

Let's get personal

Independent Age's campaign calling for free personal care

Meet Gillian

“ I cared for my husband at home. As his condition deteriorated I had to get him up, dressed, washed, and prepare his meals. Eventually John moved into a care home as I couldn't cope anymore and I was only getting about two hours sleep a night.

We've spent around £30,000 on care home fees in the last six months. You save all of your working life and you do without things because you don't want to be a burden on the state, but then this happens and you're reduced to nothing.

If personal care had been free it would have allowed us to spend quality time at home, rather than me worrying about caring for him all the time. It would also have reduced the amount we have spent on his care home. ”

Contact us

Independent Age wants to make the UK a better place to grow older for everyone. We understand the issues faced in later life, we campaign for change, and we provide support people can rely on.

Visit our website to find out more about our free personal care campaign:

www.independentage.org/free-personal-care



To keep up to date with all of our campaigns, join our network:

www.independentage.org/campaign-signup

Independent Age is calling on the Government to introduce free personal care for older people



What is personal care?

Personal care is:



Help with everyday activities like washing, preparing a meal or getting dressed for people who may need it.

As we grow older, many of us rely on the care system to provide support for these essential tasks, but for too many families this support is coming at a huge financial cost.

Our call for free personal care for everyone over 65 would mean that people get the care they need provided free at the point of use.

Why do we want free personal care?

Independent Age has been calling for the introduction of free personal care since 2018.

Free personal care will:

- Ensure that we can all grow older with dignity.
- Mean people access care earlier.
- Help people live at home for longer.
- Mean fewer older people are stuck in hospital waiting for care.
- Give families the chance to spend more quality time with their loved ones.

Free personal care is already available in Scotland where it was introduced nearly twenty years ago.

Support for free personal care

In England, we know that 78% of adults aged 18+ support the introduction of free personal care for all older people and that 74% of this group would be willing to personally contribute more to fund it.



78%

of the population in England (18+) believe personal care should be free for those who need it



74%

said they would be willing to contribute more to fund it

To genuinely improve people's experiences free personal care needs to be part of the solution alongside more investment in the social care workforce.

It's vital that the social care system is transformed so that older people get the care they really need.

For our parents, for our grandparents, for ourselves.

#LETSGETPERSONAL