

Village and Community Agents

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What are Village Agents? Well, I thought now would be a good time to inform those of you who don't know, or remind those of you who may have forgotten, what our role entails!

The scheme is there to give people aged 50+, information and support to help them make informed choices about their present and future needs, so they can stay independent and in their own homes for longer. To put it in a nutshell because there are so many organisations/services out there to help, it is often difficult to know who to contact when a problem arises. We have all struggled to get help sometimes and that is where we come in. Basically we're problem solvers.

What makes our service especially helpful is that we look at the whole picture with you. For example you may have contacted us regarding a query about pensions and benefits, but because we do home visits, we can get a better idea of other services that could help you. It may be that you are having difficulty getting in and out of the bath and you need a grab rail. It could be that you need help with housework, shopping, gardening or even small repairs to the house. You may be lonely but find it difficult to get out. It could be that you or your relatives might worry less if you had a Careline.

We also have Community Agents who work with Gloucestershire's black and minority ethnic communities in a similar way and a team of specialist agents (of which I am one) who provide a signposting service to cancer patients (over 18) and their families. Cancer patients have specific needs and support is available to them in different ways.

So you see there are a great number of things that we can help with.

Please call me if you want to discuss any issue giving you difficulty and I will be happy to talk to you on the telephone or make a home visit (in complete confidence) as soon as I can.

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