



# Dragonspeech

Issue 7  
Spring 2023

The voice of  
National Pensioners Convention Wales

## Update from the Chair, Dereck Roberts

I need to start by stating that, as far as I know, no AI was used in the production of this report.....but how would I know if it had?

During 2022 to 2023 we have all been learning to live with Covid and we have lost many friends and relatives to the disease itself and, in some cases, because of the damage done to the NHS service by Covid. But the effects of underfunding, for so many years, has also played a major part and has exposed the failing social care sector.

So it will be no surprise to hear that, over the next five years, **NPC Wales will have the recovery of the NHS in Wales and**

**the development of a fully integrated Social Care service, free at the point of need, as its first priority.**

**NPC Wales second priority has to be the Cost-of-Living Crisis.**

The global energy and food supply shocks emanating from Russia's invasion of Ukraine have intensified. Rising energy, food, and other goods prices have pushed up the interest rates set by inflation-targeting central banks to levels not seen since the 2008 financial crisis. That will include continuing the campaign for a decent State Pension for all.

Most of the issues, but not all, around

that are the responsibility of the Westminster Government.

**Priority 3 Connections for All**

The NPC is campaigning for 'Connections For All', meaning that those who want to go online and use the internet, computers, and modern technology, should be given the access, help and training required to help digitally include them. However, we firmly believe that traditional forms of communication and services such as face to face, over the telephone and via post must remain in place.

**Priority 4 Transport**

Welsh Government has published a white paper on the Taxi and

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## Chair's Report continued

Private Hire Vehicle (Wales) Bill. The bill proposes to modernise the taxi and private hire vehicle sector - addressing cross-bordering and reforming licensing to make services safer, greener, and fairer.

### **Buses and the Bus Bill?**

Bus services are in deep crisis. Routes being closed down all over Wales (and England).

### **Priority 5 Housing Care and Repair**

There are 13 Care & Repair Agencies in Wales, each covering a different region. To qualify for their service: You must be over the age of 60. You must be a homeowner or rent a home privately. Pre Covid the number of houses improved was over 6,500 per year but in 2020-2021 3,863 were improved of those 1,865 were owner occupied.

### **So what is to be done?**

NPC Wales will continue to work with NPC UK and participate in the NPC Special Delegate Conference and one day Convention in Blackpool 27th – 29th June 2023.

NPC Wales will continue to work in partnership with Cymru Older People's Alliance (COPA), Active Wales (AV) and the newly

formed Wales Seniors Forum (WSF).

NPC Wales will continue to meet regularly with the Older People's Commissioner for Wales, Helena Herklots, and will also be involved with the appointment procedure for her successor as her term of office ends on 20th August 2024.

NPC Wales will continue to meet regularly with the Welsh Government Ministerial Advisory Forum on Ageing (MAFA). NPC Wales will, in particular, monitor and comment upon, the Welsh Government Age Friendly Wales Strategy for an ageing Society delivery plan.

NPC Wales will continue to contribute to the work of two Senedd Cross Party working groups: Cross Party Group on Older People and Ageing and the Cross-Party Group on Intergenerational solidarity.

NPC Wales will seek to develop a manifesto for the next General Election (likely to be in 2024). Voter Photo ID will be required for the UK General Election.

I wish to thank all of the members of the NPC Wales Executive Committee for

their work and support and also Age Cymru who provide us with Secretarial Services.

*Dereck Roberts  
Chair NPC Wales  
10th April 2023*

## NPC Wales Report 2022 – 2023

As we started to learn to live with Covid we began to hold hybrid meetings face to face for those who could or wanted meet face to face with the option of joining via Zoom. Our meetings were held at the Offices of UNITE The Union in Cardiff who offer their meeting rooms free of charge and also provide support for the Zoom meetings. The technology generally worked ok. So a big thank you to UNITE.

We held our AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022 with the Older People's Commissioner for Wales (OPCW) Helena Herklots as our guest speaker. The Full Council then met:

October 2022 with Tony O'Brien – Chair/Convenor of the NPC Housing Working Party as our guest speaker.

January 2023 with Mark Turner from Unison a member of the Welsh Government Expert Panel on Towards a National Care and Support Service as our guest speaker.

