

News from Advisory Group Meeting on 27 June 2013

Vintage Vibes

Information and a survey of the proposed Vintage Vibes, Visiting and Befriending Service were distributed for completion. A proposal for a new service by the Broomhouse Centre and LifeCare, Stockbridge House was developed from a meeting of the Advisory Group held in May 2013 dealing with loneliness.

Members queried how the new service would tie in with Community Connecting Service commissioned by the City of Edinburgh Council.

It is anticipated that Vintage Vibes would be offered to people on a longer-term basis whilst Community Connecting is aimed at short term intervention, signposting services and helping people get back into the community. For more information contact LifeCare 2 Cheyne Street Edinburgh, EH4 1JB Tel 0131 343 0940 <http://www.lifecare-edinburgh.org.uk>

Mood, Mobility and Place – research on interior living environments and “ideal environments” of older people

Iain Scott, Director of the Architectural Masters Programme at University of Edinburgh described new research on how places can be designed collaboratively to make mobility easy, enjoyable and meaningful for older people. The three-year project builds on evidence that how we experience environments influences our mood and, in turn, our willingness to be active. By understanding, and building on, the positive qualities that encourage people to go out and to participate in community life, the research aims to influence place making policies that enable older people to remain independent, to be inspired and to feel safe.

Iain explained that the work involves co-design with a range of participants, including stroke survivors and people with dementia. Another

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If you wish to take part in the study or require information about it, contact Iain Scott, Director of Master of Architecture, and Lecturer in Architectural Design, Edinburgh School of Architecture & Landscape Architecture, University of Edinburgh, EH3 9DF Tel: 0131 651 5785

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innovation is using mobile neural imaging methods to explore real-time emotional responses to place. Iain said that "working with Birth Cohorts of people in their 70s and 90s, our research is the first to consider the influence of local environments in which people have lived from childhood".

Iain invited members of the group to take part in the study being funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), part of the Lifelong Health and Wellbeing (LLHW) cross council initiative and conducted by the University of Edinburgh.

Scottish Older People's Assembly 2013

The Scottish Older People's Assembly Committee held meetings with Alex Neil MSP and Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing and the Scottish Government's Chief Nursing Officer to talk about care concerns at home and in hospital.

Edinburgh Garden Partners

Jan Souter presented a film on the Edinburgh Garden Partners. This is a project which matches people who want to garden with those who have difficulty looking after their garden. The charity was set up 2 years ago and receives funds from a variety of sources. In Edinburgh, over 2,500 people have waited up to 7 years for an allotment. There are 44 garden partnerships where effort is made to match volunteers and owners in the same area. Volunteers are invited to work for about 3 hours a week.

The Partners do not work with tenement gardens; The Back Green Initiative is in operation and should be contacted with queries re tenements.

Edinburgh Garden Partners provide training and a starter kit containing small things such as seeds but no tools.

Proposed Health and Social Care On-line Directory of Services

Katie Goudie of the City of Edinburgh Council presented a proposed on-line directory. Initially this will be for adults and list Council, NHS, private and voluntary services. Katie would like volunteers to contribute to a focus group to develop the ideas. It is

Scottish Older People's Assembly newsletter is available at <http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/SOPA13>

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If you are interested in working with Katie, please contact her at Tel: 0131 553 8411 or

hoped that the web-site will be ready for testing in October.

Members raised concerns about on-line directories such as keeping them up to date, that some older people do not have access to on-line information and that audio and telephone number should always be available.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 29 August 2013 at 10:30 in the City Chambers, European Room.

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