

Response to Latest Developments By Eileen Chubb ©

Yesterday October 12th, 2021, three major reports were issued on the same day, this is our official response to all three reports.

The Reports in question are,

[APPG Coronavirus Oct 2021](#)

[Health Select Com Lessons learned report](#)

[Skills for Care sector vacancies October 2021](#)

Firstly, the Skills for Care report.

We were sorry that the number of Social Care Staff who died during Covid were not included in the report, nor any recognition of the sacrifice they made. We therefore start by remembering these staff and our thoughts are with their families and friends.

This report overall gives data for the number of job vacancies, compared with pre covid and various other data about the workforce.

Of course, we agree that care staff should be paid a living wage, but what is not included in the report is any information or data and how many whistleblowers were forced to leave, how many staff are completely demoralised and have left or intend to leave. Nor is there any data on the profit margins of some care providers and any link to the moral of the staff they employ.

Giving the care sector more and more funding will **not** fix the other fundamental issues. Hundreds of care staff were forced to leave their jobs as a result of raising concerns during the Covid crisis. Many leaving the Care Sector permanently.

For every single whistleblower there is a whole team of staff that witnessed the fate of that whistleblower, how they are effected falls into the following groups,
Those who would not speak out because they fear losing their job,
Those who are demoralized because of this culture,
Those who fear to see abuse because they will be placed in an untenable situation.
Finally, there are also a group of staff quite happy to turn a blind eye because they have been hardened, or simply do not care. This final group of staff will ultimately be the longest to survive in the care sector.

The Private companies that make up the sector seem to be of one mind that more Government funding will solve all their problems.

The care industry is not taking any responsibility for its treatment of whistleblowers, those providers who are making large profits, yet still failed to provide PPE or safe working conditions have to take some responsibility for the moral of their workforce.

Staff have told us that working in care is like walking a knife edge, you know you are going to see something wrong eventually, and you know as soon as you report it, that you are finished. This conflict and culture cannot be changed with Government money and if we continue as we are, there will only be the very worst of staff willing to work in care.

There is also the elephant in the room, privatisation. Has the privatisation of the care sector driven down costs and driven up standards as promised in the conservative mantra at the time? It has done the very opposite, driven **down standards** of care and **driven up** costs. The care sector needs to be a mixture of small, good quality providers and publicly owned homes.

The Government's policies during Covid amounted to targeting vulnerable groups as expendable, placing people who likely to die from Covid directly in harms way and this has also had consequences. The words of one care worker sum this up so well,

“Our residents lives were treated as worthless, not worth a hospital bed, care, or even oxygen to make their deaths less painful, I thought we were doing a job that mattered, but they did not matter and neither do we”

The massive profits made, and which continue to be made by a profit driven culture.

A Government who targeted the most vulnerable people in our society as group that needed shifting somewhere, no matter what the cost in lives and suffering.

A Government who even now, have not learnt a single lesson, who continue protect themselves, before protecting those who are the most defenceless.

Data is important but alongside direct experience and the courage to tackle the root causes of what is wrong.

Report Two Health Select Committee

This report consists of 147 pages,
But only one section deals with social care, in total 13 pages.

The report glosses over what it considers to be the important issues, example,

There were significantly higher admissions to hospital in the year preceding covid,

There were less admissions because care staff all over the UK were told not to call an ambulance for sick residents, yet there is no official policy on this, we made an FOI request for this information, but the Government declined to respond, let alone explain why they would/could not provide this information. This was one of many such requests ignored.

The report refers to care home buildings being not fit for the purpose and that's why residents could not be isolated.

Its got very little to do with buildings but everything to do with a fact not mentioned at all, that an estimated 70% care home residents have some form dementia.

I could tear this report apart line by line, but as our third report contains all our 28, Real time, Covid reports, which include both data and eye witness testimony, our evidence does this most efficiently, so I won't waste time on what amounts to a whitewash.

To sum up this report, I can only conclude that this was released as an exercise in shifting responsibility by playing down the key facts, glossing over the most damning issues and completely ignoring any inconvenient evidence or issues they could not justify. Compare the contents of our 28 Covid special reports and find a single issue in those reports addressed in this lessons learned report.

What sums this report up is **not** what it contains but what it has **omitted**, not a single word on whistleblowing or any of the themes this charity was identifying, in real time.

As for what this report recommends for future pandemics, it's a sorry excuse for a lack of common sense.

Report three, Response to the APPG on Coronavirus

To The APPG on Coronavirus
Submissions from Compassion in Care

Our response to your public Inquiry report of October 2021

Firstly, we are very impressed that an APPG could be funded by public donations, as our experience of APPGs has been one of vested interests funding APPG secretariates to drive the agenda and skew the evidence. ***This public input should be something other APPGs should consider. This would ensure that APPGs answered to the public.**

The charity Compassion in Care extended its helpline during Covid and did not close but quickly adapted to the unprecedented demand on our helpline, which had a 60% increase in calls from Whistleblowers.

We published regular helpline data and were quickly identifying themes, which were all brought to the governments attention, we are still awaiting a response from the government. The published reports are listed below for ease of reference. Please note* we did not adopt a numbering system at first and the below are numbered in order of publication.

[Covid Special Report ONE](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Two](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Three](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Four](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Five](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Six](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Seven](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Eight](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Nine](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Ten](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Eleven](#)

[Covid Crisis twelve](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Thirteen](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Fourteen](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report fifteen](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Sixteen](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Seventeen](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Eighteen](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Nineteen](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Twenty](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Twenty One](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Twenty Two](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Twenty Three](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Twenty Four](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Twenty Five](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Twenty Six](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report twenty Seven](#)

[Covid Crisis Special Report Twenty Eight](#)

This is an ongoing series of reports. Please note that we are a small charity with no paid staff and run on 15k per annum, during covid we were manning the helpline from 9am to 10pm at night in order to support staff coming off late shifts. Our helpline is always busy in normal times, during Covid we experienced the most gruelling, testing, heart-breaking calls for support ever and this charity is proud to say, that every single caller was given support and in many cases are still being provided with ongoing support.

Covid was the biggest challenge this charity ever experienced. We adapted to the situation within hours thanks to the close daily working relationship of the trustees. We decided to publish the data and the emerging themes in the hope that the government would take note and learn what front line staff were experiencing and act on this information, but this did not happen. We exclusively revealed the themes emerging from our helpline and continue to do so, our latest work exposing designated care homes,

which are rated as unsafe but being used for covid positive patients being discharged from hospital.

We urge any future inquiry to look closely at the published evidence on our website and compare this with similar organisations who were publishing special helpline reports in **real time** during the crisis especially whistleblowing and elderly abuse organisations. There were many real failures in providing helpline support and highlighting evidence from eye witnesses and its important these issues are included in any inquiry. Our questions would include why was our evidence ignored by government? Why did the governments care home policy on discharging covid positive patients continue? Why have our warnings on the lack of whistleblowing protection not been heeded? The first warning being issued after the first UK PIDA case.

See the below for more detail

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/DISMANTLING-FACADE-Eileen-Chubb/dp/1783825960>

https://www.amazon.co.uk/THERE-NO-ME-WHISTLEBLOWER-TWO/dp/1783825154/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=there+is+no+me+in+whistleblower&qid=1634048157&s=books&sr=1-1

We welcome a public inquiry with a remit set by the public, we welcome the comments of Jodie Blackstock in particular as she seems to be more aware that an inquiry instigated by government into government, is the equivalent of care home investigating itself in an abuse inquiry. We are happy to have our evidence referred to and urge caution with those giving retrospective evidence, who published nothing at the time.

Eileen Chubb