Following the May 2022 AGM The Executive Committee met:  
July 2022, September 2022, October 2022, November 2022, January

2023, and March 2023.

2022 – 2023 was a very busy year for NPC Wales and we covered a lot of ground.



The UK Covid 19 Inquiry is the independent public inquiry set up to examine the UK's response to and impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and learn lessons for the future. The Inquiry is being Chaired by Baroness Heather Hallett, a former Court of Appeal judge.

The Inquiry has been established under the Inquiries Act (2005). This means that the Chair will have the power to compel the production of documents and call witnesses to give evidence on oath.

The first public hearing is to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at Dorland House, London, W2 6BU and will look at pandemic preparedness and resilience. NPC Wales will support NPC UK who may well be present at that first hearing.

**The UK Covid Enquiry is inviting people to tell**

**them about your experiences of the Covid-19 pandemic. You can do that either on line <https://share.covid19.public-inquiry.uk/s/your-experience>**

**But the good news is that the enquiry has good digital inclusion policies and you don't have to do it on line you can do it by post :**

**FREEPOST UK Covid-19 Inquiry**

So if you want to give evidence or know someone who wants to please do so.

The Older People's Commissioner for Wales (OPCW) is also involved to ensure that that the Covid 19 Public Inquiry is informed by the insights and work of the OPCW office and that it listens, values and responds to the experiences of older people and their families. NPC Wales will supply evidence and information to the OPCW.



**Westminster Government The Cost-of-Living Crisis.** The global energy and food supply shocks emanating

## NPC Wales Report 2022 – 2023 continued

from Russia's invasion of Ukraine have intensified. Rising energy, food, and other goods prices have pushed up the interest rates set by inflation-targeting central banks to levels not seen since the 2008 financial crisis.

Most of the issues, but not all, around that are the responsibility of the Westminster Government.



NPC was clear that the suspension of the triple lock on the state pension meant that the state pension in 2021 was only increased by 3% against an inflation rate then of 6-8% and possible double digit later this year. NPC demanded that the triple lock be maintained in the autumn review.

During questions by MPs on the government's mini-budget U-turn on 17th October 2022, The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Jeremy Hunt MP, revealed the measure

to protect pension increases was one of the cost-saving benefit cuts he was considering.

NPC Wales wrote to all, (40), Welsh Members of Parliament Reference the State Pension Triple Lock. The text of the letter was posted on the Zoom Chat facility for all participants. The letter was sent, via Royal Mail, on Tuesday 25th October and by email on 27th October.

We also asked our affiliated delegates and members to write to their own MPs using links provided on the petition websites. There was a good response from members, across the UK, thousands responded to on line petitions and the write to your MP links.

NPC UK made a final appeal to keep the triple lock.

### **November 2022 Chancellor's Financial Statement**

**The state pension,  
benefits and tax credits  
will rise in line with  
inflation - 10.1% in April  
2023.**

**So a major victory for the  
NPC.**

### **State Pension Age Review**

Feb 2022 Second State Pension age review: call for evidence.

The NPC is categorically against any further increase in the state pension retirement age. The Westminster Government has now postponed any decision about the proposed increase in State Pension Age until 2026 (after the next General Election).

But the pressures from the Cost-of-Living Crisis continue.

We have become a much poorer country very quickly. This was particularly so for those who have Caring responsibilities and are in receipt of Carers Allowance (CA) and Universal Credit (UC).

Many could not afford to retain the CA as it affects their UC. Some older people were also stopping their Non-Residential domiciliary care package as they could no longer afford it.

# NPC Wales Report 2022 – 2023 continued

## Portcullis House Drop-in Event 18th April



MPs and Peers attended the drop-in event in Parliament's Attlee Suite, in Portcullis House, Westminster, to find out more about the NPC campaign to create an independent Commissioner in England to be a voice for older people's issues.

More than 75 charities and organisations have now signed the NPC Consensus Statement with Independent Age, Ageing Better, and Age UK to seek better representation for older people across government-policy making. Jan Shortt the General Secretary of NPC was at the event.

Independent Age (a Charity) who sponsored the event asked if NPC Wales could join the event because of our experience of working with the Older People's Commissioner for Wales.

