

Three quarters of National Care Association members consider leaving the industry

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A survey of National Care Association members has found that 94% of them are concerned about the viability of their business in the current climate.

Almost three quarters (72%) of members said they would like to leave the care home industry altogether.

In the wake of last week's budget, members were asked for their views on how their businesses are performing.

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The association argues that the social care industry is starting from a point of shortfalls in the current level of fees of about 7% to 8% coming through from the previous five years, with a further £1.4 billion gap in funding from April this financial year, rising to £1.6 billion next year.

Fees are now rising, according to NCA members, but nothing like enough. Increases being offered to providers range from 1% to 2.5% on average.

Nadra Ahmed OBE chairman of National Care Association (pictured above) said: "We are deeply disappointed that, despite consistent warning from health professionals, local authorities and the provider sector the politicians have chosen to ignore the call to seek some resolution to the funding gaps in social care provision. It is not good enough to promise money through Better Care Funding in the future when the crisis is happening now. For many providers this will be too late, if indeed it comes through at all to social care providers.

"The stark figures from a recent survey by National Care Association of our members indicates that the destabilisation in the market is only a heartbeat away."

