

NPC

Campaign!

OUR NEW ADDRESS

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WANT TO JOIN NPC?

Do you care about issues affecting older people? Then join us as an individual, or as an affiliate group. We are the biggest UK campaign group run for and by older people. Contact us and get involved. Details above.

Fighting for the rights of older people

Join us for NPC Annual Convention — Blackpool 3rd & 4th September

The NPC 2024 Annual Convention falls two thirds of the way through the first 100 days of the new government's tenure. Join us in Blackpool to discuss whether they have listened to our priority calls and if they are starting to implement our key policy demands in the NPC 2024 Election Manifesto. ***FULL DETAILS ON HOW TO BOOK FOR BLACKPOOL ON BACK PAGE.**

YOUR VOTE MATTERS — don't miss the chance to cast yours tomorrow

No matter what the pollsters say it is Polling Day that matters—so do *not* assume the Election result is a done deal.

All the parties and candidates contesting the 2024 General Election are calling on voters to turn out and vote for their choice on 4th July. So if you haven't cast a postal vote already, make sure you have your photo identification to hand, and head to your local polling station on Thursday. The NPC Mani-

you check what the candidates are standing for, and what they are *not*. We have



provided a checklist of NPC Manifesto policy calls for you to compare with the

Manifestos of the parties—details on Page 3. NPC General Secre-

tary Jan Shortt said: "This Election is a crucial opportunity to use your vote to ensure that whichever party is in power come 5th July, they are committed to making positive improvements in the lives of today's and tomorrow's older people. Many NPC members will have

already made up their minds or voted by post. But if not, check the party promises—do they meet your expectations? Remember, your vote matters."



GENERAL ELECTION

& DON'T FORGET YOUR PHOTO ID!

PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION TO VOTE
As you show photographic identification to the polling station, photographic identification is set out overleaf.



Poll says 12% still undecided just days before 4th July

Pollsters from YouGov spread across age groups, estimate that around 12% of the electorate—1 in 8—may still be deciding how to vote on Thursday.

The leading market research organisation says this is a far larger group of undecided voters than at the 2019 election.

A spokesperson commented: “By this point in the campaign we would have expected the proportion of “don’t knows” to have come down below 10%.”

YouGov tracked down 641 of those who said they are undecided, and discovered that, while they are evenly

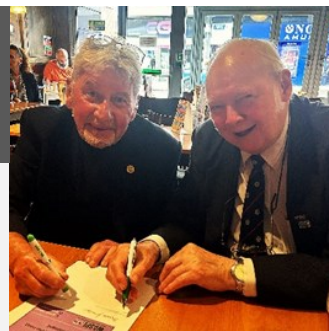
they are much more likely to be female (67%), to have voted leave in the EU referendum (43%, against 30% for remain), and to have voted Conservative at the last general election (43% compared to 15% who voted Labour). When questioned a quarter of the undecided voters are “unlikely to actually vote” at all. YouGov’s director of political research, Adam McDonnell said: “This leaves 45% of the overall sample who are ‘truly undecided’, having told us they are at least 6/10 likely to vote at the election.”

NPC branches host hustings across UK

To ensure members hear the widest range of viewpoints NPC

branches have been inviting electoral candidates to local hustings around the country. NPC President Norman Jemison, pictured above right with Northern Region Chair Alec McFadden welcomed 60 people to their Hustings, with five political parties accepting the invitation to speak and answer questions.

Issues discussed covered everything from retaining the Triple Lock, and keeping the NHS public, to concerns over climate change, public transport and Social Care. Later Norman and Alec signed a pledge in support of the WASPI women’s campaign.



BBC News offers simple tool to compare the Manifestos

If you’d still like to see a straightforward and independently verified guide to compare the party election manifestos check out BBC News.

www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cxeez8271nvo

While it does require you to be able to get online and visit the BBC website, it is fairly easy to navigate. It has been put together by the BBC Visual Journalism team, the BBC’s political research unit in London, and BBC journalists in Belfast, Cardiff and Glasgow. The aim of the guide is to summarise where the parties stand on key topics to help voters make informed decisions at the ballot box. The issues selected were highlighted in



company Ipsos Mori’s Issues Index, a monthly survey that measures the things the public believe to be the most important facing the country.

The website explains in detail the way the guide was set up, and how the parties were chosen and ordered. (It also contains a full list of all parties standing at the election). The guide can be useful for checking against our NPC policy tick box on page 3.

If you can’t get online, you can access copies of the different party manifestos at your local library. Or compare it against campaign leaflets posted through your door by candidates, or as reported in most national newspapers.

Energy price cap drops – but due to rise again in October

Millions of households will pay lower gas and electricity bills this summer as the energy price cap falls by £122 a year to the equivalent of £1,568 for the typical annual charge.

