

To find out more about the **Village Agents** project, please call:

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VILLAGE Agents



- Advocacy
- Employment
- Health Issues
- Home Safety
- Housing
- Leisure
- Lifelong Learning & Skills
- Pensions & Benefits
- Social Care
- Social Opportunities
- Transport
- Volunteering

Providing older people in Gloucestershire's rural communities with easier access to information and services.



Funded by **LinkAge Plus** part of
DWP Department for Work and Pensions



Gloucestershire County Council in partnership with Gloucestershire Rural Community Council



Gloucestershire County Council, in partnership with Gloucestershire Rural Community Council, has secured funding to deliver a pilot project in rural Gloucestershire.

The project will cover over 95 parishes in some of the most isolated areas of the county, supplying them with a dedicated **Village Agent**. The 30 agents will work in clusters of communities who have little or no access to services locally. Older people living in those communities will benefit from easier access to information and services.



What is a Village Agent?

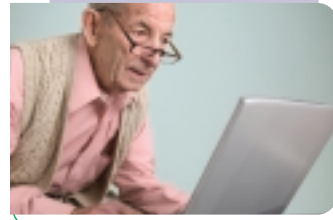
- **Village Agents** will bridge the gap between the local community and statutory and voluntary organisations able to offer help or support. They will provide high quality information, promote access to a wide range of services, carry out a series of practical checks and identify unmet needs within their community.

VILLAGE
Agents



- **Village Agents** will have access to extensive relevant training, resources and get support from GRCC and the County Council's Adult Helpdesk.

- **Village Agents** will be paid a small 'retainer' to work ten hours per week in the community. They will hold surgeries in the village hall or other suitable places and carry out home visits where appropriate.



- **Village Agents** will form part of a network of local contact points within Gloucestershire.

- **Village Agents** will be recruited locally, trained and supported to provide face to face information and support which enables individuals to make informed choices about their future needs.



- The service will be provided primarily to older people in the 50+ age group, but other disadvantaged and isolated people will also be able to receive support.

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