

JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER

Chair: Ellen Lebeth, 1 Heyford Ave, London SW8 1EA Tel: 02075825063
Vice Chair: Ted Knight, 17 Gipsy Hill, London SE19 1QG Tel: 02086701454
Secretary: Penny Savage, 61 Hackford Road SW9 ORE Tel: 02077357375
Membership Secretary, Amanda Lewis, 100 Newpark Road, SW24LN 02086718752
<http://www.lampag.org> info@lampag.org

MONDAY 25 JUNE 2018

**Lambeth Town Hall
Brixton Hill
London SW8 1RW
12 pm to 2.30 pm
RoomTH1-16**

PENSIONERS MANIFESTO
On local issues

Facilitator: Ellen Lebeth

The Pensioners Manifesto sets out our demands for a quality of life for older people based on dignity, respect, financial security, independence and involvement in retirement. It identifies those issues which we will campaign on for the kind and level of change which will ensure our goals and ambitions.

Local elections will take place in the next 5 years and national elections may well happen in the coming year or two. We have been living with rising poverty and inequality for the last 8 years due to Austerity measures and this has had a negative impact on communities across the country. It is important that we set out clearly and strongly our expectations and demands at both at national and local levels in future campaigns. The present Pensioners Manifesto which was published in time for the Hustings in April is such a document. However, we need to discuss it as a group with the view to amending it where appropriate and adding any missing issues and reaching a consensus. Finally, having agreed the Manifesto, it will be adopted as the LAMPAG Pensioners Manifesto i.e. our declaration of intent.

Members are asked to come prepared to participate in the discussion. Your views are important. This will be a collective exercise to produce a document which will be central to our arguments and demands for action and change. Bring the document with you to the meeting.

Please note change of meeting date

Tea. coffee. biscuits. raffle.

PENSIONERS MANIFESTO

Local Issues

Health Inequalities

- Identify and address the socio-economic and environmental causes of health inequalities which mitigate against healthy living, wellbeing and community involvement.
- Campaign for legislative reform that protects the rights of the vulnerable and the marginalised.

Social Care

- End further damaging cuts to social care funding and protections that result in failure to meet the needs of older people.
- Commit to the NPC Dignity Code and imbed its principles within Council Commissioning Policy to ensure that recipients are able to live in dignity and comfort and care workers are highly trained, properly remunerated and their working conditions protected.
- Introduce high regulatory standards in care and nursing home and ensure compliance with the Human Rights Act and an end to elder abuse.

Housing.

- Increase the housing stock by building new accessible homes at council or truly affordable rents and which meet the Decent Homes Standards.
- Ensure that the tenants and residents are at the heart of estate regeneration and fully engaged in planning developments including design and the appointment of architects and contractors.
- Support and strengthen advice for older people who wish to downsize and adapt their homes to meet their needs.
- Protect the rights of older private renters to security of tenure, rent controls and repairs.
- Tackle homelessness amongst older people by providing a proper safety net when they fall into difficulties.

Public services

- Recognise the importance of **community centres** and other **cultural facilities** that support the community and voluntary groups that engage with older people.
- Maintain the number of fully equipped and staffed **libraries** as centres of research, learning, recreation and general interest.
- Provide **Later Life Learning** opportunities through adult education and community centres to expand interest and capability including internet capability.
- Ensure that **pavements** are safe and accessible and increase **seating** in public spaces and that there are sufficient accessible **public toilets**.
- Improve **street lighting** in order to ensure safety and reduce fear.

Participation

- Involve older people in any decisions regarding the funding of local services, changes and new initiatives in order that their views are known and their voices heard.

Transport

- Commit to protect the Freedom pass
- Work closely with Transport for London to ensure more step free stations,
- Protect the safety of the elderly and disabled people by joining the campaign against driver only trains.

- Ensure the safety of the elderly and disabled people by providing better and appropriate training for transport staff.
- Commit improving mobility prospects and active participation of older and disabled people in community activities by improving the Dial- a Ride and Taxi card services by collaborating with relevant organisations.

