**Communications Pack for third sector organisations to promote pension credit and winter fuel payments**

Leeds Older People’s Forum is asking their members, third sector organisations, warm spaces, food hubs, councillors, flu clinics, health hubs, local care partnerships and faith organisations to use this comms pack to promote Pension Credit and the link to winter fuel payments, in Pension Credit Awareness Week 9th - 15th September 2024.

**Article for newsletters and bulletins**

**Winter Fuel Payments are now linked to Pension Credit - check your entitlement now**

If you receive a state pension, you could be eligible to increase your weekly income by claiming Pension Credit.

Leeds average pension credit weekly award is £71.21 (Feb 2024), with the exact amount depending on the money you already have.

You might be entitled to pension credit, even if you have savings, a private pension or own your home.

Claiming Pension Credit could also mean you can get extra help with the following;

* Help with your Dental Costs
* Help with your Council Tax Bill
* Help with your Rent
* **Winter Fuel Payment**
* Help with your TV Licence if you are over 75

You can make a claim online, by phone or you can also request a paper claim form.

<https://apply-for-pension-credit.service.gov.uk/start>

**Pension Credit claim line: 0800 99 1234**

If you would like more information,need help claiming, or would just like to talk to someone about claiming Pension Credit, you can contact any of the services below. These services are all completely free, impartial, and confidential.

**Welfare Rights at Leeds City Council**

🕿 0113 3760452

🖂 [Welfare.rights@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Welfare.rights@leeds.gov.uk)

**Age UK Leeds**

🕿 0113 389 3000

🖂 [info@ageukleeds.org.uk](mailto:info@ageukleeds.org.uk)

Details of other organisations that can help with Pension Credit can be found on [www.leedsmic.org.uk](http://www.leedsmic.org.uk).

You can also visit [Leeds City Council Community Hubs and Libraries](https://www.leeds.gov.uk/community-hubs) to find out more.

**It is important to make your claim as soon as possible, as it can only be backdated three months from the date the claim is made.**

**X / Tweets / Facebook posts**

* Pensions Credit is an additional benefit for people on state pension to bring their income up to a minimum amount. Do you have a friend or relative who may be entitled to Pension Credit? Check their eligibility at <https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit-calculator>
* Pension credit is an entitlement for people who have a low weekly income. If you're struggling to get by every week check it out. You could be entitled, and it could make life better for you and your family. Apply now on 0800 99 1234 or <https://apply-for-pension-credit.service.gov.uk/start>
* Pension credit gives access to other benefits such as Winter Fuel Payments, help with housing costs and council tax. Check your entitlement now. Every bit helps. Ring 0800 99 1234 to apply today. Or visit <https://apply-for-pension-credit.service.gov.uk/start>
* Be prepared for this winter. Check your entitlement to Pension Credit and consider any home improvements you could make. Contact Home Plus on 0113 2406009 or [enquiries@care-repair-leeds.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@care-repair-leeds.org.uk) for help and advice.
* Winter can be hard for many people, Pension Credit provides additional income and access to other benefits. Check your eligibility <https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit-calculator>

**Leaflets / Posters:**

If you want any leaflets about pension credit or posters to display in your community building, contact [jo@opforum.org.uk](mailto:jo@opforum.org.uk). Jo will put in a bulk order

**DWP have lots of videos and resources** - please share regularly on Facebook, X and WhatsApp

[**https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pension-credit-toolkit/pension-credit-toolkit-advice-and-guidance-for-stakeholders**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pension-credit-toolkit/pension-credit-toolkit-advice-and-guidance-for-stakeholders)

**Example of a** **DWP picture you could download and share on your media channels:**

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