

## **Kampf um Heizgeld: Schottisches Paar verklagt Regierung für Rentner!**

Ein schottisches Paar verklagt die britische Regierung wegen der Abschaffung der Winterheizbeihilfe für Millionen älterer Menschen.

### **Coatbridge, Schottland, Vereinigtes Königreich - A**

shocking legal battle is unfolding in the UK as a couple from Scotland takes on the government over its controversial decision to abolish the Winter Fuel Payment, a lifeline for millions of elderly citizens. Peter and Florence Fanning, both in their 70s, are suing the UK government, claiming that the move to scrap this crucial heating allowance will severely impact at least 10 million pensioners who rely on it during the bitter winter months.

Following the Labour Party's sweeping victory in the general election on July 4, Chancellor Rachel Reeves wasted no time in announcing the axing of the universal Winter Fuel Payment, which provides between £200 and £300 annually to help the elderly cope with heating costs. This drastic measure is projected to save the government a staggering £1.3 billion this tax year alone, as part of a broader strategy to address a £22 billion financial shortfall inherited from the previous Conservative administration. Critics are outraged, arguing that the decision will leave vulnerable pensioners in dire straits, forced to choose between heating their homes and affording basic necessities like food.

### **Legal Challenge Gains Momentum**

The Fannings, supported by the Govan Law Centre, argue that

the government has failed in its duty of care to protect the welfare of pensioners, particularly those with disabilities or low incomes. They have been granted a hearing to present their case, which contends that the government neglected to conduct a proper equality impact assessment before implementing this sweeping change. A procedural hearing is set for early December, with a substantive hearing scheduled for January 15, raising hopes that justice may prevail.

With the Scottish government also following suit in scrapping the payment, the stakes are high. Campaigners warn that restricting the Winter Fuel Payment could lead to a tragic rise in winter-related deaths among the elderly, a concern echoed by Age UK, which estimates that the allowance has historically prevented thousands of deaths each year. As the legal battle heats up, the Fannings remain determined to fight for the rights of pensioners, hoping their case will resonate across the UK and prompt a re-evaluation of this heartless policy.

Details	
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