NPC Wales Chair Dereck Roberts attended the event to support the campaign by sharing our experience of having an independent Older People's Commissioner in Wales.

He spoke with many at the event including having a one-to-one session with Sir Ian Duncan Smith MP.



**The Well-being of Wales**

**Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WBFG).  
The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (SSWBA)**

**Ageing Well in Wales Ministerial Advisory Forum on Ageing (MAFA)**

**Julie Morgan MS Deputy**



**Minister for Social Services  
Community Health Councils**

Please note that Llais has taken over the role of the Community Health Councils in Wales.

They have around 100 staff and a growing team of volunteers who work all over Wales.

Find your local Llais team and get in touch. <https://staging.llaiswales.org/in-your-area> but that is on line only so you may have to write to LLAIS BOARD, 3rd Floor, 33 - 35 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9HB

# NPC Wales Report 2022 – 2023 continued

## MAFA Meetings

We had been sent an updated Strategy for an Ageing Society: Delivery Plan on Tuesday 28th March a 34-page detailed review! The Public Version would be released in May 2023.

**For NPC Wales some core issues in the review are:**



## Improving access to health and social care services

The Regional Integration Fund came into play 1st April 2022. It will run to April 2027. The activities funded are to support the development of six national Models of integrated Care (MoC):

Community based care – prevention and community coordination

Community based care – complex care closer to home

Promoting good emotional health and well-being

Supporting families to stay

together safely, and therapeutic support for care experienced children  
Home from hospital services  
Accommodation based solutions

On January 24th, 2023, the Minister for Health and Social Services announced £5m to increase the number of allied health professionals (AHPs) and increase access to community-based care to help people remain active and independent.

Recruit more GPs by launching the This is Wales: Train Work Live  
There has been a significant increase in the fill rate for GP training. The current recruitment target of 160 new GP trainees each year is consistently being achieved.

The second phase of standards, introduced in April 2022, aim to ensure that GP practices take a forward-looking and planned approach to managing patient need, addressing the 8am bottleneck we know has been an ongoing issue.

GP Practices had until 31 March 2023 to demonstrate achievement of this commitment. They will need to demonstrate to health boards the

improvements they have made to reflect the access needs of their patients.

The evaluation of the Dementia Action Plan has been delayed due to the pandemic but is currently ongoing.



An Expert Group, created as part of Co-operation Agreement with Plaid Cymru has been formed to provide recommendations on practical next steps which can be taken towards the creation of a **National Care Service where care is free at the point of need.** Officials are currently finalising the development of Draft Implementation plan.

A sustainable way forward for Wales' adult social care charging will be considered in the context of the next steps arising from the Expert Group's report.

**NPC Wales Comment on all that was : “Hurry up please!”**

## Housing

**The Housing with Care Fund** is up and running, with a budget of £60.5m available to Regional Partnership Boards in 2022-23, and the same in 2023-24. Once the schemes have been processed a summary will be available.

Independent Living Care & Repair: £4.8m revenue grant, an increase of £0.5m over last year

**The increase is to enable Care & Repair Agencies to provide additional services in relation to complex hospital discharge cases for example where the client's home needs essential maintenance work before adaptations can be provided, or where the client needs help with issues relating to hoarding that prevent the safe installation of adaptations.** The Care & Repair capital grant for

Rapid Response Adaptations also increased, from £1.64m in 2021-22 to £3m in 2022-23.

### **Enable: Adapt your home if you are disabled or an older person**

This capital grant to local authorities increased to £6m in 2022-23 from £5m in 2021-22. The additional funding is to ensure all local authorities can provide Disabled Facilities Grants for all small and medium adaptation without applying a means test.

### **Physical Adaptations Grant: Adapt your home if you are disabled or an older person living in social housing**

Traditional housing associations receive £10.5m capital funding to provide adaptations for

their tenants.

Capital grants in 2022-23 totalled £19.5m. An additional £1.6m capital funding was found in year to supplement the Physical Adaptations Grant budget, and Regional Partnership Boards distributed an additional £3m from the Housing with Care Fund to supplement local authorities' Disabled Facilities Grant. Total capital expenditure on adaptations in 2022-23 will therefore reach c.£24m..

