

Calls for government minister to tackle issues of older people

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By Tristan Kirk

AN influential group in Enfield has called for a new government minister to look after the needs of older people.

The Enfield Over 50s Forum made the plea to MEPs at Strasbourg University last week, when a delegation attended a two-day conference looking at issues affecting the older generation.

The forum, joining with delegations from Enfield twin towns Courbevoir, in France, and Gladbeck, in Germany, asked for each EU country to appoint a Minister for Older People.

They want senior politicians to focus on issues like rising life-expectancy, and dementia detection and care – at which Forum leader Monty Meth put other EU countries up to 20 years ahead of the UK.

The push for recognition of the needs of older people comes ahead of 2012 being designated as the EU Year of Active Ageing, during which Enfield will host a conference of older people in March with compatriots from the borough's twin towns.

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