PE1841/II

Linda Watson submission of 13 March 2021

The last year has been absolutely horrendous for care home residents and their families.

Never ever again should care home residents feel abandoned with no contact with family and friends. In my opinion their human rights have been taken away for one year. It's absolutely not right that they should have been effectively locked up away from everything they know and love.

What must have been going through my loved one's mind during this last year is so painful. I have had some very dark days and had suicidal thoughts. If my loved one had passed away before I got to spend quality time with them then I could not have lived with the pain of them thinking I had just left them, and I would have followed them from this earth.

We and future generations need to have Anne's Law in place, so that this barbaric situation never happens again. Why should care home residents, most with dementia be left locked up and isolated again. They should have human rights the same as every other person and, I believe, be allowed to have one essential family caregiver with them at all times during covid pandemic or any other outbreak of anything else.

The damage done to those that have survived is abysmal and tragically those who never survived, died without any family member with them at the end of their lives.

Please, please pass Anne's Law because we are on tender hooks worrying that at any time our visits could be stopped because it is not law.