## Transport

### **Llwybr Newydd The Wales Transport Strategy**

On 9th March 2023 Welsh Government published a white paper on the Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle (Wales) Bill. The bill proposes to modernise the taxi and private hire vehicle sector - addressing cross-bordering



and reforming licensing to make services safer, greener, and fairer.

What we will do to improve transport over the next 5 years

### **Buses and the Bus Bill ? Bus services are in deep crisis. Routes are being closed down all over Wales (and England).**

A joint statement from Welsh Government, TfW, WLGA, Association of Transport Co-ordinating Officers (ATCO), Confederation of Passenger Transport and Coach and Bus Association Cymru was published on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

The **Bus Emergency Scheme (BES)** kept vital bus services running throughout the pandemic. The scheme had been due to end in March 2023, but following extensive discussions, BES will now run 24th July 2023.



## Transport continued

The Welsh Government will continue to work with Local Authorities and bus operators to maximise the funding available for the remainder of the financial year. We will continue to meet regularly and work closely together and with other partners to build a strong and sustainable bus network for

## Pension Credit



## Older People Abuse



Comisiynydd Pobl Hŷn Cymru  
Older People's Commissioner for Wales

Wales.

Older People's Commissioner for Wales has produced an [online directory](#) that allows older people, their family and friends, and professionals to easily search for services and support in their local area that can help them if they are experiencing abuse, as well as details of key national organisations and more specialised services available, which in some cases offer round the clock support.

You can contact the OPCW at:  
Cambrian Buildings  
Mount Stuart Square  
Butetown  
Cardiff  
CF10 5FL

**Phone: 03442 640 670**

**Email: [ask@olderpeople.wales](mailto:ask@olderpeople.wales)**

## Pension Credit and sources of support

### OPCW Pension Credit Summit Follow Up

In November 2022, the Commissioner published a briefing paper, which highlighted that up to 80,000 older people in Wales do not receive the Pension Credit they are entitled to.

### Increasing Take up of Pension Credit

The outcomes from take-up work evidences there are, still, too many people in Wales who are still not aware of their entitlements and there is further work to be done to raise awareness and provide access to the support people need to make welfare benefit claims.

It remains the case that take up of this means tested entitlement remains low.

The take up rate is estimated as being 66% The rate has increased since 2018 (62%) but is still not high. This means that over £200 million is left unclaimed in the UK Treasury, rather than reaching those who need it most. – **Better to use that money to increase the State Pension (s) ?**



# Pension Credit and sources of support

As from April 2023

State Pension for people who retired pre-6th April 2016 from April 2023

= £ 156.20 per week



New State Pension for people who retired post 2016 from April 2023 = £ 203.85 per week

## Cost of Living Crisis information

There are some good **reliable Government sources** of information:

### Welsh Government Advicelink Cymru

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/our-work/advice-partnerships/advicelink->

[cymru/](https://www.cymru/)

Advicelink Cymru is a Welsh Government funded Citizens Advice service designed to help people who are most in need of advice services, particularly those who would not usually seek advice. When you **call Advicelink Cymru, on 0808 250 5700**, you will get free and confidential advice about money you may be entitled to.

Advicelink Cymru can help you: Apply for welfare benefits, such as Personal Independence Payment, Carers Allowance and Pension Credit Get Welsh Government support with fuel costs,

school, and childcare expenses and further and higher education costs **To get in touch with one of the advisors call the free helpline on 0808 250 5700.**

