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We can all do our bit for Ageing Well campaign

REGARDING your comment on the Ageing Well campaign (*Echo*, January 24). Thank you for highlighting the campaign, launched at St Oswald's Village.

It was appropriate, as St Oswald's Village offers older people, many with limited resources, better homes and countless opportunities for community involvement.

This village is not the gift of one organisation but many – namely ExtraCare, Gloucestershire's city and county councils, Rooftop Housing Group and the Homes and Communities Agency.

Equally, this partnership is indebted to the many residents, volunteers and donors who gave their advice and influenced the village's development over several years.

Your comment rightly highlights the difficulties faced by many older people these days. Care providers will only be able to deliver Age UK's recipe for Ageing Well if they engage with their customers' wishes and work as integrated partnerships with other organisations. The Government can do its bit in one crucial way – by endorsing the proposals set out by

Andrew Dilnot last year and limiting the amount that older people have to pay towards their own care costs.

This unlimited financial burden can be enormous for older people and it is right that it should be shared with Government.

While St Oswald's residents prepare to set their Olympic torch on a 700-mile journey across 30 UK retirement schemes, we should remember that, even in these straitened times, teamwork can produce startling results.

Nick Abbey,
The ExtraCare Charitable Trust
chief executive

