

MORE MONEY IN YOUR POCKET

You might be in for a nice surprise!

You could be missing out on extra money each week simply because you don't know about benefits you are entitled to.

And with so many stories in the headlines in recent times about the credit crunch, high fuel bills and the general cost of living, there's never been a better time to claim everything you're owed.

After all – you deserve it! You're worked hard all your life and paid your dues. You should have more money in your pocket!

It will be a great help when it comes to paying household bills and other essentials like food, heating, taxis, petrol, home repairs, equipment, gardening, cleaning and care services. It will help you to afford all the extra little things you need to keep you safe and independent.

Please call Age Concern Essex - especially if you're not sure what's available to you, or if you haven't been able to claim money in the past as you might be able to now. Our service is free and completely confidential.

And if you're thinking 'this benefits thing doesn't apply to me', think again as you may be in for a nice surprise!

Age Concern Essex can give you a free benefit check, and if you are over sixty will arrange for a benefits advisor to visit you in your home and complete the relevant claim forms. Some of the benefits you may be able to claim:

Pension Credit: Tops up your weekly income

Almost half of all pensioners are entitled to Pension Credit. Yet about a third of those eligible (up to 1.8 million older people) are still not claiming it. If you're one of them, you could be missing out on up to £1,500 a year.

Disability Living Allowance: Money to keep you independent and mobile

If you need help with personal care or have a difficulty walking, you may be able to get Disability Living Allowance (DLA) but you must make a claim before you turn 65.

Attendance Allowance: Money for you, your health and your home

If you have a health problem affecting your personal care, you may be able to claim Attendance Allowance and get extra money each week to support you. You don't have to have someone at home caring for you in order to claim.

Last year Age Concern Essex secured over 2 million pounds in unclaimed benefits for older people in Essex. So please contact our Advice & Information Service to see if you are entitled to some extra financial help.

Telephone Age Concern Essex on 01245 346106