

Southwark Pensioners Forum



MANIFESTO

CONTENTS

Photograph by Hannah Maule-Ffinch



Introduction	3
Cross Cutting Issues	4
Housing	5-9
Housing & Anti-Social Behaviour	9
Health	10-11
Education & Leisure.....	12-13
Support Services	14
Daycare Services	15
Social Care	16-17
Transport & Mobility	18-20
Environmental Concerns.....	21
Shops & Post Offices	21
Conclusion	22
Glossary.....	23
Appendix.....	23

THE PENSIONERS FORUM has decided to produce this Manifesto in an attempt to improve the quality of life for older people in Southwark. We have deliberately kept the demands to ones that we believe the council, and other agencies, can implement within a reasonable period of time.

Consultation to produce this Manifesto has been extensive. Following our initial summer Conference that focused on the Manifesto, we held a joint consultation event attended by over a hundred older people put on with Southwark Council to gather the concerns of pensioners. This was complemented by outreach consultation with many pensioners' groups.

We have decided to place this Manifesto before the range of agencies whose services impact upon older people. These include Southwark Council, the Police, the local Primary Care Trust (Health) and Transport for London.



Charlie Cherrill,
Chair of Southwark's Pensioners Forum



Charlie Cherrill with Jack Jones (left), Southwark resident and founder of the National Pensioners Convention (NPC), and Rodney Bickerstaffe (right), NPC President, at our (SPF) 2005 Conference. The NPC's National Manifesto addressing nationally-determined issues was the inspiration for our Local Manifesto.

Information and Publicity

There needs to be a co-ordinated approach to information and publicity to pensioners between all agencies, including all the council departments, health, community and voluntary sectors. Information for pensioners needs to be collated and better use made of existing news outlets.

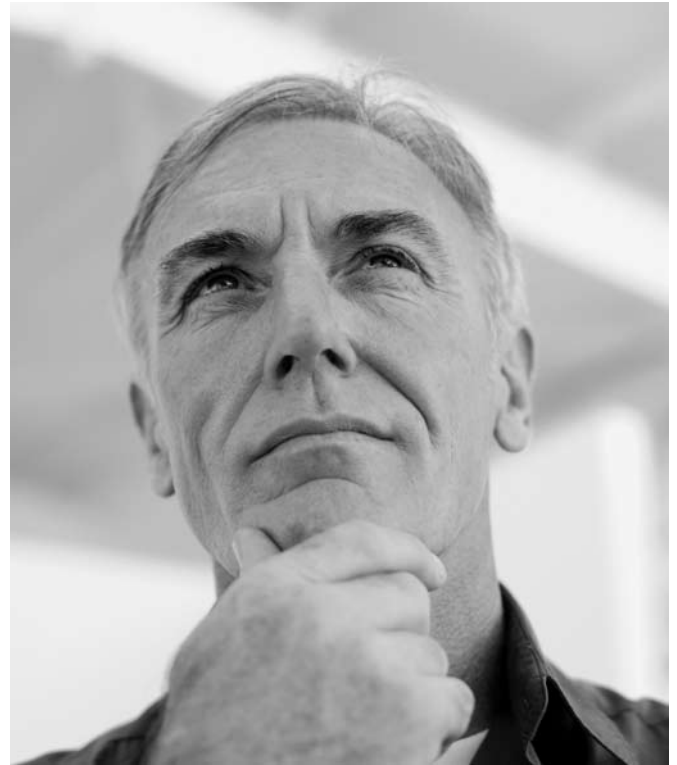
We call upon the council to investigate the current situation and to make proposals for improving publicity and information for pensioners, including providing a regular page in Southwark Life for pensioners' news, and the production of a pensioners' focused publication in plain English and in an easy to read format.

There needs to be a telephone number that pensioners can use to find out the range of services that they can access, including those provided by the voluntary sector. Knowledgeable and sympathetic staff should staff this. It is important that pensioners are not put on call waiting, which wastes telephone bills.

Simple & single complaints procedure

In the course of our consultations many pensioners have found it difficult to make complaints and get a positive response.

We call on the council to provide one simple and universal comments and complaints procedure for all departments, accessed through one well advertised contact point, including a telephone number.

