Can I afford to retire?
Assessing your income and options

Money matters
Age UK is the new force combining Age Concern and Help the Aged.

With almost 120 years of combined history to draw on, we are bringing together our talents, services and solutions to do more to enrich the lives of people in later life.

The Age UK family includes Age Cymru, Age NI and Age Scotland.

This information guide has been prepared by Age UK and contains general advice only, which we hope will be useful. Nothing in this guide should be construed as specific advice and it should not be relied on as a basis for any decision or action. Age UK does not accept any liability arising from its use. We aim to ensure that this information is as up to date and accurate as possible, but please be warned that certain areas are subject to change from time to time. Please note that the inclusion of named agencies, companies, products, services or publications in this information guide does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by Age UK.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this guide is correct. However, things do change, so it is always a good idea to seek expert advice on your personal situation.

Date of publication: March 2011 © Age UK 2011
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Introduction

For most of us, having the standard of living we want in retirement will depend on making our money work for us as effectively as possible. In this guide we look at some of the main questions you need to consider as you approach retirement age. You may need to take professional advice to identify what the best choices are for you. We also explain how to find the right kind of adviser for your needs.

Throughout this guide you will find suggestions for organisations that can give further information and advice about your options. Their contact details can be found in the ‘Useful organisations’ section (see pages 25–30). Contact details for local organisations can usually be found in your local phone book. If you have difficulty finding them, your local Age UK/Age Concern* should be able to help.

As far as possible, the information given in this guide is applicable across the UK.

Key

This symbol indicates where information differs for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

This symbol indicates who to contact for the next steps you need to take.

*Many of our local partners will remain Age Concern for a while yet.
Taking stock of your situation

There are several issues you need to consider to make sure that you have the money you need after you retire. It’s a good idea to start by being clear about what your position is and what you want to achieve. Consider how much money you will need in your retirement. How much do you spend now? Remember, some costs may reduce, e.g. mortgages, but some may increase, for example the amount you spend on leisure.

Make a list of all your assets and liabilities. Your assets might include your house, savings and investments and anything else you own that has a value. Liabilities are your mortgage (if you still have one) and any other debts. It’s usually a good idea to reduce any debt you already have and to avoid incurring any more.

Work out what your outgoings are. Take account of any expenses that only crop up once or twice a year, such as insurance or buying presents. Also think about whether you will have any large one-off expenses at some point in the future. Remember to include items such as entertainment and travel, as well as the basics like housing costs and utility bills.
Are there any other ways of increasing your income or reducing your outgoings that you have not yet considered? Think about those in this guide as well as others such as letting out a room in your house.

Our free guide Managing your money has budget worksheets you can fill in to get a clear picture of your income and outgoings. See the free Moneymadeclear guide Making your budget work for you for additional help. You can call Moneymadeclear if you have any questions about money (see page 28). From April 2011 they are offering a face-to-face service. Call them to find out if this is available in your area.

If your debts are presenting a problem, contact the National Debtline or the Consumer Credit Counselling Service (see pages 28 and 26).

If you live in Northern Ireland, contact a local advice agency (see page 26).
Questions to think about

• When should I retire? Could you defer your pension and carry on working? Could you work part-time for a while?

• What will my income be? Use the tips in this guide and the worksheets in *Managing your money* to get a clearer idea of what your retirement income will be.

• What lifestyle do I want? Do you have enough money to continue your current lifestyle or, if not, are you happy to make cutbacks? If you’re thinking about retiring abroad, are you being realistic about whether it’s right for you?

• How much more do I need? How much extra money per year will you need to comfortably retire?

• What changes can I make now to ensure that I have the income I need? Can you feasibly increase your savings, claim any benefits that you may be entitled to, stay working for longer?

Think about ways to make sure that you have the income you need to relax and enjoy your retirement.

