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London's Age Forum



As London's age forum - Positive Ageing in London (PAiL) wishes to express the overwhelming opposition by older Londoners to the government proposal to remove the over 60's free travel pass and the further restriction of peak time travel for Freedom pass users. By trying to use older people and children - the 2 most vulnerable groups using London transport - as a political football is an outrage.

As a former Mayor of London, Mr Johnson knows full well how important public transport is to those with the least income and the greatest need. When we ask our members what is the single most important thing to them as older Londoners - Freedom pass comes top of the list.

Chris Walsh - chair of PAiL: 'The government should remember which generations have the highest turnout of voters and we will not forget or forgive this betrayal, and we know who will be responsible for this - you. The majority of older people, and pensioners especially, have high proportions of those who live below £12000 per year and who rely on free public transport to go to hospital appointments, go to work or to volunteer'.

We therefore demand that the government meets its obligations to pensioners and children to ensure that all of us, however poor we may be, can access free transport to be able to continue our lives, children's education, access to treatment, ability to work and volunteer and be economically active regardless of our situation.

We urge the Mayor to maintain his support for us to have access to this basic right, and support the need for TfL to be given sufficient resources to run London's transport system properly and safely.

Chris Walsh
PAiL Chair