

Care is in crisis

We need free personal care now

As we grow older many of us rely on care but after decades of neglect our care system is in crisis. More than a million older people are being left without the day to day support that they need. It is time to put an end to this injustice.

Free personal care would:

- ✓ Make care free at the point of use like the NHS, giving certainty & security when you need it most
- ✓ Ensure everyone gets the care they need
- ✓ Reduce the risk of people having to sell their family home to pay for care
- ✓ Massively reduce the number of older people stuck in hospital and save the NHS money
- ✓ Give struggling families the chance to spend more quality time with their loved ones
- ✓ Help build a fairer society that cares for everyone



advice and support for older age

**Independent
Age**

What is free personal care?

With free personal care everyone over 65 would get the care they need provided free at the point of use. Unlike the current system there would be no means testing so you wouldn't be at risk of having to sell your family home just to cover the costs of your basic needs in older age.

Why free personal care?

- Free personal care would **put an end to the injustice of people with dementia being treated differently** to those with other long term health conditions such as cancer
- Giving older people the help they need with simple activities like getting dressed and getting washed isn't about privilege or luxury. Free personal care would deliver **basic fairness, helping people to lead life on their own terms**
- Free personal care would **help people live at home for longer**
- Free personal care would also reduce the number of older people **being stuck in hospital waiting for care**
- Free personal care **has already been proven to work** in Scotland where it was introduced nearly 2 decades ago

How you can help make free personal care a reality

The vast majority of adults in the UK support free personal care but Westminster politicians are ignoring us, and failing to act.

In this year's council elections we are calling on candidates to support free personal care and, if they become councillors to pass a motion calling on the government to introduce free personal care.

You can help make free personal care a reality by contacting your local candidates online at **campaigns.independentage.org/free-personal-care-letter** or by calling **0800 319 6789** to request a printed letter to sign and return to us at:

Independent Age
Mr C Hinchliff
18 Avonmore Rd,
London, W14 8RR

To find out more about our campaign visit: **www.independentage.org/free-personal-care**

You can follow us on social media at:

facebook.com/independentage and **twitter.com/IndependentAge**

If you want to talk to someone about getting involved in our campaign you can call Chris on: **020 7050 6505**

And if you want to order more of our campaign materials you can call: **0800 319 6789**

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