### UK Government

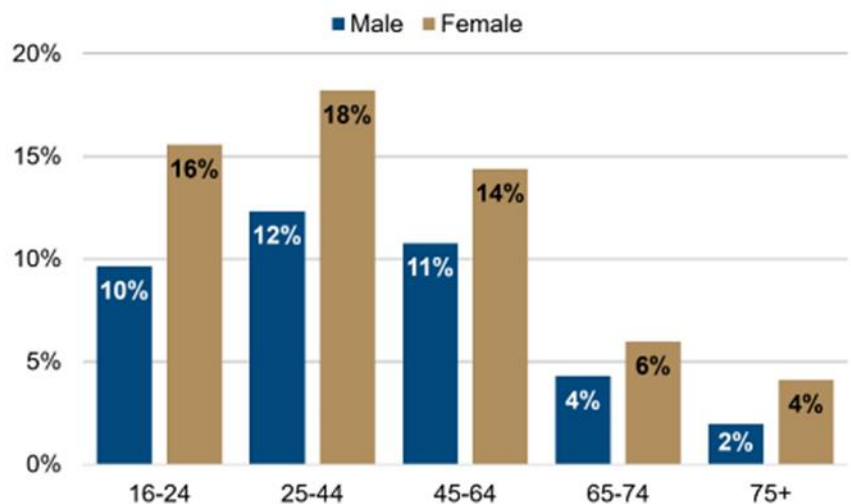


<https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk>

## Cost of Living Crisis

### Poverty and deprivation (National Survey for Wales): April 2021 to March 2022

Material deprivation is more common in younger age groups than in people aged 65 and over. Overall, people aged 25 to 44 were the most materially deprived (15%).



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## Cost of living crisis continued

40% of people living in social housing are materially deprived, compared with 22% of people in private rented accommodation and 5% in owner-occupied housing. People living in materially deprived households are less likely to have access to a car or van for personal use: 70% compared with 91% of people who are not materially deprived.

### Pensioner material deprivation

Older people are thought to sometimes under-report their material deprivation using the standard questions so people above the state retirement age are asked a separate set of questions to measure their

level of deprivation; these questions are more about the individual than household necessities.

In 2021-22, 4% of pensioners were materially deprived, the same as in 2019-20 but lower than in 2016-17 (7%). The pensioner results are combined with the adult non-pensioner estimates to provide the 'all adults' estimate of 11%.

People aged 65 and older being less likely than any other age group to use food banks. People living in owner-occupied accommodation were less likely to use a food bank (below 1%) than those who rent privately (4%) or live in social housing (10%).

**End Fuel Poverty Coalition**  
Over 60 charities and organisations, co-ordinated by the Warm This Winter campaign, including the National Pensioners Convention (NPC), joined forces to write to the new Prime Minister demanding more financial and non-financial support for the 7m UK households currently in fuel poverty.

## Fuel Poverty Action Energy For All Manifesto

NPC Wales have signed up in support.

The increases in energy prices are already causing a huge crisis for millions of UK residents. People's health and even lives are at risk, and increased debts and disconnections are inevitable. Now prices are to go up even further, to unprecedented heights.

The Westminster Government simply does not get how serious the situation facing people, both old and young, is.

The measures proposed by the government to soften the blow barely scratch the surface of what is needed. Even proposals by charities and others to increase means-tested entitlements and support for people in fuel poverty fall very far short, and, as the crisis widens, they do not reach enough people. In many cases proposals are also regressive – benefiting well off customers at the expense of the poorest.

We believe that the UK is a country with huge financial



**FUEL  
POVERTY  
ACTION**

resources, and that no one should be forced to go cold, or go hungry in order to pay their energy bills.

## Energy For All

We therefore ask the government to implement the proposal from Fuel Poverty Action (FPA), which is calling for “Energy for All.” “Energy for All” would provide a basic level of energy for every household, enough for them to maintain enough heating, lighting, cooking, and other essential services. FPA say it should be funded from three sources:

- A windfall tax on the excess profits being made by energy companies on the back of the prices they are charging now
- An end to fossil fuel subsidies, which cost the UK government millions of pounds every day, only to

perpetuate our dependence on polluting fuels with volatile prices which are also destroying the climate

- Higher tariffs on energy used over the amount required for their different circumstances, to be paid by the many people who are profligate with their usage, contributing substantially to climate change, because they do not need to count the cost.
- At present, due to fixed “standing charges,” the people who pay most per kWh are those who have cut their energy use

down to practically zero, while those who pay least are the ones who can afford to heat a mansion.

Energy for All must be accompanied by a massive insulation programme, using an army of well-trained, well-paid retrofit workers, to further improve health, bring down bills, and cut emissions of CO2. At the same time, a switch to renewable energy is urgent. Further investment and subsidies for gas and oil only perpetuate dependence on fuels which are volatile in price and lethal in their effect on the climate.

## Cold Homes Kill. Say no to heat or eat!

NPC Wales organised a, small, demonstration in Cardiff, outside the Office of the Secretary of State for Wales Office, in Cardiff Central Square Thursday 19th January 2023 on the date of the release of the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Excess Winter Death data for 2020-2021.



