

Care crisis reform

Sir, The rising number of complaints about care dealt with by the local government ombudsman is more evidence of the care crisis (leader, Nov

10). Particularly worrying is the growth in complaints about home care, which reflects the experiences of older people and their families reported to the Good Care Guide. Without good home care, older people will end up in expensive and often inappropriate hospital or residential care.

Your leader is right in calling for political courage to tackle this crisis. More spending is urgently required and we need reforms to ensure health and care are properly integrated. Bold and brave leadership must extend to ensuring that older people's homes are fit for purpose and enable them to stay at home warm, safe and well. Small improvements to homes can make a big difference to older and disabled people's lives, as demonstrated by the charity Foundations Independent Living Trust.

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