

Our ageing population brings both challenges and opportunities.

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Policy and Research Update - February 2018

Being diagnosed with dementia is often seen as the start of an unremitting downwards path, but our recent report highlights that there is much that can be done to live well with the condition. The report is full of examples of interesting approaches which are already in place in some parts of this country, but the challenge is to ensure that this good practice is actually put into practice, and to reduce the current postcode lottery of provision.

Warm wishes,

Jane Vass, Director of Policy and Research

News

New figures from Age UK show that 1 in three people living with dementia don't have regularly reviewed care plans. Age UK analysed data from 7,185 GP practices in England and found that, in total, 458,461 people had a recorded diagnosis of dementia in November 2017, but only 282,573 had an up-to-date care plan.

[Read the full story here >](#)

Featured Publication

Promising Approaches to Living Well with Dementia outlines what 'living well' with dementia looks like, and services and support that can help older people achieve this.

[Read the report here >](#)

Dementia-friendly communities

Empowering people with dementia to have high aspirations, confidence and know they can contribute.



Shaping communities around the views of people with dementia and their carers.



Empowering people with dementia and recognising their contribution.



Ensuring early diagnosis, personalised and integrated care is the norm.



Businesses and services that respond to customers with dementia.



Maintaining independence by delivering community-based solutions.



Ensuring that activities include people with dementia.



Appropriate transport.



Easy to navigate physical environments.



Challenging stigma and building awareness.



Befrienders helping people with dementia engage in community life.

Publications

As part of LGBT History month, Age UK and Care Connect (a hub at the University of Sheffield), have written an article exploring the learnings from a project combatting loneliness amongst older LGBT people.

[Read the article >](#)

Consultation responses

We responded to Citizens Advice 2018/19 consumer work plan for energy and postal services.

[Read the response >](#)

We responded to Ofgem, the energy regulator, supporting plans to extend an energy price cap to 2 million more vulnerable people by winter 2018-19.

[Read the response >](#)

Read our response to the Financial Conduct Authority's Future Mission on their future approach to consumers.

[Read the Response >](#)

We responded to the Money Advice Service 2018/19 Business Plan.

[Read the response >](#)

Blog

[Read this blog](#) by External Affairs Manager Hannah Pearce on women's equality and the many upcoming anniversaries that celebrate the suffrage movement.

More from Age UK

Age UK information guides and factsheets

We frequently update our factsheets and information guides on a wide variety of issues affecting older people. You can find the most recently updated factsheets on homelessness, home adaptations and social care, and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards, along with all of our other resources, [here](#).

Age UK Research

The Big Care Survey

The Big Care Survey, launched by The Care and Support Alliance is open until March 9th. We want to hear about the experiences of people with adult social care in England, so if you need social care or are a carer who cares for someone who needs social care, [click here to participate in the survey](#).

Upcoming Events

For Later Life Conference 2018 - 5 September 2018

Early Bird offer ends on 2 March: [book now to save up to £50 >](#)

Don't miss out!

Watch sector experts react and debate on the future state of social health and care in light of the government's green paper due to be published in summer 2018.

Why attend?

The For Later Life Conference is a must attend event for those with an interest in social care, older people services, health and related fields to meet and debate the key issues affecting older people. It is widely regarded as one of the most important events in the calendar for those with responsibility for, or an interest in, the provision of effective services for older people.

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

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