## The Scandal of Smart Meters

NPC wrote to the regulator, Ofgem asking for immediate intervention in this matter as if customers

they must be immediately switched back to their original smart meter option.



are not being consulted on the best way to clear any debt, which is against the protocol for energy providers. Those customers migrated to pre-payment meters must be asked if this is the best option for them after being informed that they will be paying over the odds for their energy. If it is not, then

### Ofgem The Regulator

Following information received by Ofgem, it appears that British Gas (BG) is contravening or is likely to contravene its Licence Conditions relating to the Standards of Conduct, arrangements for access to customer premises, disconnections, prepayment meters and the installation of prepayment meters (“PPM”) under a Relevant Warrant.

**As a result, Ofgem opened an investigation into**

**British Gas Trading Ltd (“British Gas”) on 2 February 2023. They expect to produce a report in June 2023.**

Jane Hutt MS Minister for Social Justice had met with the Energy Companies and there were a number of issues involving pre-payment meters, the way direct debit payments were being manipulated and growing numbers of people in debt.

Welsh Government has consistently called on the UK Government and Ofgem to introduce a social tariff (NPC policy) to protect the most vulnerable householders and there was broad support for this from energy suppliers.

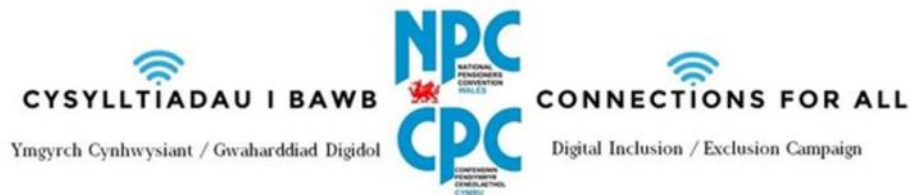
## Fuel Voucher Scheme

Welsh Social Justice Minister Jane Hutt launched a £4m fuel voucher scheme. The extra help is targeted towards people with pre-payment meters and households not connected to mains gas.

Welsh Government also had a Winter Fuel Support Scheme which closed on 28 February 2023. The scheme was open to households where an applicant was in receipt of one of the qualifying benefits, which included pension credit.



# Connections for All



The NPC is campaigning for 'Connections For All', meaning that those who want to go online and use the internet, computers, and modern technology, should be given the access, help and training required to help digitally include them. However, we firmly believe that traditional forms of communication

and services such as face to face, over the telephone and via post must remain in place.

The National Survey for Wales 2019-20 showed that older people still account for the largest demographic of those digitally excluded, which stands at 19% for those aged 50 and over; 19% those aged 65-74 and

48% for those aged 75 years and over.

We continue to refer examples of digital exclusion to the Older People's Commissioner for Wales.

## Age UK Digital Inclusion Videos

Our Chair, Dereck Roberts, was asked by Age UK to help make a set of Videos on the subject of Digital Inclusion.

The Final Videos are on Age UK website and across Age UK's social media platforms to raise awareness about the benefits of getting online. They have also been shared with our local Age UK/Cymru's, so that they can use them to promote their digital inclusion services locally.

Talking about tech with Dereck: <https://youtu.be/jkyKIjtsUyw>  
Digital Champions Compilation: <https://youtu.be/S1SWbJW64mo>

## The end is nigh?

Well, December 2025 will see the end of the analogue (copper wire) telephone services.

One of the advantages NPC Wales has is a number of members who are retired telephone engineers so they know the ins and outs of what is quite a complicated process



## **NPC wrote to the regulator Ofcom and had a reply**



Making communications  
work for everyone

NPC wrote about the migration of traditional landline services delivered over Public Switched Telephone Networks ('PSTN') to landline services delivered using Voice over Internet Protocol ('VoIP').

Ofcom has a programme of work to monitor this migration – with the

objective to minimise undue disruption and protect consumers from harm. We have put in place some specific guidance for telecoms providers on ensuring emergency calls for one hour during a power outage, published our expectations of providers when migrating customers, and highlighted to the main telecoms providers their obligations

to treat vulnerable customers fairly.

