

Have your say on the future of the Scottish care service

Scottish Labour MSP Sarah Boyack calls on members of the public to share their thoughts on the future of Scotland's care service by taking part in an online consultation launched by Scottish Labour.

The survey seeks to engage members of the public, especially those with direct experience of the care system.

It will allow them to help shape Scottish Labour's developing plans to improve care for people at home or in care homes, and for those who care for them, as part of their national campaign: It's Time to Care About Care. Scottish Labour is also engaging with the workforce, trade unions and various experts as part of the campaign.

Care homes have been at the epicentre of the pandemic in Scotland, with 79% of adults care homes in Midlothian having suspected cases of Covid-19 since the beginning of the outbreak up until last week, with East Lothian on 68% and West Lothian at 48%. This week, The Scottish Government did not publish the expected update.

Scottish Labour has a longstanding policy commitment on developing a National Care Service to address fragmentation, and put dignity and respect for those receiving care, their families and care workers, at the heart of the social care system.

Boyack said, "People right across Scotland value social care,

but they know the current system is broken.

“Scotland’s fragmented care system needs radical reform and it is vital that the people of Lothians have their say on the future of care in Scotland.

“For too long people have been stuck in hospital because social care wasn’t available, care home residents have been let down, families haven’t been properly supported and staff have not received the pay and conditions they deserve.

“It is appalling that 79% of care homes in Midlothian have had suspected cases of Covid-19 since the beginning of the outbreak.

“This pandemic has only made the need for reform more urgent. Scottish Labour’s plans for a National Care Service are needed now more than ever.

“Throughout the summer we will be working closely with those receiving care, their families and workers, trade unions, experts and the wider public to develop a blueprint for the National Care Service. It is vital that the people have their say.

“Together, we can turn the page and deliver the care service that Lothian people deserve.”

You will find the survey [here](#).