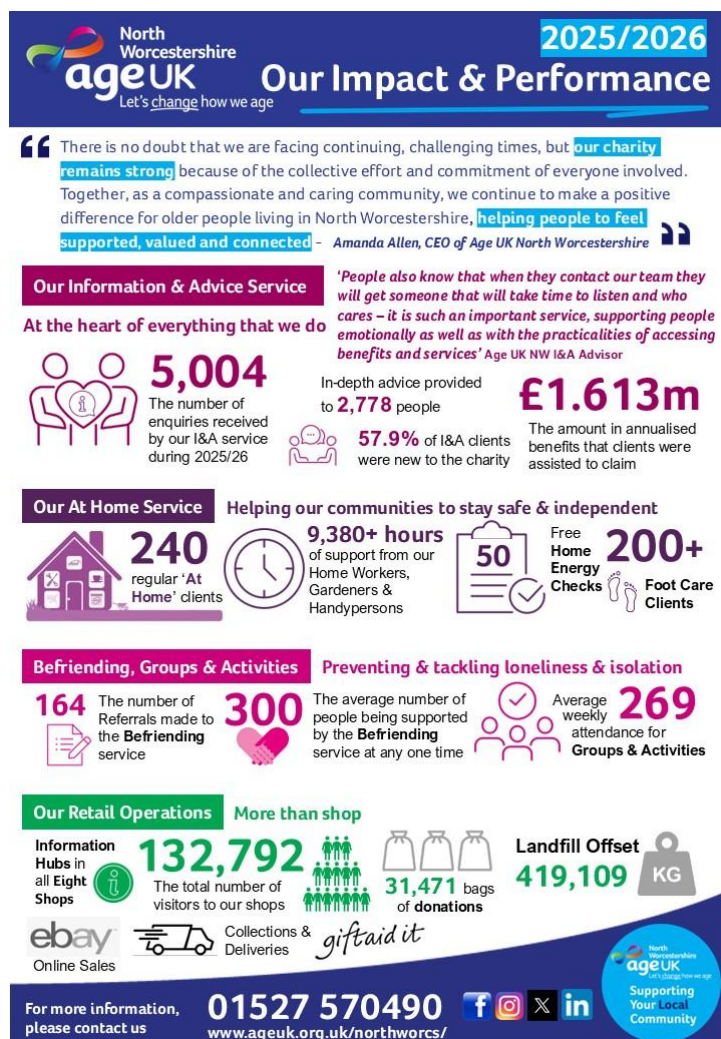


What's Happening – In Brief

A Note from Amanda Allen (CEO of Age UK North Worcs) – October 2026

- It has been a busy few weeks of speeches and reports. As part of his recent speech at the Labour Party Conference the Prime Minister, Andy Burnham, spoke about the need to reform Social Care and his vision for a National Care Service. Speaking on behalf of Age UK, Charity Director Caroline Abrahams CBE praised the Prime Minister's commitment to reform as long-overdue and transformative, whilst also pledging the charity's continued support for the work being undertaken by Baroness Casey's Independent Commission on Adult Social Care.. This month has also seen the publication of the Covid-19 Inquiry Social Care module. Speaking again for the charity, Caroline Abrahams described the report as 'quietly devastating', exposing failures in pandemic planning that left care users, staff and unpaid carers vulnerable, calling for urgent implementation of recommendations and again for fundamental social care reform. You can read Caroline Abraham's full responses via [this link](#) to the Media section of the Age UK website
- Thursday 8th October 2026 was an opportunity for us to reflect on our local work but to also look forward as we held our **Annual General Meeting**. On behalf of the Board and myself, thank you to all those that were able to attend. An extract from our [2025/26 Impact & Performance](#) is shown here
- As a charity we continue our commitment to supporting older people to live well, remain connected, maintain their independence, and access the practical advice and services they need to lead fulfilling lives. The AGM was an opportunity to share details of our Strategy for 2027-30, which will be built around four priorities for older people
 - Enabling Connection**
 - Sustaining Health and Wellbeing.**
 - Supporting Financial Security**
 - Ensuring Digital Inclusion, while also harnessing digital innovation**
- These priorities will be supported by two organisational foundations: **Financial and Operational Sustainability** and **People and Culture**
- More details will be shared in the coming months but if anybody would like more information, would like to be involved in shaping our plans and/ or has any questions at all then please do not hesitate to contact me or to speak with your line manager