Read our free guide *Retiring abroad* for more information about retiring to another country. *Moneymadeclear* has a range of free guides about pensions and retirement, including *Retirement options* (see page 28).
Pensions

You can ask for an up-to-date pension forecast from the Pension Service (see page 29). You can get a forecast by post or telephone if you are more than 30 days away from State Pension age. You can get an online forecast from the Directgov website if you are more than four months away from State Pension age, and not a widow, widower or bereaved civil partner. The forecast will tell you what pension you can expect to get when you reach pension age.

The amount you will get depends on the number of ‘qualifying years’ you have built up with National Insurance (NI) contributions. A qualifying year is a tax year in which you have enough contributions to count towards a pension. These could be contributions from your wages, voluntary contributions, or credits. If you don’t have enough qualifying years for a full State Pension, you may be able to pay extra NI contributions to ‘buy back’ missing years. This may help you qualify for the basic State Pension or increase the amount of State Pension you will get.

For more advice, contact the National Insurance Contributions Office on 0845 302 1479.

The age at which you can claim State Pension is changing. It is currently 65 for men. State Pension age for women is gradually increasing from 60 to 65 between 2010 and 2018. This affects women born after 5 April 1950. You can find out exactly when you can claim State Pension by using the State Pension age calculator on the Directgov website.
The Pension Service will usually write to you four months before you reach State Pension age to tell you how to claim. You will not get your pension unless you return the claim form. You can choose to put off claiming your State Pension until a later date, and get a higher pension or a lump sum when you do claim. This is known as deferring your State Pension. Contact the Pension Service to find out more (see page 29).

See our free guide *More money in your pocket: a guide to claiming benefits for people over pension age* for more information. The Department for Work and Pensions produces a free guide called *State Pensions: your guide* (PM2). Call 08457 313233 to order a copy or download it from www.direct.gov.uk/pensions

The forecast will tell you what pension you can expect to get when you reach pension age.
You can usually take a quarter of your pension savings as a tax-free lump sum. If your pension savings are small, you may be able to take the whole lot in cash.
Private and occupational pensions

If you have a private pension, or a pension from your work (occupational pension), the first step is to check your entitlement. Ask the scheme manager for an up-to-date forecast if you have not already got one. Add this to your expected State Pension to see whether you will have enough income. Most people find they need less income in retirement – around two-thirds of your pre-retirement income is a good indication.

Check what type of pension you have. Is it a ‘final salary’ scheme where you get a proportion of your pay, or a ‘money purchase’ scheme where your contributions are invested? If it is a money purchase scheme, check how your contributions are invested and consider whether the investment still meets your circumstances.

If your pension is lower than you need, you have three options: pay in more, settle for a lower pension or delay drawing your pension. Ask your pension manager what options you have for paying in more or putting off drawing your pension. If you are in your employer’s scheme, you will usually be allowed to make extra contributions through an additional voluntary contribution (AVC) scheme. If not, you can take out a personal pension plan.

You can usually take a quarter of your pension savings as a tax-free lump sum. If your pension savings are small, you may be able to take the whole lot in cash. If you are eligible for means-tested benefits, check how each option will affect your benefit income.
If you have lost contact with a former scheme, the Pension Tracing Service may be able to help you (see page 29). They can trace your pension for free, unlike other organisations which can charge a sizeable fee. Our free guide *Tracing lost money* has more information. If you have a problem with your pension, contact the Pensions Advisory Service (see page 29).

Contact your pension provider and ask for an up-to-date forecast. Check the date you are expected to take the pension and whether there are any penalties for taking it at a different time. Consider taking financial advice, particularly if your situation is complex.

To work out how much income you could get by saving in a personal pension or stakeholder plan, visit www.moneymadeclear.org.uk/tools/pension_calculator

**Buying an annuity**

Some private and occupational pensions are ‘money purchase’ schemes. Your contributions, and those of your employer where applicable, are invested and what you get depends on how well your investments grow. When you retire you have to decide what to do with the fund you have built up and when to convert it to a pension.

