

Changes to the Winter Fuel Payment mean that it's more important than ever for older people to check whether they qualify for Pension Credit

The Winter Fuel Payment is an annual tax-free payment for households that include someone born on or before 22nd September 1958 (for 2024-25) and, from 2024 onwards, receive Pension Credit, Universal Credit, Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or income-related Employment and Support Allowance. It's designed to help you cover your heating costs in winter.

The Winter Fuel Payment will be made to the main recipient of the benefit. You should receive your payment between mid-November and Christmas.

The payment will be:

- £200 where at least one qualifying person in the household is between State Pension age and 79 years old
- £300 where at least one qualifying person in the household is aged 80 or over.

You will also be eligible for the Warm's Homes Discount £150 discount.

Pension Credit is a means-tested benefit for people over State Pension age who have a low income. There isn't a savings limit for Pension Credit. However, if you have over £10,000 in savings, this will affect how much you receive.

Age UK Northamptonshire's Information & Advice Team is very busy at the moment, so we thank you for your patience and understanding as we try to answer enquiries and also live calls to our telephone advice line 01604 611207 Wednesday and Thursday 9am to 12 noon.

Registered charity 1059995

www.ageuknorthants.org.uk

Age UK Northamptonshire's day centre at Leeson Court sheltered housing scheme takes clients from the local area. Monday and Thursday, 10am to 3pm, at Leeson Court, Leeson Road, Towcester NN12 6HS. The cost includes tea, coffee and refreshments and a freshly prepared two-course lunch. £40 per session. With additional support it is £48 per session. Accessible transport adds £18 per day for the return journey. For more details please call 01604 611200.

