

Our ageing population brings both challenges and opportunities.

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Policy and Research Update - April 2018

Talking to older people about their experiences and views is a really important part of Age UK's work. This month, we have two major reports based on what older people have told us – one on social care, to feed in to the Green Paper promised for the summer, and the other, funded by the Money Advice Service, on what financial resilience looks like for people in retirement. Our thanks go to the many older people who took part.

Warm wishes,

Jane Vass, Director of Policy and Research

News

Disabled and older people in England will continue to benefit from free off-peak bus travel for the foreseeable future. Age UK welcomes this announcement, as the bus pass is an important lifeline for many older people.

[Read the full story here >](#)

Featured Publication

Age UK's new publication 'Why call it care when nobody cares?', summarises a series of listening events the Charity has held with older people receiving care and their family carers. These events were attended by the Prime Minister, The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, and of Housing, Communities, and Local Government.

[Read the report here >](#)

- Over 1.2 million people aged 65+ don't receive all the care and support they need with *essential* daily living activities - this rises to over 1.5 million when you take into account *instrumental* activities of daily living such as managing medication
- There are now over 2 million carers aged 65+, of these more than 400,000 are aged over 80. Amongst the oldest carers (80+) 37% are providing 20 hours or more of care a week, and 34% are providing 35 hours or more
- 1 in 5 social care providers were rated as inadequate or requiring improvement by the Care Quality Commission in 2017
- Tightened eligibility criteria have led to an estimated 25% reduction – more than 400,000 – in the number of older people accessing publicly funded care since 2009/10

[Publications](#)

[Consultation responses](#)

Age UK recently published its report **Financial Resilience during retirement: Who is well placed to cope with life events?**

[Read the report >](#)

We responded to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government on strengthening consumer redress in the housing market.

[Read our response >](#)

We responded to the Department of Health and Skills for Care consultation that will feed into a joint health and social care workforce strategy.

[Read our response >](#)

We submitted to the United Nations Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing, focusing on Long term and palliative care, and Independence and Autonomy.

[Read the response >](#)

Blog

Read this blog on the [recent Office for National Statistics report on Loneliness](#) by our Senior Research Manager, Dr. Elizabeth (Libby) Webb.

More from Age UK

Age UK information guides and factsheets

We recently updated our factsheets on paying for care, Carer's Allowances, advanced decisions, and Personal Independence Payments. You can see these updates, along with all our information guides and factsheets, [here](#).

Research Digest

Our [Research Digest page](#) contains interesting news and developments in the field of ageing research, including an invitation for abstracts for the British Geriatric Society's inaugural meeting on Loneliness in Older people.

Upcoming Events

For Later Life Conference 2018: Don't miss out on our parallel sessions

At the For Later Life Conference we will be hosting a variety of parallel sessions.

Don't miss our session, 'Building Financial Resilience'

As retirement lasts longer and decisions become more complex, what do we want people to actually do to be well prepared for life events in retirement and how can we help more people to make the most of whatever resources they have?

[Be part of the discussion >](#)

Please note that the conference is now taking place on the 5 September 2018.

For more information visit: www.ageuk.org.uk/forlaterlife

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