Sarah Wollaston (Totnes Conservative) Click here to see Sarah Live

I understand the need for the timetable to allow for adequate consultation, but Andrew Dilnot's excellent report draws attention to several areas including a lack of transparency, a lack of information available to families making decisions about care homes and, in particular, a lack of portability, which results in many patients being trapped and unable to move closer to loved ones. Does the Secretary of State feel that he could expedite any of the report's recommendations to allow such proposals to receive more detailed consideration?

Andrew Lansley (Secretary of State, Health; South Cambridgeshire, Conservative)

I entirely understand my hon. Friend's point. In the course of the engagement during the latter part of this year, some of those issues will certainly come to the fore. My colleagues and I felt that it was better for us not to cherry-pick Andrew Dilnot's report now, but rather for us to give people an opportunity to comment on the recommendations in full. That will, however, take place over the space of weeks rather than many months.

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