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To Whom it May Concern,

It has been brought to my attention that you are seeking input and views in relation to the above referenced programme.

The plan seems inclusive on many levels, but we felt it important to highlight that there is no specific mention or plan in relation to managing the complex issue of hoarding behaviour.

Unlike other issues, hoarding cuts across all areas of statutory services. While it is now a recognised mental health disorder, there are few pathways in the UK for therapeutic treatment. In many cases it is recognised as causing a substantial risk to self and others. The Fire Brigade, Police, Emergency Services all, at times, engaging with this problem. Legal issues such as forced removals and threats to tenancy are still a daily occurrence. Environmental health are often powerless to provide appropriate support, instead having to engage in heavy handed intrusive acts. Housing struggling to ensure both the wellbeing of the person and those around them.

Despite the recognition as 'self-neglect, including hoarding' in the Care Act (2014), there are still no clear support programmes in place across London. In one local authority, three people had three completely different interventions. This in itself is discriminatory.

As you are undertaking this review, I felt it important to point out the omission of a clear, person-centred, pathway for people with hoarding behaviour and the professionals who serve them and would ask that you look at this prior to publication.

Please contact me with any questions.

***Join us at the National Hoarding Conference 14<sup>th</sup> May, Emirates Stadium – Islington, London***  
***<http://hoardinguk.org/conference/>***

***#hoardingconf***

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HoardingUK Ltd. Is a registered charity number 1172719*

Regards,  
Megan Karnes  
Founder/Director

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**HoardingUK Training for organisations: [www.hoardinguk.org/hoarding-training](http://www.hoardinguk.org/hoarding-training)**  
**HoardingUK Training for individuals 20<sup>th</sup> February & 10<sup>th</sup> May @ Central Training**  
**(London): <http://www.centralcare.net/training/open-course-schedule.aspx#>**

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