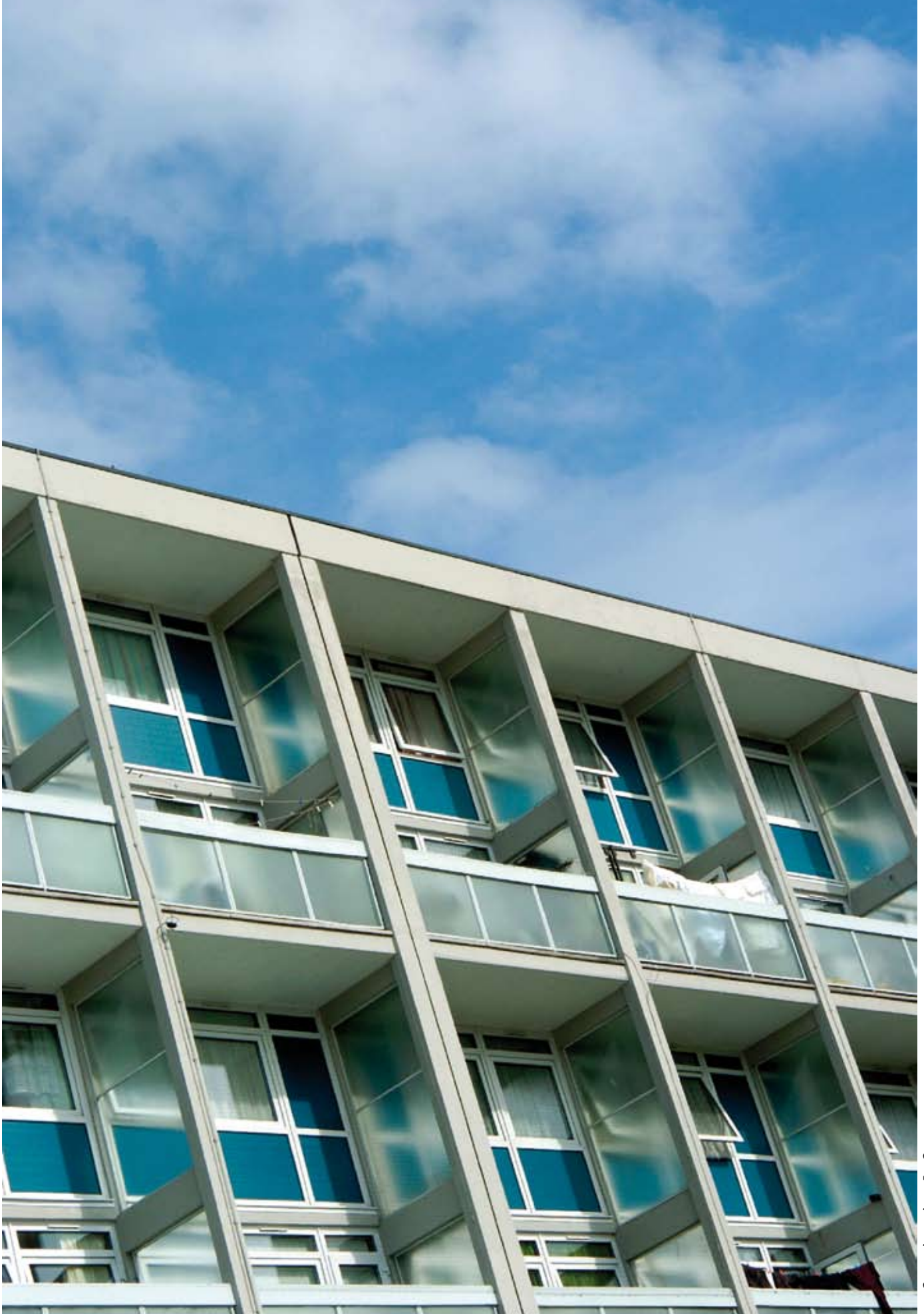


Avoiding isolation

Isolation is a major issue for pensioners. Once isolated, pensioners are more likely to become unwell, lose independence and lose access to their entitlements and community support.

We call on the council to do everything in its power to prevent isolation by investment in support services for pensioners, social and recreational activities and by ensuring that pensioners have easy access to community services through mobility and transport issues being addressed.

