

# Making Birmingham

a great place to grow old in



## Early Intervention Newsletter

### Issue 2

Welcome to the second Early Intervention (EI) newsletter. We are taking steps towards achieving our vision of making Birmingham a great place to grow old in. We hope you enjoy reading about our progress.

*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.*

#### Test sites up-and-running

There are five locations in the south of the city currently testing new ways of delivering Early Intervention services. These locations are:

- Juniper Centre based at Moseley Hall Hospital
- Norman Power Centre – see team photo
- QEHB - Older Person's Assessment and Liaison (OPAL)
- QEHB Discharge Hub
- Community setting (Edgbaston)



Staff in these locations are working collaboratively for the first time across organisational boundaries. With a system-wide perspective, they are looking at how older people are supported to make a quick recovery and what can be done to make sure a 'home first' ethos is adopted at each site. Each location has a lead member of staff who is responsible for driving this work. The leads, who meet fortnightly to share learnings and ideas, have various health and social care roles and include occupational therapists, nurses, social workers and consultants.

Please turn over

## **New 'Care Continuity and Plan Group' set up**

A group of health and social care professionals alongside colleagues from IT have started to look at how older people can have one clear and consistent plan when they need EI services. One of the workstream's challenges is how multiple organisations can have sight of a single care plan and how this can be made accessible to the older person. They will also be looking at how to ensure seamless and timely handovers between different locations.

## **EI showcased at People for Public Services event**

The EI workstream was discussed at a recent Birmingham City Council citizen engagement event. The project was met with a positive response and many valuable suggestions were made. The most important things to citizens were:

- People want to tell their story only once
- Consistency of staff is really important
- Trust and honesty – people want to feel listened to and treated as equal
- Common language – no jargon is important

## **My EI**

In each newsletter we'll be asking one of the city's professionals to share their aspirations for the workstream.



“This is an exciting time in my career. I am seeing healthcare and social work staff from different organisations working together in a new and dynamic way. We are trying to find solutions together. One example of this is the closer links between social work, therapy, nursing and pharmacy staff at The Norman Power Centre. We are coming together every day to discuss how we can progress on a daily basis to avoid unnecessary bed days and ensure the patient achieves their best discharge outcome. I hope this means that older people will be supported to make a quicker recovery and spend less time in a bedded-setting.”

Cheryl Mason, Senior Occupational Therapist

## **STP events coming soon**

The workstream's progress is being highlighted at a series of STP events which are being held across Birmingham and Solihull. Taking place in May, more details about the engagement sessions will be available soon.

