



## The London Regional Forum on Ageing

### Positive Ageing in London Newsletter August 2014

#### **New Chair of Positive Ageing in London elected**

At PAIL's meeting on 3 July (see below) Mervyn Eastman was elected as Chair of Positive Ageing in London following the wish of David Shalit to stand down as Chair for personal reasons. David Shalit will continue to be Vice-Chair until the end of his mandate as City of London representative on PAIL in October 2015.

Mervyn Eastman is Co-Founder and Society Secretary of Change AGENTS Network UK Co-operative and Co-Founder and President of the Practitioner Alliance For Safeguarding Adults (PASA): see <http://pailondon.org.uk/board/>

Positive Ageing in London would like to thank David Shalit very sincerely for his successful chairing over the period of our establishment and his strong commitment to making PAIL a success.

#### **Election of PAIL Representative to UK Advisory Forum on Ageing**

Positive Ageing in London now provides the London representation in the UK Advisory Forum on Ageing, UKAFA (see <https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/uk-advisory-forum-on-ageing>) and we need to elect a representative and deputy representative.

**If you wish to stand as PAIL's representative or deputy representative, please write to Sharon Tynan, [stynan@ageuklondon.org.uk](mailto:stynan@ageuklondon.org.uk) by 26 September**, including a short supporting statement of up to 250 words. A proposed role description for the representative is available. We would encourage candidates to apply for both the representative and deputy representative roles.

Candidates need to have attended at least two of PAIL's quarterly meetings over the last year.

If there is more than one candidate to be either PAIL's representative or deputy representative, PAIL members will be asked to vote by e-mail or post between 30 September and 17 October, and we will arrange for there to be an independent returning officer for that election.

The newly elected representative and deputy representative will take up their positions for the UKAFA meeting on **26 November 2014**.

### **Upcoming Meetings and workshops**

#### **16 September – A New Look at Ageism**

PAIL's autumn meeting will focus on gathering members' views on how to create a new narrative on ageing and challenge some of the ways in which society looks at older people. Topics up for discussion will include intergenerational issues, the different perspectives of the baby boomers and the views of people under 50 about their own ageing. This will be a step towards developing Positive Ageing in London's "manifesto" for its future work. The discussion will be introduced and led by Mervyn Eastman, Chair of Positive Ageing in London.

The meeting will take place at Age UK London's offices from 10 am – 1pm. Please let Sharon Tynan [stynan@ageuklondon.org.uk](mailto:stynan@ageuklondon.org.uk) know if you will be able to attend.

#### **November 2014 – Impact of Welfare Benefit Reforms on people aged 50+**

This workshop will hear about PAIL's research on how changes including those to Housing Benefit, Jobseekers' Allowance and disability benefits are beginning to affect older people directly or indirectly, and discuss how the age sector and statutory bodies should respond to these impacts.

Date and venue will be confirmed in early autumn.

### **Future Meetings**

#### **Dates of quarterly PAIL Meetings:**

24 November 2014

Late January 2015 TBC

**PAIL Workshop:**

**Ageing without Children – 26 January 2015** – Further details will follow

**PAIL Annual Conference – Urban Ageing – March 2015**, details to follow

**Recent Meetings**

**PAIL Full Meeting, 3 July 2014**

PAIL's July meeting elected the new Chair (see above) and agreed the work programme for 2014-15: see <http://pailondon.org.uk/work-programme/> Participants also discussed the arrangements for electing PAIL's representative and deputy representative to the UK Advisory Forum on Ageing, and heard and discussed a report on the previous meeting of UKAFA in June 2014.

UKAFA's meeting had included a presentation of PAIL's research on the impact of welfare benefit changes on people aged 50+. PAIL participants heard that this is approaching completion and will be launched in the autumn.

Among other specific issues which came up, PAIL members discussed the Government's consultation on the guidance and regulations implementing the Care Act: consultation open until 15 August. You can view and respond to the consultation at: <http://careandsupportregs.dh.gov.uk/> While the consultation document is long and in parts technical, it is very much worthwhile to send in short responses making a few important points.

Among the important issues to be decided by the consultation are the eligibility criteria determining who will get social care in future, how assessments will be carried out and arrangements for safeguarding. There is a danger that eligibility could be set at a very restrictive level excluding hundreds of thousands of older people. PAIL members are encouraged to respond to the consultation.

**What has changed for older Londoners since the 2012 Mayoral election? – 3 July 2014**

PAIL partnered with Age UK London to hold this event at which older Londoners quizzed Munira Mirza, the Deputy Mayor responsible for equalities, and Elaine Seagriff, Transport for London's Head of London-wide Policy and Strategy, about actions taken to improve life for older Londoners since the last Mayoral Election in 2012. The event was chaired by

Mervyn Eastman, Chair of Positive Ageing in London. For a more in-depth report, please see <http://pailondon.org.uk/2014/07/25/changed-since-2012-mayoral-elections/>