**Please see the following pages
for specific actions....**



Photograph by Jody Kingzett

Repairs

Repairs have been reported as a problem for pensioners in all types of tenure. For **council tenants**, failures of district heating and hot water systems, and breakdowns of lifts are all particularly problematic. Lift breakdowns are a serious problem for elderly people who become trapped or take risks in trying to negotiate many flights of stairs.



Action

Ensure that all Housing Officers know that housing repairs for older people are a priority and that particular repairs are an emergency and that this is translated into action. We request that the council 'time lines' for all repairs are posted at all Housing Offices and that publicity on the council's decoration policy is made readily available. We also call upon the council to ensure that tenants and residents are made aware of the complaints procedure and are aware of the Arbitration Unit.

For **owner-occupiers** there are problems of how to get a reliable person to do minor (e.g. decorating) or major works. Many homeowners on restricted incomes are facing difficulties maintaining their homes.

Leaseholders often complain they do not have sufficient information on charges and are unclear of their rights.

Action

We call on the council to improve information and publicity on the Handypersons scheme and who can help with home care tasks. We also call on the council to encourage the Home Improvement Agency to give names of builders they have vetted to owner occupiers, and to support home owning pensioners in maintaining their homes. Where the council is the freeholder we request the council to provide a clear breakdown of charges and information about leaseholders' rights, alongside advice on where to go if clarity is still required or independent support needed.

Private and Housing Association tenants also have repair problems. There is a need for advocates to provide assistance particularly with certain landlords who cause problems for the elderly.

Action

Advocates should be provided and a register of persistent cases of landlords mistreating tenants should be kept and action taken where needed.

Bathing and Showers

Many older tenants need walk-in showers when baths become inaccessible – but the council won't grant permission in tall blocks (e.g. Aylesbury) for fear of damp problems and will only install showers over the bath, which are often not accessible.

Action

We call on the council to review their policy on restricting showers in blocks, consider its impact on people with disabilities, and return with an answer to the Forum by September 2006.

Information and support

Existing services are not well enough known. There is not enough knowledge about general housing policies (e.g. transfers); about particular schemes (Key Worker Scheme, Decent Homes Policy, Decoration Policy, etc) and about certain services – the Noise Team, Supporting People, Private Sector Housing Unit, the Arbitration Unit and Southwark's Anti-Social Behaviour Unit (SASBU).

Action

There needs to be clear, transparent information about the above, alongside independent help to access appropriate services, to complete forms and to get the best out of the system. The Arbitration Unit needs to be promoted as a method to help to press a case against the Council where the system is failing. We call on the Housing department to report back to the Forum on a publicity and support strategy by September 2006.

**Re-housing and Transfers**

There is a problem with re-housing to a range of housing options including transfers to more suitable social housing, supported housing and the right kind of care homes. This is particularly so for older people who want:

- suitably adapted flats OPD's (Older People's Dwellings)
- to live with their extended family and need a transfer to larger properties (4 plus bedrooms). There is a lack of larger units, so older people have to endure overcrowding and the strain this puts on the whole family for many years. This is a major problem that particularly affects many Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities.
- extra care housing
- sheltered housing
- to live in sheltered housing but are owner occupiers with no entitlement
- to live in sheltered housing or a care home that is culturally appropriate

People often wait years before they get a transfer to more suitable housing.

Action

The council should audit current provision to consider if there are enough adapted flats / OPD's and consider any issues that could be preventing adequate provision. We ask that the council report on what they are doing to ensure all new homes are built to 'lifetime homes' standards; enabling future housing



stock to be easily adapted if and when the need arises.

The council's strategy for the provision of larger units by RSLs (Registered Social Landlords) should be reviewed to evaluate its effectiveness and identify any action needed to meet the demand for more large units.

We also ask the council to review provision of sheltered housing and extra care housing alongside considering any barriers to access.

Lastly we request that the council consult with the South Asian Elderly Organisation, the Somalian community and other relevant BME groups working with older people to address their expressed need for suitable care homes and sheltered housing.

We call for a report back to the Forum by October 2006 with a plan to address the issues raised.

Neighbourhood Housing Offices (NHO) and Housing Benefit

Some pensioners consider staff to be often off-hand or rude, especially on the phone,

and lacking appreciation of older people's problems. Staff often cannot access the information callers require. Pensioners have also indicated that they appreciate a mix of staff.

