



About Ageing without Children

Ageing without Children (AWOC) is an organisation for people in later life (over 50) without children. Our Vision: is “*Ageing Well Together Without Children*”
Our Mission is :*Campaigning, Information and Support for People Ageing Without Children.*

Who are people ageing without children?

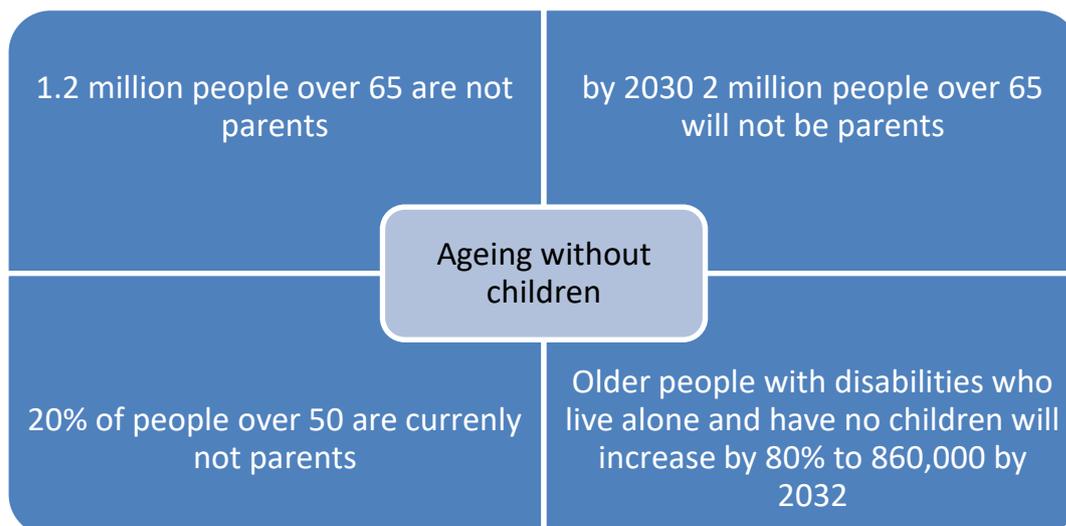
People who have

No children at all through e.g. infertility, choice or circumstance e.g. their partner couldn't have children

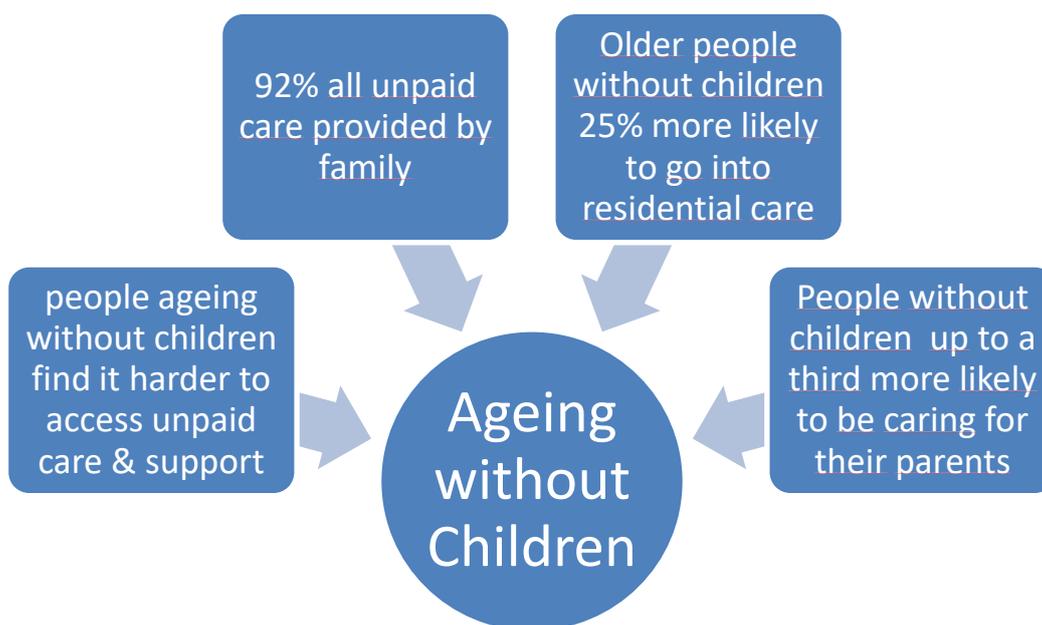
Children unable to offer help or support e.g. they live at a great distance, may have care needs of their own

Children unwilling to offer help and support e.g. they have become estranged and have no contact

The numbers



Why does it matter?



Public services especially social care and the NHS generally assume that there are adult children around to help fill the gaps in services. So for example, that there is probably an adult child around to run someone to appointments, help with tasks like cleaning and shopping, remind people to take medication, help with exercises, change dressings etc. The system is not geared up for people without family to help them and at the same time reductions in public spending means that many services that were there to help fill this gap now longer exist. Consequently people ageing without children can be left without support and help at a time when they need it most. People with dementia are particularly vulnerable if they have no one to speak up for them.

Most people's children don't look after them anyway, why is different for people ageing without children?

92% of carers are family members and all the evidence we have suggests that the vast majority of people with children *do* get a lot of help from them when they are older. Of course there are exceptions but generally children do offer support to their older parents if they are in a position to do so. This support can be anything from helping with small everyday tasks that enable older people able to live at home independently for longer to providing hands on personal care. Often one of the key things people's children do is advocate on their behalf, arranging services, interceding with third parties, monitoring what is provided, identifying when things are not working properly and making complaints

For more information visit the AWOC website www.awoc.org, email ageingwithoutchildren@gmail.com