The most common option is to buy an annuity. From this you will receive a guaranteed income payable for life, or for a specified period of time. You can buy this from the company which holds your pension fund but it may not be the best value annuity available. Always shop around to see whether other companies offer better value products.
You may also get a better rate if you have any health impairments that might affect your life expectancy, so always tell the annuity company about any conditions. The Pensions Advisory Service has an online annuity planner (see page 29).

Some financial advisers also specialise in annuities. Here are a few suggestions on what to ask your adviser:

• How many quotes will the adviser check?
• Is the adviser linked to a particular company or companies?
• Should you get an annuity to cover your spouse or partner?
• What are the pros and cons of different kinds of annuity (‘index-linked’ and ‘investment-linked’)?
• Do you have any other options? You can put off buying an annuity and instead draw an income from your pension fund but there are disadvantages to this.

To find an independent financial adviser, visit www.thepfs.org or www.unbiased.co.uk. The Age UK Group offers access to an Annuity Service provided by Premier Retirement Services. To find out more, call Premier Retirement Services on 0845 600 9269.*

*If you call the 0845 number you will be dealing with Premier Retirement Services. Age UK Enterprises Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority to introduce potential annuity customers. The Age UK Annuity Service is provided by Premier Retirement Services. Premier Retirement Services is a division of JLT Benefit Solutions Limited. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. A member of the Jardine Lloyd Thompson Group. Registered office: 6 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2PH. Registered in England number 02240496.
Are you entitled to any benefits?

Many retired people don’t claim all the benefits they’re entitled to. Make sure you do – benefit rules are not needlessly generous, so if you qualify for any help you should take up your entitlement.

There are two main types of benefits:

Means-tested benefits are paid according to whether your income and savings fall within certain limits. These benefits include the Guarantee Credit part of Pension Credit, Housing Benefit (for rent costs) and Council Tax Benefit.

In Northern Ireland, Housing Benefit, Rate Relief and Lone Pensioner Allowance are available to help with rates.

Even if you do not qualify for the full benefit you may be able to claim some help. There is also a Savings Credit part to Pension Credit to assist people with modest savings and/or private pensions. If you qualify for a means-tested benefit this can help you establish eligibility for other concessions such as help with health costs.
Non-means-tested benefits are paid to qualifying groups regardless of their income and savings. These include benefits for disability and care needs, such as Disability Living Allowance (for under-65s) and Attendance Allowance (for over-65s). Most people over Pension Credit age are eligible for a Winter Fuel Payment to help with their heating costs.

See our free guides *Claiming benefits: a guide for people of working age* and *More money in your pocket: a guide to claiming benefits for people over pension age*. Contact your local Age UK/Age Concern* to arrange a benefits check.

Benefit rules are not needlessly generous, so if you qualify for any help you should take up your entitlement.

*Many of our local partners will remain Age Concern for a while yet.*
Carrying on working

You may want to carry on working past the standard retirement age and you have the right to ask your employer to let you work past 65. If your employer does want you to retire at that age they must give you six months’ notice of this intention. Think about how you can demonstrate your value to your employer through your experience and skills, or by showing qualities such as flexibility and initiative.

However, the compulsory retirement age of 65 will be phased out by October 2011. This will mean you cannot be forced to leave your job simply because of your age.

If you do not want, or are not able, to continue in your current job, think about other options. Increasing numbers of companies are taking a positive attitude towards the recruitment of older staff. A part-time position may fit better around your other commitments.

You can claim your State Pension at the same time as working, although it counts alongside any salary as taxable income. It is also possible to draw a pension and a salary from an employer at the same time. Alternatively, you can put off drawing your state or private pension to build up extra pension later on.

See our free guide Working past retirement and free factsheet Help with looking for work or starting your own business for more information on finding a job. Read our factsheet The law on age discrimination if you feel you are being discriminated against.
Tax in retirement

Even if your income reduces when you retire, you may find that you have more to do with the tax office than before. The Pension Service (see page 29) will notify HM Revenue and Customs when you are due to receive your pension and they will contact you to request details of your other income. You may then have to complete a form each year.

