

# TRENDING ELDERS

Quarterly  
survey  
#5



April -  
June  
2024

## RESULTS SNAPSHOT

- 6 Survey responses
- 6 Organisations represented
- 4 Prominent issues raised

## QUOTE OF THE QUARTER

"[Anon] has no family and a basic phone; he actually has no technology in his home. I have offered more help, but he is too embarrassed to accept, and says he's managing like this but just cannot afford to pay for lighting and heating. Even base essentials are taking up most of his benefits "

**Helping Hands UK**

## ISSUES

## DETAILS

### Cost of living

The cost of living crisis continues to be the most reported issue facing older people. Difficulties paying the rising fuel costs are having a huge impact on health and general wellbeing, with multiple organisations reporting that older people refuse to switch on their heating.

### Attitudes to getting help

One of the issues raised this month is the rise in people's reluctance to seek help. Organisations are aware of the need but people are hesitant to ask for help due to feeling embarrassment or pride.

### Mental health

Loneliness and isolation are recurring issues that we see being reported, underpinned by many contributing factors. These include mobility, cuts to services, and a real concern for rising costs and public transport difficulties.

### Digital inclusion

More services are being moved online, and many older people are struggling to change with them. This frequently denies access, most noticeably to banking and GP appointments.

# DIRECTLY FROM OUR MEMBERS:

"Bus passes - older people in Otley don't necessarily travel into Leeds City Centre and the only other means of acquiring a new bus pass is online. This is a problem for those that are not digitally inclined."

**Otley Action for  
Older People**

"Older people are coming to our Centre more than ever so that they can keep warm during the day and not have to switch their heating on during the day!"

**Anonymous**

"The number of people coming to our Community Pantry is increasing"

**Kippax  
Parish Council**

**5 out of 6**

organisations have reported they are under strain due to financial pressures.

**Trending elders is LOPF's quarterly survey of members, through which we gather up-to-date intelligence on the issues affecting older people in Leeds.**

**It's an important tool for increasing the collective voice of our members, and the older people they work with.**

**We use quarterly reports to:**

- **increase our own understanding of what's going on**
- **brief politicians and media**
- **influence commissioners and funders**

**Use your voice!**

Please become a quarterly respondent to Trending Elders. We ask just three regular questions in an online survey, making it very quick to do.

Please contact [jenni@opforum.org.uk](mailto:jenni@opforum.org.uk) if you would like to help amplify our collective voice.

Thank you to all our respondents this quarter.

**[www.opforum.org.uk](http://www.opforum.org.uk)**