

Rt Hon Theresa May MP
The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

3 April 2018

Dear Prime Minister

LONG TERM PLAN FOR THE NHS

National Voices is the national coalition of health and care charities in England that stands for people being in control of their health and care. We warmly welcome your announcement of a long term plan for the NHS, and your acknowledgement that this must join up with plans for social care and public health.

In your letter to Dr Sarah Wollaston MP of 28 March 2018, you confirmed that the plan will be developed this year in conjunction with NHS leaders, clinicians and health experts. I am writing to urge you to ensure that patients, carers and citizens are also partners in this process through national representative organisations.

The inclusion of the voluntary sector was a key feature of previous landmark developments in health and social care policy, including the NHS Constitution, the Health and Social Care Act 2012, the Care Act 2014 and the NHS Five Year Forward View. Our participation will help ensure that decisions are grounded in what matters to people and to the diverse communities that rely on health and care services. It will lead to better decisions, and it is the right thing to do.

I look forward to hearing how National Voices, our members, and our colleagues in the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector will be involved.

A copy of this letter goes to the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, Dr Sarah Wollaston MP and NHS England Chief Executive Simon Stevens.

Yours sincerely,



Jeremy Taylor
Chief Executive