

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

13 May 2020

Dear Prime Minister

In the House of Commons earlier today, I said:

*“Until 12 March, the Government’s own official advice was - and I’m quoting from it:
‘It remains very unlikely that people receiving care in a care home will become infected.’*

In your response you said:

“No, Mr Speaker, it wasn't true that the advice said that and actually we brought the lockdown in care homes ahead of the general lockdown.”

The advice I was referring to was published on 25 February 2020. It states:

“... It is therefore very unlikely that anyone receiving care in a care home or the community will become infected.”ⁱ

At this time of national crisis, it is more important than ever that Government ministers are accurate in the information they give. Given this, I expect you to come to the House of Commons at the earliest opportunity to correct the record and to recognise that this was official Government guidance regarding care homes.

I am copying this letter to the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Keir Starmer'.

Keir Starmer
Leader of the Labour Party

Copied to the Speaker of the House of Commons

ⁱ Public Health England, [Guidance: Guidance for social or community care and residential settings on COVID-19](#), 25 February 2020