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GMOPN Newsletter: October 2024

Opportunities, News & Events





Good Employment week Update

The GM Older People's Equality Panel hosted an event as part of Good Employment Week 2024 (7th – 11th October).

A panel of 3 speakers, Mike Mansfield (ProAge), Kate Sturman (Trafford Council – HR dept) and Katy Storey (Macc), addressed the issues around age inclusivity in the workplace and how the Good Employment Charter and the Age Friendly Employer Pledge can improve the workplace for older employees.

A mix of people with experience in the public, private and VCSFE sectors attended the event alongside individuals with lived experience of being in the workplace as an older person.

After hearing from the speakers participants were divided into four groups to discuss different themes. The feedback from the groups was used to prioritise key points which will inform the refresh of the Good Employment Charter and make it more age friendly.

Many thanks to the speakers, Ian MacArthur (Moderator) and panel and Network members who facilitated groups.

To find out more about the Good Employment Charter click [here](#).

To find out more about the Age Friendly Employer Pledge click [here](#)

You can read about the key points agreed at the event by clicking on the button below.

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MANCHESTER URBAN AGEING RESEARCH GROUP

MUARG Conversation Series

The Manchester Urban Ageing Research Group (MUARG) are proud to continue our MUARG Conversation Series, to which you are cordially invited.

The next Conversation Series event is on Thu 5 Dec 2024. Leading academics on ageing issues from around the world will be coming to talk about their work with MUARG's own leaders in the field.

Register now to join us for this semester's final event in the MUARG Conversation Series!

Equity in Community-Centered Models for Aging: A Virtual Summit
16:30-18:00, Thu 5 Dec 2024 — online
[Register here](#)

This virtual summit — hosted by the Hub for Aging Collaboration and developed in partnership with interdisciplinary scholars from the University of Manchester, UCSF, and Wayne State University — will convene global thought leaders on ageing in community whose scholarships integrate research, theory, and practice to enhance work on community-centred initiatives and ageing equity.

The MUARG Conversation Series is open to everyone — both academics and members of the public — interested in ageing issues. Lunch and coffee will also be included for the in-person event.

Please click the button below to find all the information on this semester's MUARG Conversation Series events:

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Place of Interest

The People's History Museum, which is also known as PHM, is a great place to visit if you would like to know more about the growth of democracy in Britain. The museum provides opportunities for everyone to learn about equality, social justice, co-operation and building a fair world for all.

Each year the museum offers a powerful programme of events and exhibitions following a theme. The theme for this year is migration. Previous exhibitions have looked at the right to vote in Britain and the protest movement, marking 200 years since the Peterloo Massacre.

PHM is a worthy day out for all ages. Get inspired and get involved in ideas worth fighting for

Click the read more button for further information.

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An advertisement with a bright blue background. On the right is a circular portrait of an elderly woman, Audrey, with short grey hair, wearing a yellow sweater and a necklace. On the left, text in white and red reads: "Audrey topped up her pension - have you?". Below this, in white, it says: "People in Manchester are missing out on Pension Credit, the Winter Fuel Payment and Housing Benefit." Further down, it says: "To see if you qualify, call Independent Age for a FREE benefits check on 0800 319 6789". At the bottom are four logos: "THE PENSION TOP up", "Independent Age", and "MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL". There are also stylized hand-drawn arrows pointing towards the text.

Pension Top Up campaign – Autumn/Winter 2024

Don't miss put on the chance to top up you Pension

Pension Credit is usually available for anyone aged 66 or above in receipt of their state pension who has a low income or a disability.

They can claim if living alone or with a partner, and even if they have income other than their state pension, savings or own their own home.

Getting Pension Credit also unlocks many other financial benefits, including a free TV licence for over 75s, support to insulate your home and money off your council tax bill.

This year, claiming Pension Credit also allows older residents to continue receiving the Winter Fuel Payment to help towards their heating bills.

Around a quarter of Greater Manchester pensioners are able to claim Pension Credit. But 4 in 10 of these are not doing so, each missing out on around £3,400 each year.

Many people believe they are not eligible because they have savings, own their own home or already receive £218.15 but they may be eligible depending on different circumstances.

If you are unsure whether you are eligible for this top up contact Independent Age who provide a free advice service at:
www.independentage.org/get-advice/money

or call their freephone helpline on 0800 319 6789.

Read the GMCA press release by clicking [here](#).

If you want to read more about pension credit you can read the Independent Age fact sheet by clicking this button.

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OLDER PEOPLE'S EQUALITY PANEL

**DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY
FOR GREATER MANCHESTER**

Older People's Panel Update

In the last three months...

The August Panel meeting focused on Care Settings and heard from Bury Council about a project to improve the experience of hospital discharge. In addition, the Panel was represented at seven other meetings relating to a range of issues including: Ageing in Place, improving representation for racially minoritised older people, and age inclusivity in the workplace. The Panel continues to widen its networks and connections to increase the diversity of older people voices.

Highlights include...

Panel members met with Diane Turner, New Zealand Office for Seniors, sharing experiences of developing influence and impact of lived experience groups. In addition, the Panel collaborated with the Disabled People's Panel to present at the Greater Manchester Cost of Living Response Group on the impact of people having to choose between debt and receiving appropriate levels of home care.

Over the next three months...

