What will Care Cost YOU? Animated Video transcript



Welcome to THE CARE CONUNDRUM SHOW. Today, we're going to see what's behind our mystery doors. Behind each door lies a different model of paying for care. Let's explore them together!

Door number 1, represents our current way of paying for care. If you own a home or have savings, you might not qualify to receive any financial support from the Government.

While you may not qualify for support if you stay at home, if you have under a certain amount of savings, you could still qualify for some financial support BUT... ONLY if you move out of your home and into a care home.

Although you may receive some support if you move into a Care Home, you may still need to sell your home to pay towards fees and contribute all your savings.

If you are on Income Support and entitled to full benefits, have no savings and don't own your own home, the Government will pay for all your care costs.

Some people think this is unfair.

Don't worry; we're working on something better.

Now, let's see what's behind Door number 2!

The Free Personal Care provides personal care free to everyone, whether you're at home or in a care home. It's free when you need it, regardless of your income or assets.

Free Personal Care covers things of a personal nature like dressing, washing, and giving medications.

Free Personal Care does NOT include other things like cleaning, housekeeping and shopping.

Free Personal Care also does NOT include accommodation costs

Everyone except those receiving means tested benefits will have to cover accommodation and these other costs with their own savings, assets or other income.

So, what do you think? Will Free Personal Care be the model you choose?

Now, let's see what's behind Door number 3!

The Mixed Model provides financial support for care for everyone.

However, HOW SOON people are eligible for financial support differs.

People with personal savings and other assets under a certain amount (called a 'threshold') will receive Government support to pay for care from Day 1.

People with personal savings and other assets over the threshold will have to pay the full cost of their care for a while first. After that time, they will also become eligible for government support

The Government would like your feedback on how much you think a fair and appropriate 'threshold' would be.

Suggested amounts are £100k, £280k, and £350k.

The higher the threshold amount, the more of your savings you can protect and use for other things

BUT

The more money you protect (in other words, the higher you make the threshold), the more money the Government will have to pay towards your care. This means the more money that the Government will need to raise to cover their higher portion of the care bill.

So, what do you think? Will the Mixed Model be the model you choose?

Well, now you've seen all the options.

Does an NHS style Free Personal Care Model appeal to you?

Or do you think people with more money should have to pay something towards their care but not risk spending all the money they have? As promised in the Mixed Model?

Or do you think the system should stay as it is today?

Don't forget that if the Government contributes more to cover care costs when you need it, they will need to find that extra money somewhere.

HOW they find it, will be up to Treasury to decide but it COULD include asking you to pay more to the Government to help raise those additional funds.

No decisions have been made on how that money might be raised but the way that Governments raise money for new services include things like raising Income Tax, VAT, National Insurance or reducing how much they spend on other services.

The aim of the two new models is to help people protect more of their savings and assets, but doing so will increase costs for the Government and the public as taxpayers.

So, to add to your deliberations...

- The Free Personal Care model is more expensive to the Government than the Mixed Model BUT it provides personal care at the cheapest cost (free) to individuals who need personal care.
- A higher threshold in the Mixed Model (and protection of a larger amount of your savings) will be more expensive to the Government and taxpayer than a low threshold BUT a low threshold will protect less of your assets.
- The Current System is the least expensive to the Government and taxpayer but the most expensive for everyone needing care that does not qualify for Income Support.

It really is quite a CONUNDRUM!

Which is why we really need your help to find a fairer way to pay for care.

Let us know what you would choose at a face to face session or by completing the survey.

Thank you for being a part of THE CARE CONUNDRUM SHOW!