ILC Friday three - 12 May 2023

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International Longevity Centre UK

Latest news

ILC Friday three

- Solution of the week - cross-party cooperation on adult social care
- Follow the money - engaging Ministers on healthy ageing at G7 and WHA
- Pensions Credit - do you know someone who might be missing out?

Solution of the week - cross-party cooperation on adult social care



Of the list of issues raised during last week's local election campaigns, it did not appear that social care was a priority for anyone. Yet it is clearly a massive issue for all of us - and for both local and national governments. According to the latest NHS Digital's figures, local authorities spent £22 billion on adult social care in 2021 to 2022. And councils received almost 2 million requests for adult social care support - that's 5,420 requests a day.

But maybe keeping adult social care outside the political fray might be the way forward. The experience of the last twenty-five years shows that no one government can achieve lasting reform on its own. In a think piece for the Local Government Association, Richard Humphries argues that if successive governments with time, some money and a big majority couldn't do it, prospects under current political and fiscal conditions look bleak. Pragmatic cross-party agreements about long-term

Manifestos can galvanise a commitment to action, but historically, elections are not good moments to propose reforms that rely on significant public funding. Proposals in previous election campaigns, such as the so-called "dementia tax" in 2017, quickly became politicized, with informed and productive discussions descending into over-simplified mud-slinging. However, before the General Election, why should it not be possible for politicians across all political parties to agree to some principles and a process for a way forward?

What do you think? Since the start of the year, we've been highlighting examples of policy and practice which could help us adapt to increased longevity. And we've had a great response, with many of you sending us their solutions - thank you. We will collate ideas into a plan for the next Government and launch it at our Future of Ageing Conference on 7 December 2023. So, what do you think? Do you have different or better ideas? Let us know via events@ilcuk.org.uk

LET US KNOW

Follow the money - engaging ministers at G7 and WHA



The month of May is an important one for the ILC. We were at the World Congress on Public Health in Rome and this week in Japan alongside the G7 Finance meetings to share preliminary findings from ILC's global Healthy Ageing and Prevention Index and our work on the value of life course immunisation.

Engaging Finance Ministers is key to persuading governments to spend more on preventative health. And there are significant economic benefits to investing in prevention, from keeping people in work to supporting caring and volunteering. Yet, despite a clear consensus that prevention is better than cure, especially in post-pandemic recovery, action and investment continue to lag.

immunisation and are delighted that the speakers include ministers from Canada and Singapore. In light of the WHO announcement ending the pandemic, we know there is a significant opportunity for us to engage world leaders on healthy ageing before too late and we become complacent. If you are interested in attending either or both of the events in Geneva please email events@ilcuk.org.uk or via the button below.

Leaving no one behind: Progress on life course immunisation roundtable
Date: Tuesday 23 May 2023
Time: 1.00pm – 2.30pm (CET), followed by refreshments
Location: Geneva Press Club, Switzerland
Click here for more information

Launch of the Healthy Ageing and Prevention Index
Date: Tuesday 23 May 2023
Time: 3.30pm - 4.30pm (CET), followed by refreshments
Location: Geneva Press Club, Switzerland
Click here for more information

REGISTER INTEREST

Pension Credit - do you know someone who might be missing out?



Although take-up is at the highest level since 2010, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) is concerned there are still too many people missing out on Pension Credit. Pension Credit is designed to help people over State Pension age and on a low income with daily living costs, though you do not need to be in receipt of a State Pension to receive it. People who applied in the past and were told that they were not eligible might now be able to benefit as circumstances change.

Currently, around 1.4 million people are in receipt of Pension Credit which tops up a

Worth on average over £3,500 a year, even a small Pension Credit award can provide access to a wide range of other benefits – such as help with housing costs, council tax or heating bills – in addition to the extra cost of living payments, worth up to £900 this financial year.

There is just a week to go for those eligible to claim Pension Credit and still qualify for the latest £301 Cost of Living Payment. If you or someone you know might be eligible then can get an estimate via the online Pension Credit calculator. Provided a claim is made before 19 May, it can be backdated for up to three months so long as the applicant was also eligible to receive it during that time.

The ILC and Institute and Faculty of Actuaries are holding a webinar to consider if the pensions system in the UK is sustainable and sufficient. You can find more information about the event and the speakers on our website. Do join us on **Tuesday 6 June 2023** and please register directly on Zoom here or via the button below.

REGISTER

To keep up-to-date with ILC events throughout the year, please continue to check our website on a regular basis.

Future of Ageing 2023 takes place on Thursday 7 December. If you haven't got your ticket yet, please register here.

Please follow us on social media via the links below for our latest news and event updates.

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