If you are paying Income Tax, check that your liability is being calculated using the right allowances. Your personal allowance for Income Tax increases when you reach the age of 65 and again when you reach 75, although this allowance is reduced if you have income above a certain level. Check that HMRC have assigned the correct tax code to you based on your current situation. Ask your local tax office if you are unsure about how your tax has been calculated and tell them if you are soon to reach 65.

Your estate includes all the assets you own at your death (such as your house and savings), minus your debts. Estates worth over a certain amount (currently £325,000) will be liable for Inheritance Tax after the owner’s death. However, married couples and people in civil partnerships benefit from a change in the law that makes it easier for them to make full use of their tax-free allowances. If you are concerned about Inheritance Tax, do not take any action to try to reduce your estate’s future liability without first taking advice from a solicitor, accountant or financial adviser with specialist knowledge of the subject.

See our free Tax guide to find out more about how much tax you have to pay. Contact TaxHelp for Older People for free tax advice (see page 30).
Helen has recently reached State Pension age and her husband Vince will do so in two years’ time.

‘We hadn’t saved as much as we wanted to over the years – other things like the children and the house got in the way. We decided to see a financial adviser to find out what we had and how it might affect our retirement plans.

‘We’d invested bits and pieces in different places over the years and weren’t sure what the overall picture looked like. Some of our investments hadn’t done as well as we’d hoped but the adviser explained our current situation and suggested ways we could reinvest some of the money to make it work better for us.

‘Although I reached pension age last year, I decided to keep working a couple of days a week. I may give up when Vince does. I don’t have to pay National Insurance now I’m over pension age. The financial adviser explained that if we want to we can use a bigger proportion of the money we earn now to top up our pension pots.

‘I think we’ll be reasonably ok, particularly if we work a bit longer. Even so we’ve become a lot more money conscious. I’ll be pleased to get the Winter Fuel Payment this year. A friend had said I wouldn’t be eligible so I’m glad I checked and claimed it.’

‘I was pleased to get the Winter Fuel Payment last year. A friend had said I wouldn’t be eligible so I’m glad I checked and claimed it.’

My story
Finding out more about financial products and services

You may want to get detailed advice about what is best for you and your money. You could approach an Independent Financial Adviser (IFA) who will recommend financial products for you after researching the whole market. You will have to pay for their advice either as an upfront fee, through commission deducted by the product provider from any products you take out, or as a combination of fees and commission. First, check with the Financial Services Authority (FSA) that the IFA is authorised.

An IFA will give you a written recommendation as to which products are right for you, and answer any questions you have. Before approaching an IFA you may want to find out more for yourself. There are lots of different sources of information:

• **Moneymadeclear** (see page 28) produces a wide range of material to help consumers make informed choices about their money.

• **Newspapers and magazines** often have regular personal finance sections with articles on savings, investments, loans and insurance, as well as details of the current interest rates.

• **Specialist finance and investment magazines** may be available at your local library.
• **The internet** is a vast source of information about money. Look at newspaper and magazine websites, as well as those run by individual companies and trade associations (but remember that they ultimately want you to buy their products). Make sure any websites you look at are accurate and up to date.

Before buying any product or service, always check with the FSA whether a firm is authorised.

Our free guide *Money matters* has more information about IFAs and other financial products.

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**An IFA will give you a written recommendation as to which products are right for you, and answer any questions you have.**
Choosing a financial adviser

The adviser you choose should be both authorised to provide advice on the type of product you require and have regular recent experience of doing so. Consider what you want from your discussions: is it information on a particular product or more general advice about making the most of your money?

If considering an adviser, ask how independent they are and what links they have to providers of financial products. If you are speaking to an adviser at your bank or building society, or one employed by an insurance company, that link should be stated on documents provided by the adviser.

