



AFFIX  
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Mary Harney TD  
Minister for Health & Children  
Hawkins House, Dublin 2

## MINISTER, DON'T MAKE A BAD SITUATION WORSE!

*As a nation we spend so little on long term care for older people – just 0.6% of GDP compared to 1.9% in the UK. Our older people deserve better.*

### **We demand:**

- *Increased investment in long term care and immediate enactment of the long awaited 'fair deal' for older people.*
- *A licence fee structure that is fair and proportionate, ie not greater than a third of that in Northern Ireland (£46 per bed per year) to reflect the lower investment in long term care in this State.*
- *That the Minister must insist from the HSE on transparency, accountability, value for money and patient choice in the allocation of funds made available for long term care.*
- *That the HSE honour and fulfill its contractual obligations with nursing homes and the older people in their care.*

*Life is more difficult for older people – it's in your hands to make a bad situation worse or make it better.*

*Yours sincerely,*



**NHI – Working With and For Older People**