



SEEFA Member Briefing April 2018

We thought SEEFA members might appreciate another short written briefing. Further information is available from any member of the SEEFA Executive Group or you could have a look on the SEEFA website at www.SEEFA.org.uk. *Please talk to us if you have later life issues you want us to raise or if you have examples of good and bad practice.*

1. **Our call for a New Narrative on Ageing.** SEEFA is continuing to pursue the fundamental issue of negative attitudes to ageing and the lack of understanding about the positive contribution older people make to all our lives. To this end we have produced a paper to back up our popular leaflet entitled *A New Narrative on Ageing*. This additional paper sets out a detailed case supported by academic research. Lord Filkin has written a foreword for the paper which will be available shortly both electronically and in hard copy.
2. **Older workers.** SEEFA's continues to pursue the issue of improving employment for older workers and has been following up on the Policy Panel last September which asked the question: 'How can businesses and their customers benefit from employing older workers?' We have been talking with The Centre for Ageing Better and EngAgeNet about following this up with a joint project. Watch this space for further information.
3. **Information and Advice.** SEEFA and South East Age UKs are working on a major new joint project which will culminate in a Symposium at the Palace of Westminster on 1 November 2018. Our aim throughout the project is to influence the development of effective information and advice services so they really do make a positive difference to later life. A Policy Panel will take place on 16th April where people with personal experience of ageing will identify key information and advice issues and describe examples of good practice on a range of information and advice topic areas.
4. **SEEFA's work to improve housing.** SEEFA works closely with Care and Repair England and takes part in both the Housing and Ageing Alliance and the Housing Champions Group, aiming to raise awareness about the link between housing and health and to advise Government on housing and ageing. Recently we have also contributed to the All Party Parliamentary Group on Housing and Care for Older People. One of the important issues we have been raising is that of later life homelessness. If you have any housing points you would like SEEFA to raise please let us know.
5. **Care and caring.** We have been speaking with the Department of Health about the long delayed Green Paper on the future of adult social care and we are hopeful that SEEFA will be involved directly once the consultation becomes live. Paying for adult care has been the subject of a '*Mature Conversation*'. If you would like to find out more about holding a '*Mature Conversation*' please let us know.
6. **EngAgeNet.** The new independent England-wide body EngAgeNet is now up and running and has applied to be a registered charity. We recently received the good news that an Awards for All application has been successful. Further information will follow

shortly on this. EngAgeNet and SEEFA have been talking with the Centre for Ageing Better about joint work on employers, the workplace and good employment practice.

For more information about EngAgeNet go to www.EngAgeNet.org.uk, or contact Chair, Marjory Broughton: (marjorybroughton@gmail.com).

7. **SEEFA's strategy on influencing policy makers.** As before I'm listing some of the influential platforms SEEFA links with nationally. This is of course in addition to the regional and local bodies and forums we regularly connect with and the policy consultations to which we have responded. The SEEFA Executive has contributed to the following:

- The Housing and Ageing Alliance
- The Housing Champions
- All Party Parliamentary Group on Housing and Care for Older People
- Department of Health Round Table
- Age UK in the South East
- NHS England Patient and Public Voice conference
- Age Action Alliance: the Partnership Development Group; Digital Inclusion Group; Loneliness and Isolation; Transport Working Group.
- EngAgeNet
- Age UK's Policy Sounding Board
- The International Longevity Centre
- One to one meetings with the Centre For Ageing Better
- Positive Ageing Conference
- (...and many more)

We are totally indebted to SEEFA members who via the Policy Panel and other events express views and identify key issues which can be put forward with confidence to policy makers and others who make decisions which affect our lives. In order to be influential we need your views. Please do let us have them and we can feed them in directly.

8. **Social media.** We are on Twitter. You can follow us: <https://twitter.com/seefauk>. We have a blog which you can access here: <http://www.seefa.org.uk/blog.html> and visit our website here: <http://www.seefa.org.uk>.
9. SEEFA is of course continuing to operate as an independent registered charity

SEEFA appreciates all your help and support!

Julia Pride, on behalf of SEEFA: juliapride@gmail.com, 07771941290

SEEFA is the South East England Forum on Ageing. Our aim is to bring people together to influence later life strategies, policies and services to make life better for current and future generations of older people. Our objectives are as follows:

- **To raise awareness of issues around ageing and later life**
- **To share good practice and innovation, news and information**
- **To review and inform strategies and policies that will impact on later life**
- **To promote the engagement of older people, partners and policy makers**
- **To challenge ageism and promote social inclusion and independence for older people as citizens**