Other advisers include Independent Financial Advisers, mortgage brokers, stockbrokers, insurance brokers, accountants and some solicitors. Some will consider products for you from across the whole market, others from a limited number of providers, and some will be tied to a restricted list of providers. The situation may differ for different products sold by one firm. Find out as this may affect how much choice you are offered.

Advisers offer different levels of service. Some advisers will recommend a particular product after assessing your needs; others will select several products based on what you have said but leave you to decide. Check that what your adviser offers is in line with your expectations. You should also receive a key facts document explaining the service you will receive.

Always check that your adviser is authorised – if they are not, you are not protected. IFA Promotions can suggest local advisers and brokers (see page 28).
Your assets

Your assets are your most valuable possessions and will include things like your:

- home
- car
- savings
- investments
- life insurance
- jewellery.

Knowing how much your assets are worth will help you get a clearer idea of how much money you have. Get an up-to-date valuation from your bank, building society, insurance company or other financial provider. Get jewellery and other valuables checked by experts.

Cashing in or selling your assets is one way to boost your savings. If you are thinking of doing this, get independent advice from a specialist valuer first or you could end up losing money.

Our free guide Managing your money can help you calculate the value of your assets.
Downsizing and equity release

Equity release is a way that older homeowners can release cash from their home. There are two main types of equity release: lifetime mortgages and home reversion plans. A lifetime mortgage is a loan secured on your home. You pay no interest during your lifetime; instead, the debt is repaid from the sale of your home after your death. Home reversion plans involve selling part, or all, of your home to a reversion company in return for a lump sum, regular income or both. You may also see ‘sale and rent back schemes’ advertised, which allow you to sell your home in return for the right to rent it back for a fixed period. You should think very carefully and check that the provider is authorised by the FSA before going ahead with one of these schemes.

You usually need to be at least 55 years old, have paid off your mortgage (or use the equity release money to pay the balance) and own a property in reasonable condition.

Equity release plans are not suitable for everyone. Gaining income or a lump sum from equity release may affect any means-tested benefits you claim. Take legal and specialist financial advice before signing up for a plan, and make sure you understand all the risks. Consider the alternatives first, such as moving to a smaller property. Try some of the tips in this guide too.

See our free leaflet Equity release and free factsheet Equity release to find out more. Moneymadeclear produces a guide called Equity release schemes – raising money from your home (see page 28).
The Age UK Group offers access to the Age UK Equity Release Advice Service provided by Just Retirement Solutions Limited. Call Just Retirement Solutions Limited on 0845 600 9276 to find out more.*

**Problems and complaints**

If you have a complaint about a financial adviser, first contact the adviser. FSA-authorised firms have to have a complaints-handling process.

You may have valid grounds for a complaint if the firm has caused problems for you through inefficiency, error, by failing to give you relevant information or by providing incorrect information. If a product you have bought falls in value or does not perform as well as you hoped, this is not in itself grounds for complaint unless the firm failed to explain the risks involved or offered a product that did not meet your requirements.

*Age UK Enterprises Limited receives commission from Just Retirement Solutions Limited of up to 1.5 per cent of the amount advanced under each equity release plan sold, plus a contribution towards marketing support. Your local trading Age UK/Age Concern receives up to 30 per cent of the commission that Age UK Enterprises Limited receives for each equity release plan sold (i.e. up to 0.45 per cent of the amount advanced). Surplus net profits raised by Age UK Enterprises Limited from commission are donated to Age UK.
If you are not satisfied with the way the adviser deals with your complaint, you may be able to take it to the Financial Ombudsman Service (see page 27) or another independent complaints body.

If your adviser has gone out of business you may be able to take your complaint to the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) (see page 27). The FSCS can pay compensation in some cases. It only covers firms which are authorised by the Financial Services Authority.

Our free guide *Money matters* has more information on how to make a complaint about a bank, building society or insurance policy. Contact the Financial Services Authority (FSA) for more details about dealing with problems (see page 27).
Useful organisations

**Age UK**
Age UK is the new force combining Age Concern and Help the Aged. We provide advice and information for people in later life through our Age UK Advice line, publications and online.

