

Age-Friendly Futures Roundtable 1: Impact

The Ambition for Ageing Programme, through our Local Delivery Leads and Scaled Programmes has already had a huge impact on the neighborhoods we are working in.

In December 2018, over 50 Ambition for Ageing contractors, old and new to network and share learning as the programme's focus shifts from delivery to sustainability and legacy. This activity, which took place during the afternoon of Age-Friendly Futures asked attendees to give examples of what impact the programme was having.

What had been changed in their neighbourhood as a result of their work and what was in place that wasn't there before?

Due to the way Ambition for Ageing is ran, the majority of projects need to have a form of sustainability built into their plans in order to receive funding. A second workshop looked at those areas of impact that are at risk of being lost or reduced, and potential solutions to mitigating the risk.

Sustainable	
Impact	Area
Volunteers	Oldham, Tameside and Manchester Community navigators - Men over 75
People feel they have a voice and by coming together they can change their communities (Loss of trust is a risk)	
More age-friendly businesses in Pembleton and Atherton area linked to Age UK	Wigan (Working Potential)
Older People's Network	Greater Manchester

Sustainable	
Impact	Area
Improved timings on a pelican crossing on a busy dual carriageway in Bolton allowing older people to cross the road safely	Bolton (LDL)
Take a seat project	Bolton (LDL)
Improved partnership working between services who work with older people	Bolton (LDL)
Breakfast for Blokes. More men active	Rochdale

Sustainable	
Better Networking Socially (depends)	Burnage
Fantastic relationship with Bolton CVS as a result of AfA	Bolton (LDL)
Through coming together older people have a greater understanding and appreciation of diversity	
Enhanced Volunteer cohort in the area	Tameside
Brought together a partnership to understand the community navigator offer in Tameside (needs additional capacity to run projects and prepare for sustainability)	Tameside
Learning about how making events more accessible for one group can improve access for others	Wigan, Bury
Older People developing skills in assessing investment application for equalities	Various
Active Ageing programme working with GM / Greater Sport / Sport England	Bolton
Several areas have developed accessible allotment/community garden projects improving environment and access to green spaces	Salford, Bury etc
Age-friendly Disco – active citizens	

Sustainable	
Better links with Traders in Bolton eg Allen's Footwear	Bolton
Take a Seat or 'Sit Thi Deawn' successful in Atheron and Pemberton. Community working on Leigh West. Over 150 businesses already committed to being more age-friendly	Wigan
Making connections between groups, between volunteers and between ambassadors	Wigan & Leigh
Outdoor spaces	Wigan & Leigh
Extra time given to older people to cross the road near the town centre	Bolton
MS Therapy Centre gained AfA investment. They now have a fully accessible gym. Our investment was a catalyst for further funding and the group are self-sustaining	Pemberton, Wigan
Better use of technology – falls prevention. Safe steps falls risk assessment too!	Bolton
Shops being made aware of age-friendly issues	Wigan & Leigh
LGBT Forum started in Bury where previously there was nothing	Bury
Events eg. MMC Christmas meal	Manchester

Sustainable	
Micro circle style social organisation based in Crompton and Hayside in Oldham. Getting more older people socially engaged	Crompton Circle
Micro circle style social organisation based in Crompton and Hayside in Burt. Getting more older people socially engaged	Moorside Circle
Improved mental health and wellbeing through local group with own experiences, The Greenwood Project	St Mary's Prestwich
Providing meetings spaces for people who then created friendships to develop own Internet group	Radcliffe
Providing Groups with information about additional funding ie. veteran's association rewards for all funding to develop a sustainable community hub	Bury
Access to allotment which has become a community resource	Bury
Communication – Placecal Community Calendar	Manchester
Identified new emerging communities eg. Nigerian community association doing community association project	Bury
Sustainable groups eg Sydney Jones court, Bluebell winter warm, Age-friendly Miles Platting Board	Manchester
An established Older People's Network	Greater Manchester

Sustainable	
Grow and Eat Together. Funded a greenhouse, so residents can grow fruit and veg and then come together to cook and eat together	
Social eating in Rochdale. Scheme projects people coming together.	Rochdale
70+ AfA projects developed, 20+ projects with opportunities to develop and sustain	Bury
New links between VCS organisations across the region – collaboration, better awareness of diversity of different needs etc	Greater Manchester
Identified local assets and have made them more accessible	Bury
Physical improvements. Eg 4 new accessible toilets in community venues	Manchester
Improved access to community groups/activities that meet a range of wants and needs	Bolton
Talk English classes introduced. Improved language skills and involvement	Crompton, Bolton
Opportunities to share leaning with other programmes with regards to what works and what doesn't	Active Ageing Programme
Over 60's group	Tameside

Sustainable	
Social groups coordinated lunch clubs formed eg yellow bird	Manchester
More groups working in partnership as a model of good working	Bury
Local faith group had microfunding to expand group (diversify). Now is a self-sustaining mixed group	Bury
Neighbourhood level working effectively and sharing this learning across Greater Manchester	Greater Manchester
More awareness of what 'age-friendly' means and shining a light on moving to an age-friendly future	Greater Manchester
Issues which have been environmental barriers for older people have been addressed, which has enabled a better quality of life and better social connections	
Age-friendly bus guide - designed by Older People	Greater Manchester
Better linkage between Sheltered Schemes, attending social events and activities	Salford
Seen individuals change: self and team, having a voice	
Re-investing in community spaced eg. parts, allotments and buildings	
Age-friendly Take A Seat	Manchester

