



NATIONAL AIMS

The National Association of Care Catering (NACC) are asking the government to consider making Meals on Wheels a statutory protected service for those considered most at risk in the community to help ensure greater provision across England, Scotland and Wales. Meals on Wheels are currently a discretionary service – councils do not have to provide meals on wheels services.

The NACC are calling on the government and councils to recognise the real value of adult social care services, such as meals on wheels and luncheon clubs. The abolition of meals on wheels services is incredibly short-sighted and cuts a lifeline for many older vulnerable people that could lead to malnutrition related illnesses and older people face prospect of social isolation and loneliness.

The NACC are calling for safeguarding of existing Meals on Wheels services to ensure that older and vulnerable people have access to nutritious meals that can be delivered to the home in a safe way to ensure that the person's safety and wellbeing is maintained. With many councils opting for personalisation of budgets there is currently no one monitoring how the individual spends their allowance and whether money is being used to access food and other care services or miss used or abused.





THE FACTS

Over a third of top-tier councils in the UK have already scrapped the Meals on Wheels service (NACC Research 2014)

51% of top-tier councils that still have Meals on Wheels services expect further service reductions in the year ahead (NACC Research 2014)

More than 1 million older people are malnourished in the UK (BAPEN)

93% of the 1 million older people with malnutrition in the UK are living in the community

Average cost of a meal per day is £3.55 (NACC Research 2014)

A hospital bed costs average £300 per day –
Prevention of malnutrition will save NHS money

Cost of malnutrition to UK economy £13billion per year (BAPEN)



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