Age UK Advice: 0800 169 65 65
www.ageuk.org.uk

The Age UK Group offers access to the Age UK Equity Release Advice Service provided by Just Retirement Solutions Limited. To find out more, call Just Retirement Solutions on 0845 600 9276.*

The Age UK Group offers access to an Annuity Service provided by Premier Retirement Services. To find out more call Premier Retirement Services on 0845 600 9276.**

Many local Age UKs/Age Concerns can give you a free benefits check.

In Wales, contact **Age Cymru:** 0800 169 65 65
www.agecymru.org.uk

In Northern Ireland, contact **Age NI:** 0808 808 7575
www.ageni.org

In Scotland, contact **Age Scotland:** 0845 125 9732
www.agescotland.org.uk

*For footnote see inside back cover. **For footnote see inside back cover.
**Advice NI**
Provides free advice about managing your money and bills for people in Northern Ireland.

Tel: 028 9064 5919 to find your nearest advice centre (national rate)
www.adviceni.net/Advice/freemoney.cfm

**Benefits Enquiry Line**
Government-run information line about benefits for people with disabilities, carers and representatives.

Tel: 0800 882 200
Text phone: 0800 243 355
www.direct.gov.uk

**Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)**
National network of free advice centres. For details of your local CAB call 020 7833 2181 (this number gives local contact details only, not advice).

www.citizensadvice.org.uk (for local CAB details)
www.cas.org.uk for local (CAB details in Scotland)
www.adviceguide.org.uk (for online information)

**Consumer Credit Counselling Service**
Provides free, impartial advice to people in financial difficulty.

Tel: 0800 138 1111
www.cccs.co.uk
**Directgov**
Directgov is the official Government website that provides information on public services such as benefits, jobs, the environment, pensions and health services.

www.direct.gov.uk

In NI the official Government website is www.nidirect.gov.uk

**Financial Ombudsman Service**
Independent service for settling disputes between consumers and businesses providing financial services.

Tel: 0800 0 234 567 (freephone) or 0300 123 9 123 (free for mobile-phone users who pay a monthly charge for calls to numbers starting 01 or 02)
www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk

**Financial Services Authority (FSA)**
The FSA will confirm whether your financial adviser is authorised. They also have booklets and factsheets.

Tel: 0845 606 1234 (lo-call rate)
www.fsa.gov.uk

**Financial Services Compensation Scheme**
Can sometimes pay compensation to consumers if a financial services firm goes out of business.

Tel: 0800 678 1100 (freephone) or 020 7741 4100
www.fscs.org.uk
**IFA Promotions**  
Can provide contact details for advisers or brokers in your area.

www.unbiased.co.uk  
www.myadviser.org  
www.mylocaladviser.co.uk

**Moneymadeclear**  
Provides impartial information and guidance about your money to help you work out what is right for you. It produces a wide range of free printed guides about finance products and services. It will offer a face-to-face advice service from April 2011 – call them to see if it’s available in your area.

Helpline: 0300 500 5000  
www.moneymadeclear.org.uk

**National Debtline**  
A national helpline and website for people with debts, giving self-help advice, counselling and support over the telephone. Sends out free information packs and covers England, Wales and Scotland.

Tel: 0800 808 4000 (free call)  
www.nationaldebtline.co.uk

**National Insurance Contributions Office**  
Help with general enquiries regarding National Insurance for individuals.

Tel: 0845 302 1479  
www.hmrc.gov.uk/ni/index.htm
**Pension Service**
For further information about State Pension, Pension Credit and how to apply.

