

Making Birmingham

a great place to grow old in



Early Intervention Newsletter

Issue 1

Welcome to the first Early Intervention newsletter. We hope this gets you up-to-speed on the workstream's progress so far. It's an exciting time as we are really starting to move forward at pace. We hope you enjoy finding out more.

The Early Intervention Workstream is one part of the Birmingham Older People's Programme, which reports into both the STP and the Birmingham Health and Wellbeing Board.

What is Early Intervention?

Early Intervention (EI) describes what happens after an older person experiences a trigger e.g. an illness or injury, and how they are supported to make a quick recovery. This support is provided for a short time with the aim of helping the older person remain in their home wherever possible, avoiding both hospital admission and premature admission to long-term residential care.

What's the vision?

The vision is to make Birmingham a great place to grow old in. This means older people should be as happy and healthy as possible, living self-sufficient, independent lives, able to have choice and control over what they do and what happens to them. This means doing things differently and changing the way we support older people, with a 'home-first' ethos.

What's happened so far?

Organisations have signed up to achieve the vision by working together across organisational boundaries. They have signed a Memorandum of Understanding and a Data Sharing Agreement.

Eight improvement managers have been recruited from the city's health and social care organisations. They will be working on the project full-time and embedded at locations across Birmingham.



During a series of workshops, staff from all the organisations involved looked at what the ideal experience should be for an older person. They set about breaking this experience into small chunks, or components. New ways of delivering these components will be tested to see if this results in better care and support to citizens. The following locations have been chosen to test new ways of working in early 2019:

- Juniper Centre - discharge decision-making and length of stay
- Norman Power Centre - discharge decision-making, effectiveness and length of stay
- Older Person's Assessment and Liaison (OPAL) at the front door of Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham (QEHB)
- QEHB Discharge Hub - admission/discharge decision-making
- Community setting (Edgbaston) - discharge decision-making, effectiveness and length of stay

Finally, all the components will be combined to see if they work in tandem with one another and achieve our vision for Birmingham's older people. If this is the case, this new way of working will be rolled out city-wide. A very exciting prospect!