

Later Life Newsletter

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It's Spring Online time! The award winning digital inclusion campaign has started - hundreds of free digital taster events are being held across the UK to help people learn about and use computers, the internet and other modern technology. Find a Spring Online taster event by calling 0800 77 1234 or visiting the [events map](#)

Local Healthwatch Regulations Explained The LGA and DH have jointly published a document to help local Healthwatch audiences understand the legal requirements that have been set out in regulations. [Read more](#)

NICE expands into social care NICE's first quality standards for social care will help support people with dementia to live well, and improve the health and wellbeing of looked-after children and young people. The standards launch as NICE becomes the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence and officially takes on the work of bringing evidence-based guidance and standards to the social care sector. NICE have since published their first social care quality standard covering the [care of people with dementia](#)

Older workers are a "vital and untapped resource for business" - Pensions Minister Employers who ignore Britain's growing older population could suffer skills shortages and lose an important competitive edge, according to a new government guide. "*Employing older workers*", published by the Department for Work and Pensions, warns that Britain is running out of workers. There are 13.5 million job vacancies which need to be filled over the next ten years, but only 7 million young people are projected to leave school and college over that time. [read more](#)

New Anti-Poverty Champions begin work The Welsh Government has asked all 22 councils across Wales to create new 'Anti-Poverty Champions' to help the poorest in society and protect those most at risk of poverty and exclusion. There will be two champions in each local authority, one councillor and one senior council official. They are part of the Welsh Government's approach to getting all parts of the public sector to tackle poverty. [read more](#)

Strategic Housing for Older People Analysis Tool The Housing LIN, in partnership with Elderly Accommodation Counsel, recently launched a free online tool that can help local authorities and providers better forecast future demand of housing and care in their areas. In particular, Strategic Housing for Older People Analysis Tool, or SHOP@, has been tested by market analysts, commissioners of social care and housing providers to model a variety of future housing scenarios. [access the tool](#)

Measuring National Well-being - Older people and loneliness 2013 The ONS has released an article examining loneliness among older people using the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA). 25% of respondents said they felt lonely sometimes and 9 per cent often. However loneliness was more commonly reported by those aged over 80. The analysis also found a strong association between loneliness and lower life satisfaction and limitations in performing daily activities. [read the report](#)

Dying Matters Awareness Week is taking place from the 13th-17th May. This year's theme is '[Be ready for it](#)'. Click [here](#) to order materials for the week, and share your plans by emailing info@dyingmatters.org or calling 08000 21 44 66

And finally... the key to saving more - learning Mandarin! Research by a behavioural economist at Yale University suggests people who speak certain languages like Mandarin or Malay are more likely to save for retirement than English speakers. His reasoning being the way grammar treats future events in different languages. Those which use the present tense when dealing with the future ("I save more" rather than "I will save more") are more likely to save than those which require a future tense because they disassociate the present and the future, something we are doing by not saving for retirement. Confused? [read more](#)

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