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**CPA supports 'Empowering Engagement : a stronger voice for older people' . The Government response to John Elbourne's review<sup>1</sup>**

The Centre for Policy on Ageing welcomes the Government's proposals to give older people a stronger, recognised voice nationally, regionally and locally. Through creating a UK Advisory Forum on Ageing and enhancing regional engagement the Centre hopes that the concerns and aspirations of older people will be brought into the mainstream. The increased participation of older people will help local authorities to develop policies at a local level that include all areas impacting on quality of life and wellbeing such as transport, housing, education and opportunities to participate in community life, as well as health and social care. CPA hopes that the necessary funding and impetus from Government will remain strong and consistent to realise its ambitions and those of older people now and in the future.

Gillian Crosby, the Centre's Director said 'Local authorities must work in partnership with older people to achieve imaginative ways of fulfilling the needs of an ageing society. Without effective engagement at all levels of government it will be impossible to bring about the system-wide transformation advocated in 'Putting People First'. <sup>2</sup>

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## Notes

1. 'Empowering Engagement: a stronger voice for older people. The Government response to John Elbourne's review', published on 3 February 2009 by the Department for Work and Pensions. The report can be downloaded from the DWP website [http://www.dwp.gov.uk/resourcecentre/ind\\_review\\_older\\_peoples\\_eng\\_with\\_govt.a](http://www.dwp.gov.uk/resourcecentre/ind_review_older_peoples_eng_with_govt.a) [sp](#) and it is also available via the CPA Policies on Ageing website [http://www.cpa.org.uk/cpa/policies\\_on\\_ageing](http://www.cpa.org.uk/cpa/policies_on_ageing)
2. 'Putting People First: a shared vision and commitment to the transformation of adult social care', published December 2007. Described as a ministerial concordat, 'Putting People First' sets out the shared aims and values which will guide the transformation of adult social care, and recognises that the sector will work across shared agendas with users and carers to transform people's experience of local support and services. It establishes the collaboration between central and local government, the sector's professional leadership, providers and the regulator to put people first through a reform of public services, enabling people to live their own lives as they wish and promote their own individual needs for independence, wellbeing and dignity. The document can be downloaded from the CPA Policies on Ageing website [http://www.cpa.org.uk/cpa/policies\\_on\\_ageing](http://www.cpa.org.uk/cpa/policies_on_ageing)