

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 December 2009 10:15
To: Older Peoples Legislation Team; Linda Campbell
Subject: FW: Commissioner for the elderly.

I am emailing some thoughts on the above post and the discussions I was involved in at Grosvenor House on 23rd November. [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Commissioner for the elderly.
Date: Thu, 3 Dec 2009 09:57:06 +0000

During the general discussion I felt that the arguments were very much slanted towards those elderly who are receiving benefits, and this is a subject I feel very strongly about. While I am very sympathetic towards the elderly in general, I feel that the elderly with modest saving, and therefore self funding, are totally forgotten about. The one time that a question was raised about private care and funding, we were told that this was a separate issue for another discussion. BUT WHY - this is a large group of vulnerable people who have no platform to fight from. I did speak to Dame Joan Harbinson, the current Advocate for the Elderly, after the formal debate was over and she agreed that it was an area that had to be addressed, and had been raised at some of the other public meetings. However, I came away feeling that once again those on benefits have everyone fighting their corner, and those who worked and saved all their lives can just go on paying. Sorry to be so negative, but after 10 years of dealing with the system I feel very frustrated and can't see how, under the present system, a commissioner is going to help the self-funding pensioners. I would appreciate your comments on this issue.
[REDACTED] Downpatrick Soroptimist International.

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