The Panel will continue to gather lived experience of appropriate support to arrange and manage home care packages. The Panel will be hosting an event as part of Good Employment Week – Embracing Age Inclusivity in the Workplace, collating an outcomes report to share with relevant organisations. The focus of the panel meeting in October will be the impact and perception of crime for Older People.

If you want to read more about the other panels click on the button below.

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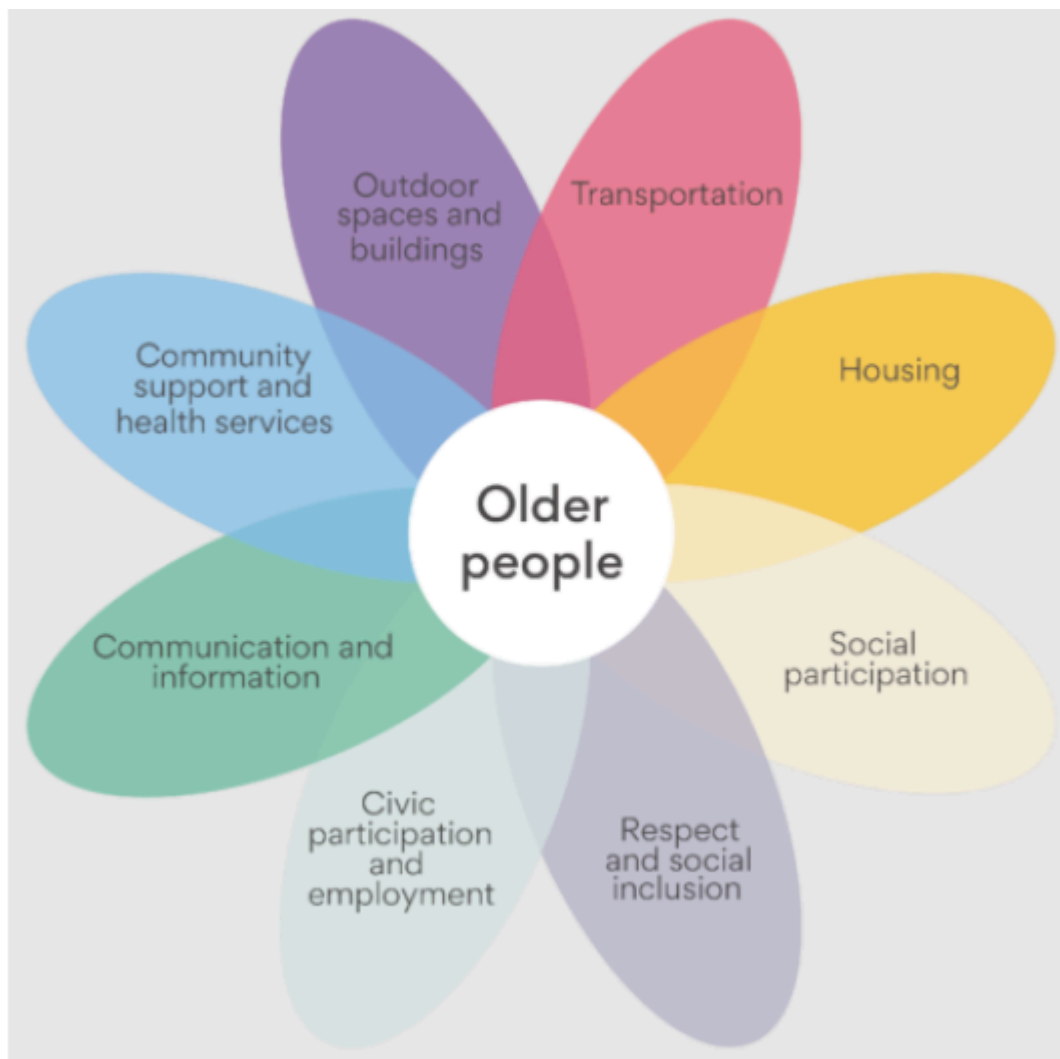


Perks & Discounts

Wetherspoons free refills on hot drinks

At any Wetherspoons throughout the day, if you purchase a hot drink for £1.56 or less, you can claim free, unlimited refills.

Do you know about any good discounts and perks? GMOPN is currently compiling an extensive list of perks (discounts, benefits etc.) across Greater Manchester to allow older people to live fuller lives. This will feature on our website and newsletters. We need your help to find out more about the perks available for older people in Greater Manchester. Please contact jessica@macc.org.uk if you know of any perks or discounts that you think others would like to hear about.



Older people day update

As part of the celebrations for International Day of Older Persons, Damy Patel (Tameside panel member) and John Mulvenna (Panel facilitator) visited the event at Ridgehill in Stalybridge.

This was organised by the Tameside Ageing in Place Pathfinder group in collaboration with Big Local.

John and Damy were very impressed with the range of activities the project has provided over the last two years, helping to build up a core of residents who can lead on improving the local area for people who are over 50.

On the day there were a range of lively activities including an intergenerational exercise with local primary school children trying to work out the purpose of objects no longer in common use and discussing them with the older people. Visit Tameside Metropolitan Borough's website for the full story by clicking the read more button.

Find out more about what is happening at Ridge Hill by visiting the Jigsaw Homes website [here](#).

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The GM Older People's Network
Freepost MANCHESTER COMMUNITY
CENTRAL



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