

## Changes needed in funding as some are 'struggling to pay'

Funding for people in care homes is at present a lottery, the chief executive of Counsel and Care, Stephen Burke has stated.

Responding to the government's plans to adopt Progressive Universalism in the care sector, Mr Burke claimed that many poorer people are struggling to pay for services, either alone, or in residential care homes.

This is because in many cases funding is based on where people are based and the regulations that their local authorities adopt.

Moreover, he stated, residents only get help when it is found that their needs are critical, rather than access to constant help.

He added that a number of factors could be changed so that the financial responsibilities become clearer for the elderly.

"A fairer funding system is essential to ensure that older people, particularly those without assets, have their care needs met. All care services should be required to meet minimum levels of need for our poorest older people, ensuring greater clarity," he commented.

Progressive Universalism refers to the way in which the government wants to give high-quality care specifically targeted to those who it believes are most in need.

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