Sustainable	
Agreed priorities with older people and institutional partners	Manchester
3 resident led action plans created with older people	Manchester
Group of men meeting monthly, whereas before they were dispersed across different areas (Breakfast for Blokes)	Rochdale
Tai Chi, Ballet and Movement funded by AfA	Bolton
First aid courses via BRC and A4A Project	
A relationship with the GM Ageing Hub has put representative (GMOPN) in the same spaced as key people in the city region. This meant more opportunities to progress voice and recommendations that came directly from older people.	Greater Manchester
Organisations / workforce understanding of what age-friendly communities actually means	
People have become more active in their communities eg. sitting on steering groups	Tameside
More individuals who are hard to reach are connected	Tameside
Equipment to help groups and buildings become more accessible	Oldham
Walking Club	Rochdale

Sustainable	
Better relationships between organisations and groups who work with Steering Group	Oldham
Accessible for different people	Oldham
Over 60's group	Tameside
Craft clubs	Oldham
Fellowship Saturdays	Oldham
Greater number of groups for men	Tameside
More community groups have been developed	Tameside
Wider range of LGBT activities	Oldham

Sustainable	
Health Centre Crompton is now LGBT Friendly	Oldham
Nine groups have first aiders	Tameside
More people using mobile phones and digital stuff	Tameside
Taxi drivers are dementia friendly	Tameside
Community groups have received training to improve their skills	Tameside
More participation of older people	Tameside
More groups	Tameside
Older People meeting in each area collectively	Tameside

Sustainable with some risk	
Clear link between Combined Authority and older people's voice	Greater Manchester
Equalities Board shared knowledge through key facts presentations – taken back to their areas?	Greater Manchester
New friendships	
Increased confidence in research team	GM GOLD
Increased confidence in older people involved in the residential boards	
Better working between public services, housing, police and NHS	Burnage
GMOPN Action Group	Greater Manchester

Sustainable with some risk	
Transport – volunteer drivers project and community mini-bus	Manchester
Engagement Network - Strong network of services introduced and working together using an ABCD approach	Bolton
3 age-friendly steering groups	Bury
4 age-friendly partnerships run by residents	Manchester
Forums to raise local issues relevant to local residents (Depending on volunteers and partners)	Wigan and Leigh
Training for taxi drivers to use defibrillators	Wigan
More community groups available	Salford (Working Potential)

Not currently sustainable. At risk of being lost.	
IT support for the 'Over 50's'	Salford (Working Potential)
Better support for carers over 50	Salford (Working Potential)
More community groups have knowledge & information on Working Potential services	Wigan (Working Potential)
A supplementary provision that did not exist for carers	Wigan (Working Potential)
Older People's Focused Equalities Board	Greater Manchester
Older people have a clear route to get their opinions heard	Greater Manchester
Get involved lists for AfA areas for all activities/projects	Bolton (LDL)
Bringing older people together through social eating	Didsbury, Gorton, Oldham, Harpurhey, Chorlton
PlaceCal	Moss side, Hulme and New Moston
Community Navigators services established (men 75+)	Tameside
Increased activities and variety of them	Burnage
Social activities	Salford
More volunteers	Oldham
The closure of Moss Side leisure centre and the establishment of a shuttle bus	Manchester
Community Directory	Tameside

Not currently sustainable. At risk of being lost	
Support for festivals, residents associations and residents	Wigan and Leigh
Festival of Ageing event in Bolton town centre and other venues	Bolton
Regular community engagement network to share and progress new areas of work for people aged 50+	Bolton (LDL)
Access to funding for new and established groups	Bolton (LDL)
Local Gardening Groups	Moorside
Opportunities for training and participation through GMOPN	Greater Manchester
Way of recording a GM Older people's voice through event reports	Greater Manchester
Festival of Ageing main event Rochdale helped create links and relationship connections with local councillors	Rochdale
Older people having a voice within their communities	Greater Manchester
Walk and Talk carers group – health, happiness, togetherness	Bolton
Kashmir Youth Project	Rochdale
Working club to support AfA	Rochdale
Age-friendly take a seat	Rochdale
Festival of Ageing - Amazing! Reached 1000's of people	Greater Manchester
More groups and activities	Oldham

Not currently sustainable. At risk of being lost.	
Funding in AfA neighborhoods has allowed/afforded opportunities to citizens to become 'activated' in a bevy of new, vibrant and different ways.	Manchester

Not currently sustainable. At risk of being lost	
Events page in local paper	Tameside

No response / Not known	
Better sharing of information between community groups	Salford
Autonomy to decide what's best for them	Manchester
Stronger Communities	Tameside
Mixed Age Groups	Oldham
Resilience in an Ageing GM - didn't know about this until today but great!	GM
Increased awareness and understanding of diversity and inequalities (changing attitudes)	Greater Manchester
Over 100 age-friendly projects co-designed and funded by older people	Manchester

No response / Not known	
Improved sense of pride in community through improved green spaces	Greater Manchester
Linking with Urban Vision to look at physical design improvements in community	Salford
Local people involved in decision-making	Oldham
Better ties between groups	Oldham
Older people have more opportunities to get their voice heard	Greater Manchester
5 research project sharing and developing knowledge about old people who have learning disabilities / Deaf / Hard of Hearing and Chinese / Polish / Blind and partially sighted	Greater Manchester
Created active dialogue in communities that are isolated	Bury

Too early to tell.	
Scaled Up - Community navigators men over 75, new training for volunteer navigators	Oldham, Tameside and Manchester Community navigators - Men over 75

Too early to tell.	
Information from older men about services	Oldham, Tameside and Manchester Community navigators - Men over 75

Working Potential (carer aware, flexible opportunities)	Bolton
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