Action

There should be an emphasis on promoting courteous and considerate behaviour by staff that is sensitive to the needs of older people. Action is needed to ensure housing offices employ a more diverse range of frontline staff, particularly in terms of age. Housing benefit officers at neighbourhood housing offices need to have access to computer records and housing benefit records, and it should be possible to contact staff by phone, not just in person. The Forum demands that the council investigate the above and report back to the Forum by September 2007 with a plan of action.

Adaptations

Older people have raised concern with the length of time it takes for the Adaptations service to assess, action and support requests for adaptations so people with mobility impairments can remain independent in their own homes. This is particularly a concern for people who live in Housing Association homes but people in all types of accommodation have raised concerns.

Action

We call on the Council to report to back to the Forum on the above by September

2006, detailing the actions they are taking to address problems.

Anti Social Behaviour



Anti social behaviour is often a big problem for older people – which others often don't take seriously. This particularly affects older people in their homes and neighbourhoods. Noise at all hours, rudeness, verbal and even physical abuse are all upsetting to people, especially those who live alone. Pensioners who take their case to the housing office sometimes feel they are not taken seriously, and this can be particularly upsetting as residents look to the Council to speak up for the elderly and intervene where necessary. Housing Officers often refer to a Mediation Officer, who lack the powers to address the issues.

Action

The council must ensure that housing officers understand the impact anti-social behaviour can have on older people and are able to provide appropriate support. This should include referral to Southwark's Anti-Social Behaviour Unit (SASBU) where necessary.

Equal access to Housing services

Many older people are concerned that there is not equality of access for owner occupiers (many of whom are on restricted incomes) to a range of services. This includes:

- adaptations
- repairs
- improvements to their property to save money on heating bills
- sheltered housing
- extra care housing
- care homes
- and support to deal with anti social behaviour.

Action

We call on the council to carry out an enquiry into the differences in the treatment of home owners and the justification for such differences and report back by December 2006.



Photograph by Len Cross

MAINTEINING HEALTH is crucial for older people who wish to remain as mobile as possible, and to play a full and responsible part in the life of the community. Older people have identified preventative health checks as an important way of maintaining their health. Similarly, treatment to enable a fast recovery when unwell is just as important.

HOSPITALS

Appointments with consultants

There is concern that many pensioners are waiting too long for diagnostic appointments and checks. There is particular concern that people are given appointments and these are then cancelled by the Hospital and that there is then a long wait for a new appointment. BME groups have identified the particular need for translators and interpreters to be available to attend consultant appointments so they can support elderly people, and that current resources are often overstretched.

Action

We call on the Council to make representations to the health authorities regarding this issue.

General issues of concern

Pensioners raised concerns about the standard of cleanliness in hospitals and the effectiveness the current arrangements.



They were also concerned about the consistency of nursing staff and the high numbers of agency nurses employed. Problems of adequate attention to older patients, such as ensuring they can eat food supplied, are often reported. There was an appreciation of the PALS services and a call for more publicity.

Action

The Primary Care Trust (PCT) should provide provision for elected pensioner representatives on relevant Health Boards so the Forum can address these concerns.

DOCTORS

The Forum has identified the following issues:

- Pensioners are concerned that GPs sometimes have ageist attitudes, in particular that their diagnosis and treatment programme is over influenced by the patients age

- Pensioners believe annual health checks would be valuable

Pensioners would like:

- weekend contact with GPs
- ability to pre-book GPs appointments
- continuity within GPs practices for patients to see same doctor
- establishment of patient groups in all GP Practices
- simplified independent complaints procedure
- more translation and interpretation services

Action

The PCT should address the above concerns and to report to the Pensioners Forum by September 06 on proposed action to rectify these shortcomings.

MENTAL HEALTH

There is concern that older people with mental health problems are not getting equitable access to mental health services. In particular there is concern that the provision of the 'home treatment' service provided by SLAM (South London and Maudsley NHS Trust) is severely restricted to older people.

Action

We call on the PCT and the Council to investigate the above and to report back

on any steps to needed to ensure that older people get equal and satisfactory mental health services by September 2006.

Depression and isolation

Pensioners are concerned about the isolation of some older people with the consequent risk of depression.