Social Isolation and Loneliness

- Commit to protecting the Meals on Wheels service
- Commit to ensuring that isolated individuals are supported to access the most appropriate day services across the Council and voluntary sector to ensure that older people are supported to reduce loneliness and social isolation
- Commit to the development of integrate models of support for individuals with disabilities and older people including; mental health services to ensure that they are provided with services and connected to relevant voluntary organisations at an early stage.

**HEALTH CONFERENCE
17th Health Conference
Health Care and the Elderly
Monday 16 July 2018
Draft Programme**

9.30 am	Arrival and tea/coffee
10.00 am	Welcome and opening remarks Sir Hugh Taylor, Chairman. Guy's and St Thomas' Foundation Trust
10.15 am	Cancer and older people GOLD team
10.40 am	Q&A
11.05 am	Diabetes and older people Rosarie Atkinson, Matron
11.30 am	Q&A
11.55 am	Break
12.10 pm	Trust panel Sir Hugh Taylor, Chairman, GSTT Eileen Sills, Chief Nurse Alastair Gourlay. Director of Essentia
12.35 pm	Q&A
1.00 pm	Lunch in ante room - Governors Hall
2'00 pm	Planning Ahead. Making Choices for the end of Life
2.25 pm	Q&A
2 50 pm	Closing remarks
3.00 pm	Close

NHS at 70

The NHS was set up 70 years ago to provide free health care for all regardless of wealth and status. It is a loved and cherished part of every community. The NHS is the envy of the world delivering world class health care to all on the basis of need. For the last 70 years the NHS has set a shining example of what can be achieved when we make the choice to look after the collective good. Sadly the NHS is in crisis. Nearly a decade of Austerity, gross underfunding, privatisation, top down reforms, staff shortages, ward closures, over stretched emergency services has brought it to 'its knees'. The Red Cross has described the current situation as a 'Humanitarian Disaster'. Now, more than ever we need to fight for a Health system which we have paid for to be defended and sustained. Anuran Bevan, founder of the NHS said, "The NHS will last for as long as there are folk willing to fight for it. It is our NHS and we are the folk willing to fight to preserve it as a health system free at the point of need. Come and join the march. Look out for the LAMPAG banner.

CELEBRATION AND DEMONSTRATION OUR NHS70, FREE FOR ALL, FOREVER

Saturday 30 June 2018

**Assemble 12pm, Portland Place, London W1A
(nearest tubes: Oxford Circus / Great Portland Station)**

March to Whitehall.

**Meet on the Town Hall steps 11.30 am. Leave for Oxford Street at 11.45 am
or join the march along Whitehall. Look out for the LAMPAG banner.**

Gross Insult to disabled people.

Govia Thames Link Railway, (GTR) which operates Thameslink, Southern Rail, Great Northern and Gatwick Express has come under fire for instructing staff to leave disabled people on the platform if helping them onto trains might delay departure. And, if any passenger is taken ill, on board, "they must be removed as soon as possible to avoid delays." This is truly shocking advice and an insult to all passengers. This policy effectively means disabled people will not be assisted on to trains and allowed to travel. It is outrageous. The policy is a denial of all passengers to the right to safe, accessible and convenient travel. It is also against the Disabled People's Protection Policy which requires access to and use of goods, facilities, healthcare, housing and transport.

This comes at a time of travel chaos as a result to the time table changes introduced by Network Rail and the RMTs and NPC's campaigns against driver only trains and the incumbent dangers associated with removing safety-critical guards. This is another illustration of the failures of a privatised rail service geared to profiteering at the expense of passenger safety. According to GTR part of their "responsibility is to make sure each service leaves on time to avoid knock-on delays, skipped station stops and cancellations to dozens of other services which would affect to other passengers many of whom may also be disabled" In other words **we are an inconvenience**. So much for an accessible, safe railway service.

GOVERNMENT DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

The GDPR 2018 requires us to ensure that personal information collected is used fairly, stored safely and not disclosed unlawfully. Could you kindly let us know whether you would us to discontinue sending you your newsletter and any other relevant information in future?
Thank you

**Committee Meeting. Monday 2 July, Manor Court, 11 am to 1 pm.
Please note change of date and venue**

