

PRESS RELEASE:

UK Pensioner risks amputation if she demonstrates at Tory Headquarter to save Wardens on 22nd March

Pensioner Betty Martin, the Co chair of the UK Pensioners Strategy Committee is determined to join the demonstration on Monday 22nd March to save the UK's Resident Sheltered Housing Wardens. The demonstration starts at 12.00pm in Parliament Square and continues at 1.00pm outside Tory Headquarters, 30 Milbank where a letter will be handed in for the attention of David Cameron. The message is (Are you going to change the law to protect Resident Sheltered Housing Wardens? We need to know now, so we can advise the five hundred thousand tenants of sheltered housing and their supporters who to vote for.)

After the demonstration a delegation of sheltered housing tenants will hand in similar letters at the Liberal Democrat Headquarters for Nick Clegg, and 10 Downing for the Prime Minister.

Betty Martin has lymphedema in her legs. A cut to her legs could lead complications, which could lead to amputation, because the lymphedema hinders the healing process. Betty is currently recovering from a cut to her right leg, which has not healed for 7 weeks. She has been advised not to demonstrate to avoid further injuries.

The Resident Sheltered Wardens support tenants to remain independent, and to live with dignity in their sheltered homes. The Labour government removed the ring fence from funding which pays for the Wardens. This has given the green light for Councils to cut the Wardens service and spend the funding on other services.

“I'm just angered at the way the elderly are being treated by the three main parties” Said Betty “they don't seem to realise that removing our Resident Sheltered Housing Wardens is putting our live at risk. It's a national disgrace! This is our last chance before the general election to pressure these parties to stop councils removing the Wardens who look after us so well. I am aware of the risk to my legs, but I am determined to do my bit, by going to this demonstration. It's so important for us pensioners, and our supporters to take this opportunity to demonstrate to save sheltered housing for ourselves and for our children and grandchildren in the future.

My message to Brown, Cameron and Clegg is we are coming to London on 22nd March to tell you

No Wardens! No vote!”

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Supported by the GMB & Unison trade unions