Action

More day centres and social, educational and leisure opportunities should be funded and established through joint budgeting of Education and Health & Social Care as a preventative measure.



Adult Education

Photograph by Jody Kingzett



Adult Education classes for older people have been severely cut with the Learning and Skills Council budget reduced by 5%. The prices have doubled since last September. The focus of Adult Education has been changed to young people and skills. The Learning and Skills Council's website tells us:

'The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to make sure we have a workforce that is of world-class standards.'

Because of the above education and leisure classes for pensioners have been decimated. Older people just want to learn and not necessarily take exams. They value the social aspect of classes and so need continuity; they don't want to have to keep moving on. Many pensioners appreciate both the opportunity to undertake classes focused on their particular needs and also to do classes where there is an intergenerational mix.

Action

The Forum calls on the Council to recognise the above and the value of learning that will not lead to qualifications and to come up with a plan by October 2006 to address this issue at a local and strategic level.

A plan aimed both at making best use of local resources and a developed strategy for influencing the Learning and Skills Council and any other strategic bodies, such as the GLA (Greater London Authority), whose policies impact on Adult Education delivered in Southwark should be developed.

We call on our local MPs to use their influence, with the Government and in Parliament, to change the LSC's focus.

Libraries



Photograph by Hannah Maulé-Finch

Southwark has excellent public libraries – e.g. excellent teaching tapes for foreign languages. The libraries have a welcome outreach service visiting the housebound. There is, however, a problem with accessibility to Peckham Library and a need for more reference facilities.

Action

The Forum requests that more space is provided to sit and read in the reference libraries and more copies of newspapers are provided at Peckham Library. We also ask that the council to ensure that vehicles, including minibuses, are able to drop off and pick up people using wheelchairs at the entrance to Peckham Library.

Internet access



There is good public access to the Internet throughout Southwark, but there needs to be more information on what is available and particularly where teaching can be accessed. Older people increasingly need a computer at home to access the internet for information, services and to stay in contact with the wider community, family and friends. This is particularly important for those pensioners who are isolated or who have mobility problems. Many pensioners find it difficult to purchase computers and to also then use them successfully at home.

Action

There needs to be more information on internet availability and where older people can access teaching. Home computers should be made more available to pensioners, particularly to those who are isolated. We request that the Council considers recruiting younger people as volunteers to act as 'technological mentors' to older people in their own homes to enable access to computers, the internet, mobile phones etc., confidently.

Informal social and leisure groups

Many organisations and groups for pensioners are very good and we call on the Council to increase their support of these.

Sports

There is a need for more places to do both indoor and outdoor sports locally and more awareness of what exists.

Action

Water sports e.g. swimming and aqua-aerobics are very important for older people and the Forum demands that Peckham Pulse opens properly this summer for swimming.

Information and mapping of all the above activities

The Forum calls on the Council to do an audit of all provision and undertake a mapping exercise and to use this to feed into the call for a comprehensive information and publicity strategy for older people.

Local Support Services

Pensioners noted that lots of organisations and groups are very good in Southwark and provide a range of local support services, alongside social and leisure opportunities.

Action

The Council should consider joint budgeting of Education and Health & Social Care so that it is able to invest in more social, leisure and support opportunities for pensioners.



Nina Rackal,
member of the Southwark Pensioners Centre Art Class



Members of South Asian Elderly Organisation

The Pensioners Centre

The Pensioners Centre offers a borough wide service and is a good model for a joined-up service and early intervention, combining information, advocacy, support and facilities in one building. However the centre is far too small to adequately meet the needs of pensioners now and in the future as Southwark's population expands. Furthermore the Pensioners Centre is ideally placed to further co-operate with other agencies but needs to increase its capacity to achieve this.

Action

The Forum calls upon the council to give an assurance that, within a reasonable period of time, they will consider facilitating the financing and building of a new, purpose-built facility and consider the potential of a centre which could hold a range of services for pensioners, including the Pensioners Centre itself. In particular we call upon the Council to look at proposed regeneration borough wide, and particularly around the Elephant and Castle, to fund and locate a new centre. The Forum calls on the Council to consider the potential for using pooled 'planning gain' money (Section 106) to fund this.

THERE IS A NEED for a greater range of day care options and more day care places across the board. Older people want a range of day care options, which include drop-in, so that people can socialise informally, have a meal, take part in activities, find out about services they could receive from outreach workers and get support to access these.