NPC had already met with Ofcom who work on the monitoring programme. I have asked them to contact you to give you an update and discuss how best to get feedback on your members' experience of the migration. NPC Wales remains on the case.

## **Modernising the BBC's Operating License**

The new Licence, which came into effect on 1 April 2023, will benefit audiences by safeguarding important content, while enabling the BBC to adapt and innovate in how it delivers content to viewers and listeners. For the first time, the licence also sets

broad requirements on the BBC's online services – BBC iPlayer, BBC Sounds, and the BBC website – and requires the BBC to comprehensively report on its plans and performance. The BBC must provide impartial news and information; support

learning; show creative, high-quality, and distinctive output; and reflect, represent, and serve the UK's diverse communities and support the creative economy across the UK.

## **The Online Safety Bill**

The Bill includes proposals that will give Ofcom robust information gathering and enforcement powers. The Bill is now in the House of Lords committee stage April through May 2023.

## **Broadband social tariffs**

Social tariffs are special discounted deals available for certain low-income customers. They're generally cheaper than typical broadband tariffs. They also aren't usually subject to price rises or exit fees. You're likely to be eligible for a social tariff if you receive a means-tested state benefit, such as Universal Credit, Pension Credit, or legacy equivalents. The exact requirements depend on the broadband provider in question – some only offer social tariffs to Universal Credit recipients.

Those who receive Guarantee Credit (a top-up to Pension Credit) are also usually eligible. How much? between £10 – 25 per month depending on the provider.



## NPC Business

### NPC Biennial Delegate

5,000) and 16 Regions.  
National Organisations get delegates:  
5,000 - 18,000 members  
2 Delegates  
18,000 – 40,000 members  
3 Delegates  
40,000 members or more  
4 Delegates

Chair Dereck Roberts, Vice Chair Gareth Parsons, Secretary Louisa St Bartholamew Brown-Morgan & Treasurer Melvena Richards



### Conference Stone Staffordshire

**Tuesday 15 March 2022 –  
Wednesday 16th March**

The NPC delegate structure is based on National Organisations (who have a membership of more than

Regions 1 delegate per 1,000 members up to a maximum of 4 Delegates

NPC Wales had 4 delegates:

## Presentation of Structure Working Party Review Interim Report

Does it make sense to have a National Council and a National Executive Committee? Having one accountable body is the best way forward in terms of accountability and removing duplication of work and therefore cost.

The other issues were:

- The cost of running the Annual Convention.
- The role of the Biennial Delegate Conference (BDC) which is the policy and rule making body.

The membership structure and what we do and how to secure finances which provide a more secure future. Technology will play a role.

The March 2022 Biennial Delegate Conference (BDC) had resolved:

- That there would be one accountable body called the National Executive Council.
- There would be further investigation of the cost of a single BDC and Annual Convention and the cost of having the BDC in the same week as the Annual Convention in 2024.

At the National Council the following decisions were agreed:

**The Special Delegate Conference (to approve the final outcomes of the Structure Review) would be held on Tuesday 27th June 2023 in the Blackpool Conference Centre.**

**The Annual Pensioners Convention would be held over two days Wednesday 28th & Thursday 29th June 2023 in the Blackpool Conference Centre.** NPC Wales will be represented at both events.

**Biennial Delegate Conference (BDC) 2024 Blackpool Conference Centre.**

## **NPC Wales**

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Mariners House  
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East Moors Road  
Cardiff CF24 5TD

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029 2043 1570

Email:  
[info@npc.org](mailto:info@npc.org)

Website:  
[www.npcwales.org](http://www.npcwales.org)



The National Pensioners Convention Wales is an organisation which comprises of delegates from affiliated organisations. The membership is made up of pensioner groups, retired associations of trade unions and charities related to older people.

The objective of NPC Wales is to promote and campaign for the National Pensioners Convention's policies in Wales as a non-party political campaigning organisation that seeks to improve the living standards and welfare of all pensioners.

## **Affiliation**

Older people's organisations and individuals can affiliate to NPC Wales at any time. Organisations can send up to four delegates to Full Council meetings, which take place four times a year. Individual members can also attend the meetings.

If you would like to affiliate, you can go to our website and download an affiliation form. Or you can call our secretariat on 029 20431570.

This newsletter is supported by:

