



PRESS RELEASE

UNION CALLS FOR UNIVERSAL SOCIAL CARE POLICY

The Northern Region's biggest general trade union gave its reaction to the Dilnot Report, published today into social care in the UK.

The GMB Union in the Northern Region called for cross party consensus on provision of a universal service funded out of taxation.

The GMB which has sole recognition in the UK's largest private care provider, Southern Cross, believes that caring for the elderly and vulnerable should not be left to individuals.

Chris Jukes GMB Northern Region's Political Officer said:

“This is about clear choices in public spending priorities. Our senior citizens should not have to worry about selling their homes to pay for their residential care.”

“For thirty years social care services have been driven into one sector by politicians of all governments who have simply failed to tackle an issue that will affect us all.”

“At the same time central government has increasingly in effect prescribed how local authorities pay for social care and have taken regulatory powers away from local decision making to what is increasingly becoming a toothless quango, the Care Quality Commission”.

“The current system is broken and needs replacing with one that will last for at least the next 30 years”.

-ENDS-

