

Chairman's Introduction

An injection of hope, something the vaccination rollout has given us all after a turbulent and downcast year and a half. Last year's report was produced amidst the worrying uncertainty, care homes in particular were struggling and no one knew what the future would hold or how long the pandemic would go on for.

But this year, despite the delay of 'Freedom Day', we have hope and with that hope we are looking forward. We are looking forward to that first journey on an aeroplane, we are looking forward to gathering with friends and families without needing to headcount, we are looking forward to finally walking down the aisle after several cancellations. Indeed, there is much to look forward to and what we are hoping for in the coming weeks, months, or years will differ for us all.

So with this year's annual report, we wanted to look forward because we could all do with some positivity. We invited our staff and residents to share their hopes with us, some small, some big but all personal and important to them. From travel and family reunions to seeing maskless faces, some are things we all hope to see in our near future.

And what is Rapport Housing & Care hoping for in the future? I joined the board of trustees two years ago and was appointed Chair in March, with my new role I have many hopes for the organisation, as we anticipate and plan for a return to normal life.

It is our hope that the organisation will lead the way in older people's housing, continuing to provide exceptional care and support to older people from all walks of life. To keep building new homes that are of an incredibly high standard and available to all. We hope to see adequately funded care, and respect and appreciation for care workers, a change in the perception that it is unskilled work and not a career.

I hope you enjoy reading this year's annual report and that it encourages you to think about what you are hoping for as we edge closer to freedom with an injection of hope.