Tel: 0800 731 7898 (claiming State Pension for the first time)
Pension Credit helpline: 0800 99 1234
National helpline (general queries): 0845 60 60 265
Textphone: 0800 731 7339
www.thepensionservice.gov.uk

In Northern Ireland, contact the Pension Service NI
Claim line: 0808 100 2658
Enquiries: 0845 601 8821
Pension Credit helpline: 0808 100 6165

**Pension Tracing Service**
Help to find lost pensions.

Tel: 0845 600 2537

**Pensions Advisory Service**
Information and support service about occupational and private pensions.

11 Belgrave Road
London SW1V 1RB

Tel: 0845 601 2923 (lo-call rate)
www.pensionsadvisoryservice.org.uk
**Personal Finance Society**  
Search online to find a local financial adviser.  
www.thepfs.org

**TaxHelp for Older People (TOP)**  
Provides free professional help on personal tax to older people on low incomes who would not be able to pay for such advice. Appointments are offered at tax surgeries held by tax advisers in Age UKs/Age Concerns and similar venues across the country. Home visits are also available for those who need them for reasons of disability or other difficulties.

Pineapple Business Park  
Salway Ash  
Bridport DT6 5DB  
Tel: 0845 601 3321  
Email: taxvol@taxvol.org.uk  
www.taxvol.org.uk

**Winter Fuel Payment helpline**  
For information and application forms to claim the payment.

Tel: 0845 915 1515  
www.thepensionservice.gov.uk/winterfuel
Can you help Age UK?

Please complete the donation form below with a gift of whatever you can afford and return to: Age UK, FREEPOST LON13041, PO Box 203, London N1 9BR. Alternatively, you can phone 0800 169 80 80 or visit www.ageuk.org.uk/donate. If you prefer, you can donate directly to one of our national or local partners. Thank you.

**Personal details**

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By providing your email address and/or mobile number you are agreeing to us contacting you in these ways. You may contact us at any time to unsubscribe from our communications.

**Your gift**

I would like to make a gift of: £

☐ I enclose a cheque/postal order made payable to Age UK

**Card payment**

I wish to pay by (please tick) ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ CAF CharityCard ☐ Maestro ☐ American Express

(Maestro only)

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**Gift Aid declaration**

☐ (please tick) Yes, I want Age UK and its partner organisations* to treat all donations I have made for the four years prior to this year, and all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise, as gift aid donations. I confirm I pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the charity will reclaim on my donations in the tax year. Date: ___ / ___ / ___

*Age Cymru, Age Scotland and Age NI

We will use the information you have supplied to communicate with you in line with Data Protection guidelines. Age UK (registered charity no 1128267) comprises the Charity, its group of companies and national partners (Age Cymru, Age Scotland and Age NI). If you would prefer not to hear from them or carefully selected third parties, let us know by phoning 0800 107 8977.
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**If you call the 0845 number you will be dealing with Premier Retirement Services. Age UK Enterprises Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority to introduce potential annuity customers. The Age UK Annuity Service is provided by Premier Retirement Services. Premier Retirement Services is a division of JLT Benefit Solutions Limited. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. A member of the Jardine Lloyd Thompson Group. Registered office: 6 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2PH. Registered in England number 02240496.

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What should I do now?

For more information on the issues covered in this guide, or to order any of our publications, please call Age UK Advice free on 0800 169 65 65 or visit www.ageuk.org.uk/moneymatters

Our publications are also available in large print and audio formats.

The following Age UK information guides may be useful:

- Managing your money
- Tax guide
- Retiring abroad

The Age UK Group offers a wide range of products and services specially designed for people in later life. For more information, please call 0800 169 18 19.

If contact details for your local Age UK/Age Concern* are not in the box below, call Age UK Advice free on 0800 169 65 65.

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*Many of our local partners will remain Age Concern for a while yet.

Age UK is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England (registered charity number 1128267 and registered company number 6825798). The registered address is 207–221 Pentonville Road, London N1 9UZ. Age Concern England (registered charity number 261794) and Help the Aged (registered charity number 272786), and their trading and other associated companies merged on 1 April 2009. Together they have formed the Age UK Group, dedicated to improving the lives of people in later life. The three national Age Concerns in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales have also merged with Help the Aged in these nations to form three registered charities: Age Scotland, Age NI and Age Cymru. ID8814 03/11