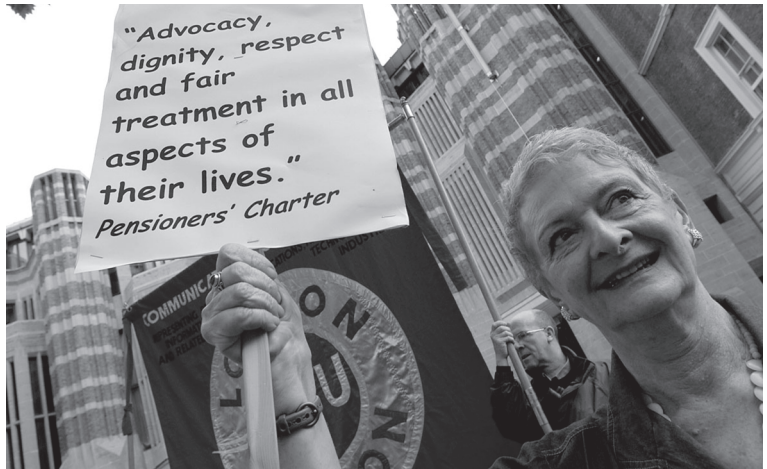


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# A Pensioners' Manifesto



**“...everyone wants our votes, but they are slow to act on the changes we want to see...”**

Growing older in our society can be a real challenge. Everyone talks about respecting older people, but our state pension is amongst the least adequate in Europe.

Everyone wants our votes, but they are slow to act on the changes we want to see. Everyone says what a wonderful asset we are, yet we are described as a burden on society and everyone says we deserve dignity, but not everyone receives proper care.

Much has been written about the ‘grey vote’ – but few politicians have sufficient understanding or commitment to addressing the really important issues that affect our older population.

Sympathy and good wishes are no substitute for political will and the support for policies that would improve the lives of Britain’s existing 11m pensioners, as well as future generations.

That is why at this General Election we will call on all candidates to support a manifesto that will put the concerns of pensioners at the heart of the political process.

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# A Pensioners' Manifesto

## All men and women shall be entitled to dignity, security and fulfilment in retirement that includes:

- A basic state pension set above the official poverty level (estimated at £165 a week in 2009), which is linked to the higher of earnings or prices, and paid alongside other existing concessions, to provide some financial security for all.
- Free long-term and social care funded from general taxation and provided to the highest standards in order to maintain dignity and without the need for means-testing, rationing or a postcode lottery.
- Good quality local services funded through national income tax rather than council tax.
- Free UK-wide travel on all forms of public transport (buses, trams and rail) to encourage independence and greater mobility, as well as helping the environment and reducing demand on care services.
- An end to discrimination where it adversely affects the opportunities, goods and services available to older people.
- A winter fuel allowance of £500 per pensioner household to help maintain a warm and comfortable home.

**Use your vote for candidates  
supporting the  
Pensioners' Manifesto**