Presently many day care options are restricted to those with severe mobility or health problems, which means that access is denied to many more mobile pensioners who are then at risk of becoming isolated.

Specific day care services for BME communities are needed.

Action

We call on the Council to consult on day care provision with the Forum, produce proposals for providing more places and explain and review their access policy.

Day care/ resource centres that are led by members of the community and which enable a range of agencies to develop a more community-based service provide a good model. A number of organisations currently provide excellent services and the council should continue to fund these on a long term basis. Transport provision at some of these centres is an issue that we ask the council to address.



There is a need for a day centre that meets the needs of Somali elders.

We call on the council to report back to the Forum by October 2006 on the above.

Independent advice, advocacy and involvement for residents of care homes

Residents of homes; residential or nursing, are amongst the most vulnerable in society and there is concern that these residents do not have access to independent advice and advocacy services. This is vital to enable protection from abuse. It is also needed to promote a decent quality of life, as we would all expect.

Action

Health & Social Care should develop a strategy to ensure residents in homes have access to specialised independent advice and advocacy services. Systems and services also need to be put in place that promote residents involvement in developing a better quality of life in residential and nursing homes. The Forum calls for a report on this by October 2006.

Homecare

There is a lack of awareness of the services available, how the system works, how charges are assessed and the complaints procedure. This is a particular issue for some BME communities where language and communication problems pose barriers.

Action

We call on the council to distribute information on homecare services and publicity widely and for the needs of particular communities to be taken into account. Communities have identified the effectiveness of outreach workers and community workers in reaching 'hard-to-reach' groups, including BME communities and we call upon the council to increase investment in these service.

All complaints about home care services should either be made directly to the Council or notified to the Council by the agency receiving them.

Direct payments

Older people have identified the need for more information about this method of receiving services.

Action

Full information about the operation of Direct Payments for home care services and the responsibilities incurred by those

receiving them should be supplied to community groups and advisers in a suitable range of languages and through outreach services.

Recipients should be contacted regularly by Social Services to ensure that the arrangement is working satisfactorily.

Charges

Service users sometimes do not understand how charges are calculated. The charges are based on income but fail to take into account expenses due to disability.

Action

The charges to be made for services should be explained simply and clearly and should reflect the costs of disability.

Carers

There are 26,000 carers in Southwark, the majority of whom are elderly themselves or care for someone who is elderly. These are some of the older people most in need in the borough. It is vital, therefore, for Health & Social Care to implement Southwark's Carers' Strategy 2006/07 in full.

Action

The Forum calls on the relevant bodies to report back to the Forum by November 2006.



Shopping

Information on the assistance available to older and disabled shoppers should be collected and widely disseminated, including transport services, assistance in shopping centers and supermarkets, telephone and internet shopping, and any charges made for using these services.

The operation of the Congestion Charge should be reviewed to ensure that it does not discourage volunteer driver services.

Mobility

People with mobility problems should be actively encouraged to take advantage of services enabling them to remain active and socially involved.

Action

Mobility problems should be addressed at an early stage by suitably qualified mobility officers assessing the person's needs and providing regular information and advice, both orally and in writing, on the help available, including accessible public transport, taxi services, Dial-a-Ride, shopping trips from the Pensioners Centre, hospital transport, walking aids and wheelchairs. Less mobile and housebound older people should be helped to acquire computers and provided with suitable home training in their use.



WE ARE VERY CONSCIOUS of the importance of good transport links and the need for mobility issues to be addressed so that older people can fully participate in the social and public life of the community, so avoiding isolation and the consequent danger of depression.

We call on Southwark Council, Transport for London and Southwark's Transport Forum and Sub-Mobility Group to address our concerns.

Trains

Many train stations in Southwark are not accessible to those with mobility problems.

Action

All stations should be accessible to all. This includes lift access for those who can't manage stairs.

Buses

Pensioners cannot use buses safely because of the problem of bus drivers pulling away, frequently abruptly, before all passengers have sat down or alighted.



Wheelchair users are concerned with the number of ramps that do not work, bus drivers who cannot use them or bus stops which are not adapted to work with ramps.

Bus passengers are not informed when delays are expected due to a change of drivers, an emergency or to conform to the timetable, leading to anxiety and frustration.