However, this new cap applies only from July until the end of

September—bills are expected to rise again this winter, leaving millions struggling to heat their homes. Our bills are still more than £500 a year higher than they were before Russia’s war

on Ukraine. NPC’s Jan Shortt said: “Any reduction in energy

bills is welcome, but modest falls this summer

look set to be wiped out by bigger increases in the autumn.”





Still undecided? Check what they are promising



Even at this late stage—after all the campaigning and the speeches and the arguments—many people are still unsure how they will vote, as the YouGov story on page 2 shows. The NPC has circulated our Manifesto widely to parties and policy-makers, as well as to our members and other older voters. Have a look at the list here of actions we hope the next government will implement.

Then compare them to the offer in the party manifestos using the simple tick box below.

NPC A MANIFESTO FOR OLDER PEOPLE

BY THE NATIONAL PENSIONERS' CONVENTION

The NPC represents around 1.15 million members in hundreds of different organisations across the UK. We campaign for both today's and tomorrow's pensioners. Uniting the generations in defence of the welfare state and public services is an important part of our work.

We call for:

- Urgent and sustained action on the **cost-of-living crisis**, with an effective strategy to address poverty, including a **fairer tax system** with the basic tax threshold to be retrospectively adjusted to account for inflation since its freezing, and thereafter index-linked to annual inflation rates.
- A **decent state pension**, set at 70% of the Living Wage (£294 weekly in 2024), and linked to the triple lock; maintenance of universal pensioner entitlements; a halt to the planned rise in State Pension Age.
- A **National Care Service**, funded from general taxation, free at the point of delivery, with its own independent monitoring unit, working alongside a fully funded and fully public NHS.
- Safe, dependable, accessible, and publicly owned, **public transport**; proper staffing on trains and stations, including ticket offices; improvements to the national concessionary travel scheme; and a reversal of the major decline in bus services, particularly in rural areas.
- A **major housebuilding programme** to solve the national housing crisis, including 85,000 sustainable homes yearly for older people.
- **Climate change action** to meet Net Zero targets: insulate existing homes to save energy, reduce bills and improve people's health; regulate energy profits; provide free basic energy to all households.
- An **end to digital exclusion**: ensure equitable and affordable access to information and services; maintain local access to cash.
- **Voter ID** to be scrapped. It has disenfranchised many people, especially from poorer, older, and ethnic minority communities.
- A **Commissioner for Older People** in all four nations to act as an independent champion and to ensure that policy and practice across government considers the needs of people in later life and the implications of our ageing population on society.

"Together we can build a better future for today's and tomorrow's pensioners."

YES	NO
TOTAL	TOTAL



Have your say on the new government's progress over 'first 100 days' at NPC Annual Convention

The 2024 NPC Annual Convention will offer a unique opportunity to assess how the next government is doing in its first 100 days. NPC members will be particularly keen to see how quickly they implement any pledges they have made around the issues that matter most to older people. Priorities on that list include tackling the cost of living crisis, the 'triple lock,' a National Care Service, decent housing and public transport... and the over-arching issue of digital exclusion. We are delighted to announce that the Digital Poverty Alliance will be delivering a keynote on their Charter for Digital Inclusion which has wide and high level support. Full details of the convention programme will be published shortly. The Convention will once again be held in the Imperial Hotel on Blackpool seafront.

[NB: The Opening Rally and speeches will start from 12pm on Tuesday, 3rd September.](#) Registration and the chance to browse stalls and exhibits in the main hall starts from 10.30am. Just complete and return this form to book.



The NPC Annual Convention returns to Blackpool on Tuesday 3rd & Wednesday 4th September 2024 for two days of discussion and debate. Tickets are just £15 for both days or £10 for a single day. Tickets are limited, so get yours now to avoid missing out. To book places for the event, please return the below form with payment.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email _____

Telephone / Mobile _____

Number of 2 day £15 tickets _____

Number of 1 day £10 tickets _____

Cheques - payable to National Pensioners Convention at the address below.

BACS - use the reference **#AC24** ensuring you send us the completed form. Account Name: National Pensioners Convention, Account No: 65809877 / Sort Code: 08-92-99

Cash - accepted on the day (if tickets are still available)

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WEB: www.npcuk.org **SOCIAL MEDIA:** @NPCUK



NPC 250 Club Join the NPC the monthly prize draw, and the remaining 50% will go to the NPC to support our work for older people.

Sign up today and support our work

you *could* win cash *and* help the NPC! For just £2 a month or £24 per annum, you will be entered into the NPC 250 Club prize draw. Half of the income goes into

You can sign up at:
www.npcuk.org/post/npc-250-club *OR: Write to the NPC address on Page 1.