



**Working hard
for Balham,
Earlsfield,
Furzedown,
Tooting and
Wandsworth
Common**

Sadiq Khan MP



6 ways to contact Sadiq Khan

- **WRITE** to Sadiq Khan MP at House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA
- **PHONE** Sadiq's office on 020 7219 6967
- **FAX** Sadiq's office on 020 7219 6477
- **EMAIL** sadiqkhanmp@parliament.uk
- **ONLINE** at www.sadiqkhan.org.uk
- **VISIT** Sadiq at one of his advice surgeries

Sadiq's Advice Surgeries

- **1ST AND 3RD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH**
11.15am-12.15pm (by appointment only)
Tooting Library, Mitcham Road, London, SW17 9PD
- **MONDAY AFTER THE FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH**
10.30-11.30am (no appointment needed)
Earlsfield Library, Magdalen Road, London, SW18 3NY
- **MONDAY AFTER THE THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH**
10.30-11.30am (no appointment needed)
Balham Community Centre, 91 Bedford Hill, SW12 9HE

Useful Contact Numbers

- Tooting and Balham Citizens Advice Bureaux**.....020 8333 6960
- Immigration and Nationality Inquiries**0870 606 7766
- Crimestoppers**.....0800 555111
- Wandsworth Police**...020 7350 1122
- NHS Direct**0845 4647
- Gas emergencies**..... 0800 111999
- Transport for London Travel Information**.....020 7222 1234
- Wandsworth Council Switchboard**..... 020 8871 6000
- Graffiti Removal**..... 020 8871 7049
- Fly Tipping removal**... 020 8871 8558
- Sheltered Housing**... 020 8871 6808
- Housing Benefit**..... 020 8871 8080
- Social Services Complaints**..... 020 8871 7300
- Home Care**..... 020 8871 7155

A Guide to Financial Support for Pensioners in Balham, Earlsfield, Furzedown, Tooting and Wandsworth Common



**By Sadiq Khan
Labour MP for Tooting
Winter 05/06**

Introduction by Sadiq Khan MP



Welcome to my guide to financial support for pensioners. There are a number of entitlements available to pensioners, and in this guide, I have outlined some of the main entitlements available and how you claim them. The Labour Government is committed to ensuring that every pensioner has a decent and secure income in retirement

A Guide to Financial Support for Pensioners

1. Pension Credit
2. Winter Fuel Payments
3. Council Tax
4. Free Off Peak Bus Travel
5. Free TV Licences
6. Free Prescriptions and Eye Tests
7. Discount Driving Licence
8. War Disablement Pension
9. Free Passports for Veterans

1. Pension Credit

The Pension Credit is an entitlement for people aged 60 and over that was introduced in October 2003. It ensures that everyone aged 60 or over receives an income of at least £114.45 per week if you are single, or £174.05 per week for couples. It also makes certain that pensioners over 65 with small second pensions or modest savings will be rewarded. This could be as much as £17.88 if you are single, or £23.58 for couples.

To check whether you are eligible for Pension Credit application line on freephone 0800 991234. Lines are open 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 9am to 1pm Saturday.

2. Winter Fuel Payments

The Winter Fuel Payment is an annual payment to help older people pay their heating bills. The Winter Fuel Payment is worth £200 for those aged 60 or over and will rise to £300 for those aged 80 or over. For couples, the benefit is shared within the household.

For more information about Winter Fuel Payments call 08459 15 15 15. Lines are open from 8.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

3. Council Tax

Council tax benefit helps pay towards or covers your council tax bill whether you rent or own your home, or live rent-free. If you claim Pension Credit or Income Support, you should get a form to claim Council Tax Benefit with your application. But you don't have to be receiving Pension Credit to be eligible. Contact Wandsworth Council on 020 8871 8081 and they will calculate if you qualify for Council Tax Benefit.

4. Free Off Peak Bus Travel

Residents of Wandsworth Borough who are aged 60 or over, are entitled to a freedom pass—free travel on buses, trains, trams, the DLR and underground within the London area after 9am weekdays, all weekends and public holidays. Freedom passes for disabled and blind people are also available which allow free travel on buses and the underground at all times.

To find out more, call Wandsworth Council's Concessionary Travel Helpline on 020 8871 7709.

5. Free TV Licences

The Government will pay for your television licence if you are aged 75 or over.

For more information call the TV Licensing information helpline on 0870 241 6468.

6. Free Prescriptions and Eye Tests

If you are 60 or over, you can get free NHS prescriptions and eye tests. If you're also receiving Pension Credit, you may get vouchers towards the cost of your glasses or contact lenses.

For more information, pick up the leaflet 'HC11 Are you entitled to help with health costs?' at your local post office.

7. Discount Driving Licences

If you're aged 70 or over, the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) has abolished the fee for a three year driving licence and now you can renew your licence for free. The DVLA will send you a renewal form when your old licence is about to expire.

For more information, call the DVLA on 0870 240 0009. The line is open from 8am to 8.30pm, Monday to Friday, and until 5.30pm on Saturdays.

8. War Disablement Pension

You may qualify if you have been injured or disabled during a time of war, or as a result of your service in in the Armed Forces.

To find out more, call the War Pensions Agency Freeline on 0800 169 2277

9. Free Passports for Veterans

In recognition of sacrifices made by World War Two veterans and civilians, every British citizen born on or before September 2nd 1929 will no longer have to pay for a UK passport. This is to honour those who served to secure our nation's liberty and democracy.

For more information, call the Passport Advice Line 0870 521

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Labour MP for Tooting