Information & Advice - Outreach

- As part developing access to support, our Information & Advice team has recently announced two new Drop-In Services
 - Maple View Medical Practice, Redditch** (next sessions 10/11 & 15/12, 9:30am–12:30pm)
 - The Old Library Centre, Droitwich** (the last Friday of the month, 10am–12pm)
- The outreach service provides an opportunity to speak with one of our advisors on a range of topics, including advice on benefits, social care, staying safe & independent at home, as well as support for carers. No appointment necessary

Winyates – In the News!!!

- Follow [this link](#) to the Redditch Standard to find out how Victoria and the team at our **Winyates Charity Shop** (Redditch) have been involved in supporting the installation of the defibrillator at the Winyates Centre

#TwiddleBoardDay also makes the news!

- As well as being featured in the Completely Bromsgrove magazine **Bromsgrove Men In Sheds** recent



community partnership with Ormerod Rutter and Bluebird Care to make Twiddle Boards (which are activity boards fitted with familiar and tactile items) to support local people living with dementia was also featured by the Age UK national team in their weekly Signpost update and Amanda has been asked to speak about the initiative at the Age UK Conference next month! The Twiddle Boards have been given to Bluebird Care customers as well as to VIP Dementia Day Care and Burcot Grange & Lodge

The Big Knit is Back!!!!

- This month has seen the official launch [of Age UK and innocent's latest Big Knit campaign](#). Our target is **6,000** hats which will raise **£1800** to support our local work so we need everyone to get knitting!



At Home Opportunities

North Worcestershire **ageUK** Let's change how we age

Little things – big difference

Our At Home Team is recruiting **Home Workers**

Opportunities: Bromsgrove & Redditch
Part-time, Flexible Hours

We are recruiting reliable and trustworthy **Home Workers** to provide practical help with everyday household tasks so older people can remain safe, independent and supported at home.

If you're compassionate, dependable and enjoy helping others, we'd love to hear from you. Scan the QR Code, visit our website or give us a call to find out how **you can**



#JoinOurTeam

01527 570490

www.ageuk.org.uk/northwors/about-us/work-for-us/



A message from Learning! Please take some time to log in to your e-learning account and check that your mandatory training is up to date. Keeping your training up to date helps ensure you feel confident and supported in your role, while enabling us to work safely and provide the best possible service to those we support. Access your e-learning here:

- <https://flourish.co.uk/click-learning/>
- <https://ageuklearning.org.uk/login/index.php>

Thank you for taking the time to keep your learning records up to date.

Winter Wellbeing

A Winter of Wellbeing at Age UK North Worcestershire

This winter, we're putting a little extra focus on wellbeing, connection and taking time for ourselves.

From November through to January, staff and volunteers will be invited to take part in a range of activities including Coffee & Cake get-togethers, Move More sessions, Information & Advice open-office drop-ins, Winter Wellbeing Walks and creative sessions with Men in Sheds.

We'll also be getting everyone together for our **Winter Gathering on Saturday 12 December, 3–6pm** — a relaxed afternoon of food, conversation and a chance to catch up with colleagues and volunteers from across the charity.

Sessions will be held on different days and at different times wherever possible, so hopefully there will be something that works for everyone.

Keep an eye out for the full Winter Wellbeing programme and booking details coming soon — we'd love to see you there!

CONFIRMED DATES FOR THE DIARY
November 2026 –

Monday 9th Nov – MORNING – Coffee with Kate – Amplett Hall
Thursday 19th – EVENING – MOVE MORE FREE SESSION – Amplett Hall
Tuesday 24th – AFTERNOON – Coffee & Free Home Energy Checks – Redditch
December 2026

Winter Gathering on Saturday 12 December, 3–6pm