Many people live in areas with poor links to hospitals i.e. Kingswood Estate and East Peckham.

Action

Drivers should have better health and safety training. They should always pull into the pavement and their schedules should allow time for the drivers to make sure all passengers are safely seated or standing where there is support before they start. Bus drivers also need to ensure they communicate to passengers the reasons for and expected duration of delays. There is a need for more training and for ramps to be always checked before the bus leaves the depot. The introduction of a Hoppa service to serve local hospitals similar to the present NHS staff transport, should be considered .

We call upon the Transport Forum to raise the above issues and report back to the Forum by November 2006.

Car Parking Schemes should be used only where needed to help traffic flow, they should not be just revenue raising.

Traffic residents are concerned with rat running and call on the council to address this problem.

Pavements

Clear pavements are essential for those with limited mobility.

The surfaces should be in good repair, street furniture should be kept to the minimum, and shops should not use pavements as space for their stock.

Cycling on Pavements

This poses a serious, potentially fatal, hazard to pensioners.

Action

We call upon the council to:

- *Increase and improve cycling lanes*
- *Improve cycling training, particularly of younger people, so that they have the confidence to use the road safely.*
- *Enforce the law against pavement cycling, enabling neighbourhood wardens as well as police officers to impose fixed penalty fines.*

Disabled Parking

Older disabled people, and their carers, find it difficult to access many of Southwark's high streets and markets because of inadequate disabled parking provision.

Action

The Forum calls on Southwark's Transport Forum to address this problem by December 2006 and to advise the Forum of proposed solutions.

Traffic Calming

Speed bumps can cause significant discomfort to many older people with certain health conditions.

Action

Methods of traffic calming that do not adversely impact on people with disabilities should be used.

Hospital Transport

The present hospital transport service that takes people with mobility problems to hospital is unsatisfactory. Transport is often late and appointments are frequently missed.

The taxi card scheme and Dial-a-ride should be extended to allow for transport to/from hospital appointments and an extra allowance given on taxi cards.



Toilets

There is insufficient provision of toilet facilities in the Borough and this significantly affects pensioners' mobility and their ability to enjoy social, leisure and community opportunities.

We were recently advised that of the 14 conveniences cleaned and maintained by Southwark Environmental Services, three were closed, one consisted only of a men's urinal, and only three had disabled facilities. So there were 11 public toilets for men, 10 for women and 3 for disabled people. We have also been reliably informed that the toilet in Camberwell Green is frequently not working. Pensioners also pointed out that there is inadequate signage for many conveniences.

Pensioners are more in need of toilet facilities than other sections of the community. We have consulted Dr Geraldine O'Dea, Southwark PCT's public health consultant with a remit for older people, on this subject and she has drawn our attention to several research studies, details of which are available, and these bear out the contention that the need for readily accessible toilets is very common and increases with advancing age. The studies also show that women's needs are greater than men's, although in Southwark there are more men's than women's public toilets.

Photograph by Jody Kingzett



Action

We call upon the Council to improve public toilet facilities and report regularly to the Forum on progress in addressing this important issue and to ensure appropriate provision suitable for pensioners' needs is achieved.





Noise nuisances

Aircraft are apparently exempt from noise restrictions from 11pm to 5am. Another noise nuisance, especially in Peckham Road and Abbey Street at around Midnight comes from police/ambulance sirens.

Action

We call on the Council to raise the issue of sirens and aircraft disturbing the peace at night with the relevant authorities, and to resist more night flights over Southwark.

Air pollution

More checks on motor traffic exhausts are needed to try to minimize air pollution.

SHOPS AND POST OFFICES

Post Offices

Pensioners have raised concern regarding the facilities provided at some post offices and problems pensioners have faced during refurbishment.

Action

The Forum calls on the Chamber of Commerce to encourage Post Offices to:

- *Ensure stamp dispensers are regularly checked and repaired.*
- *When refurbishing post offices ensure that customers are clear where they can access alternative facilities and to ensure that capacity is increased to accommodate this.*

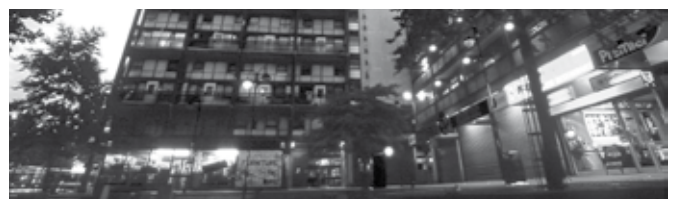
Shops

Many shops are not accessible to wheelchairs and do not comply with the Disability Discrimination Act (DAA).

