I've read the Bill.

On the first question I would answer no. I oppose it in principle and in its entirety.

Social care should be of good quality and provided by democratically elected Local Government. I know it’s old fashioned.

From my point of view as a service user I hate empowerment, collaboration or any of the other current buzzwords being rammed down my throat.

Placing no restrictions on who care provide the care is reckless in the extreme.

It will inevitably lead to even more exploitation of those providing the care. But nice fat profits for the "care" agencies which employ them. Before my illness I worked as a live in carer so have some experience of the tyranny workers suffer. Local authorities can at least set some standards of pay and conditions as well as health and safety. Being an employer is a serious business.

For adults no longer able to make their own decisions there is a clear risk that the person managing the budget may simply help themselves to the funds.

So it put dosh into the hands of shareholders, exposes the user to pilfering from their family and to unsuitable carers and puts the carers at all sorts of risks as well as slashing their pay and conditions.

Still we're all customers now and the customer is always right.

Robert Johnston (individual)
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