



## Policy & Research Update

### November 2019

*This month we highlight our Election Manifesto, which draws on new research showing levels of need among older people.*

## News

[The number of older people with some unmet need for care now stands at 1.5 million, one in seven of the entire older population](#)

Age UK has published new [research](#) showing that the number of older people in England with some level of unmet need now stands at 1.5 million. This means one in seven (15%) of the entire 65+ population are struggling without the help they depend on to carry out essential everyday tasks such as getting out of bed, going to the toilet, washing and getting dressed. 1.5 million is already an astonishingly high figure but the Charity warns that the situation could get even worse: it estimates that by 2030 there could be 2.1 million older people who don't get the care and support they need, if the current approach to funding and providing care remains as it is today.

[Read the full release here.](#)

## Feature



Age UK has launched its manifesto for the [General Election](#), which sets out its top recommendations for the new Government across the areas of social care, health, inclusion, money, housing and loneliness. Our top ask for the next Government is to secure the immediate future of care through investing at least £8 billion over the next two years.

Read the full [manifesto here](#).

## Policy & Research

### Publications

Age UK is calling on the Government and essential service providers – energy, insurance, health and social care – to improve their protection of and support for older people most at risk from floods, storms or power cuts. [Read the full article here.](#)

Age UK have joined up with the Royal College of Nursing to produce some tips for nurses on how they can support older people’s mental health. [Read the top tips here.](#)

New [blog](#) explains how evidence from Age UK’s Dementia-Friendly Programme shows the views held by staff and volunteers can influence the types of services made available to people living with dementia.

### Consultation Responses

Age UK has responded to the [UN’s Call for Submissions for the eleventh session](#) of the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing. The call focuses on areas of Right to Work and Access to the Labour Market and Access to Justice.

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) have consulted on proposals to help with [signposting to travel insurance for consumers with medical conditions](#) to aid consumers

with pre-existing medical conditions who can struggle to access affordable travel insurance.

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has held a surveillance review on guideline for 'Care of dying adults in the last days of life'. Age UK welcomes the review which includes looking at the [Provision of support for Carers](#) guidelines.

## Discover



Postcards of Kindness is an initiative that asks people to write and send postcards to residents of care homes. And while it's a small gesture, the resulting deliveries bring a great deal of joy and spark lively conversations among the older people who receive them.

View more stories of [Postcards of Kindness](#) here.

You can see all of our **Discover** articles [here](#).

## More from Age UK

### Age UK information guides and factsheets

The following factsheets have been updated:

- FS2 Buying retirement housing
- FS24 Personal budgets and direct payments in social care
- FS41 How to get care and support
- FS64 Specialist housing for older people
- FS22 Arranging for someone to make decisions on your behalf
- FS25 Returning from abroad
- FS66 Resolving problems and making a complaint about NHS care
- FS78 Safeguarding older people from abuse and neglect

[All factsheets can be found on our website](#)

[Large Print versions of all factsheets are also available to download](#)

Our previous Policy and Research Updates are available [here](#) to download.