Action

The Forum calls upon the Council and local Chamber of Commerce to address this issue. In particular it asks that the Council make it a condition of their leases that business occupying council properties comply with the DDA.

Photograph by Yolanda Chiaramello





Photograph by Yolanda Chiamello

THE FORUM has been active in the Borough, with the support of all political parties, for over twenty years. Regular meetings are held where officers of the Council and other agencies often attend. It is important that the Forum has adequate notice of plans and that sufficient time is given for these consultations so that the Forum has sufficient time to respond.

This Manifesto is a new attempt by the Forum to improve the lot of pensioners by considering in a positive way many of the problems older people face and their resolution. It is also timed to engage pensioners in the election process.

There are many demands within the Manifesto, but there is one that is overriding. This is that we are kept fully up to date on the progress on the demands made in the Manifesto. Lastly we ask that the new Administration appoints a Cabinet member whose portfolio includes being the Executive Lead for older people in order that the interests of older people are protected.

GETTING INVOLVED

Southwark Pensioners Forum welcomes new members to the Forum. It meets every two months at Southwark Town Hall and is open to all of Southwark residents who are over 50 and representatives of older peoples' organisations. To find out more and to join our mailing list please contact Julie Timbrell on 020 7525 0514.

This Manifesto has been developed through the following:

Southwark Pensioners Forum held a conference on the 23 June 2005 at the Inspire Centre devoted to developing this Manifesto, and this was open to all older people and attended by around 85 older residents of Southwark.

Bi monthly meetings of the Forum and regularly Executive meetings have received submissions from the wider Forum membership and approved the content.

A consultation event with Southwark's older people was held on 30th November 2005 at the Walworth Methodist Church. The event was jointly held with Southwark Council and was attended by around 100 delegates.

In addition to this outreach consultation was undertaken with the following between October 2005 and January 2005

- Blackfriars Settlement Over 50's Club
- Golden Oldies (Walworth Methodist Church)
- Charterhouse Evergreen Over 50's Club
- Peckham Settlement
- Bengali Women's Group

Written submissions were received from STUNG, the South Asian Elderly Organisation and Southwark's Somali Forum on the needs of Somali elders.

SASBU

Southwark's Anti-Social Behaviour Unit

PCT

Primary Care Trust

'Health & Social Care'

refers to the integrated service to older people delivered by Southwark's Social Services and the PCT

RSL

Registered Social Landlords

BME

Black and Minority Ethnic

DDA

Disability Discrimination Act

OPD's

Older People's Dwellings

LSC

The Learning and Skills Council

GLA

Greater London Authority

SLAM

South London and Maudsley NHS Trust

STUNG

Southwark Transport Users Negotiating Group



If you would like this Manifesto in a larger font, on tape or in a variety of community languages please call 020 7525 0514

Southwark Pensioners Forum

Our meetings are open to all older people

25th May 2006

Southwark Town Hall 10.15am – 12noon

27th July 2006

Southwark Town Hall 10.15am – 12noon

14th September 2006

Southwark Town Hall 10.15am – 12noon

9th November 2006

Southwark Town Hall 10.15am – 12noon

**Annual General Meeting
21st December 2006**

Southwark Town Hall
10.15am – 1pm

If you would like more information about us or would like to join the Southwark Pensioners Forum then please either *write to*:

Charlie Cherrill, Chair of Pensioners Forum,
Southwark Pensioners Forum
c/o Community Involvement and Development Unit,
East House, Southwark Town Hall, Peckham SE5 8UB

or telephone:

Julie Timbrell, Pensioners Involvement Co-ordinator
on 020 7525 0514

or email:

Julie.Timbrell@southwark.gov.uk

or visit:

[www.southwark.gov.uk/YourCouncil/
GettingInvolved/CIDU/PensionersForum.html](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/YourCouncil/GettingInvolved/CIDU/PensionersForum.html)

