

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Adult Social Work expert says BBC documentary identifies ‘key issue’ for the Care Quality Commission

Adult Social Worker and Senior Lecturer Edd Carter says last night’s Panorama programme about a residential hospital in Bristol has left many serious questions unanswered.

The programme, ‘The Abuse exposed’, revealed serious patient abuse at the hands of carers at the hospital.

Edd, a Senior Lecturer in Social Work at London Met, has worked with adults with learning difficulties and mental health issues in residential facilities for nearly 10 years.

“The Panorama programme showed us sensational footage from the care home, which is very shocking and troubling. The area which really is key to understanding these extreme levels of abuse was, however, only briefly identified.”

He says while the programme has helped to expose the “shocking” abuse experienced by some of the most vulnerable people in our society, the real issue is the failure of the Care Quality Commission to act on allegations from a senior nurse at the Winterbourne View hospital.

“Why didn’t the Care Quality Commission act on the reports of abuse sooner? If the Commission didn’t respond to these reports, then how many other reports of abuse are going un-heard?”

“Why were key safeguarding strategies allowed to fail and what can be done to ensure this shocking abuse does not occur and recur at residential facilities across the country?”

Edd is available for comment today.

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Notes to editors:

BBC Panorama programme: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006t14n>
Online story: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-13548222>

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