Commission on 6 December 2017. These discussions are ongoing.

The Government will continue to engage with the European Commission to determine how any support that may be offered would comply with State aid rules.