CSPA

CIVIL SERVICE PENSIONERS' ALLIANCE

CSPA Scotland's Manifesto

Protecting Scotland's Pensioners

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CSPA Scotland Branch looks after the interests of all retired civil servants in Scotland and campaigns on issues of interest to pensioners in general

We are campaigning for:

A Commissioner for Older People to be appointed in Scotland

- Similar to the Commissioners in Wales and Northern Ireland, they would act independently of government to protect and promote the rights of older people

The continuation of the state pension triple lock and the Barnett formula

The protection of Universal Benefits

- It is essential to retain and increase the Winter Fuel Payment to ensure that the most vulnerable are not adversely affected by the harsh Scottish weather, thus helping to end fuel poverty.

A living state pension for all that are entitled

- The UK's State Pension is the lowest in Europe. It has been supplemented with the addition of other benefits, to some, but not all pensioners. These benefits included Winter Fuel Payment, Concessionary Travel, and the entitlement to free TV licence for the over 75s. The removal of the entitlement to the free TV licence for the over 75s could be the beginning of the removal of all other 'top up' benefits. The basic National State Pension to be the same for both men and women.

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Improved accessibility to public transport for the elderly and disabled

Discounted dental care for those on state pension

- This would encourage pensioners to attend the dentist and maintain their oral health and discounts would ensure that low-income groups are better able to afford such costly treatment.

Safe social housing

- Build or adapt more housing to meet the needs of the ageing population and provide suitable supported living options that enable people to maintain their independence and community connections.

Utilise and protect Holyrood's devolved powers to support older people

Disability payments to be increased annually

- Increasing the adult disability payment and subsequent Pension Age Disability Payment by the rate of inflation each year

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Compensation to be paid to the ‘WASPI women’

- Women born in the 1950s who were not given sufficient warning of the state pension age increasing should receive compensation from the UK Government

Full implementation of the United Nation’s Convention on the rights of Disabled People (UNCRDP)

Adding age discrimination to the Equalities Act 2010

Maintain Pension Credit and Housing Benefit

Create a Moratorium on ‘Shared Space’ Schemes

- This has already been petitioned through Holyrood, for the safety and wellbeing of the elderly, disabled and all people in society.

Ensuring access to all and raising awareness of digital exclusion

- Freedom of choice to opt in or opt out, with no discrimination of those not willing or able to use digital means (e.g. higher costs for services). It should also be accessible and affordable for all who choose to opt in.

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