

Safeguarding Adults Partnership

Loneliness and Isolation

25 May 2021



Welcome & Introductions

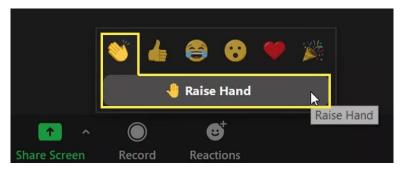


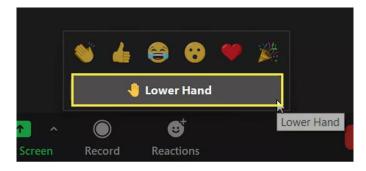


Zoom

- Microphones on silent
- Questions at the end of presentations
- Use Chat or Raise Hand











Birmingham Connect to Support

Matthew Cloke
Quality and Improvement Manager
Adult Social Care
Birmingham City Council







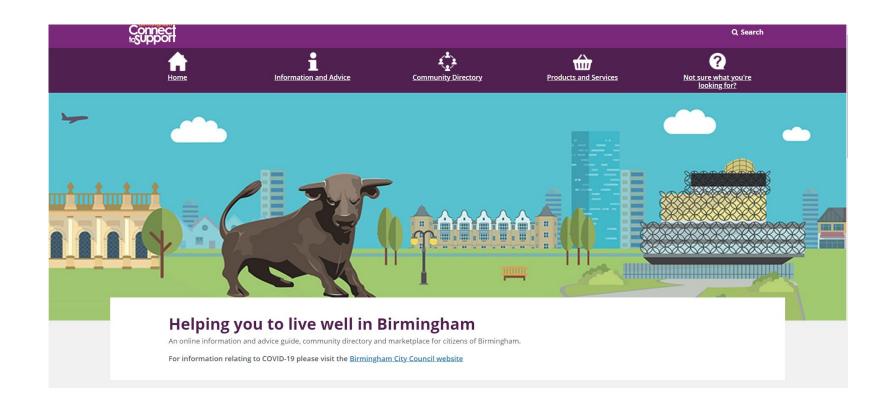


What is Birmingham Connect to Support

- It's a website that forms part of Adult Social Cares IAG offer
 - Advice, Information, Guidance
 - Statutory Care Act requirement
- Supports ASC's vision and strategy
- 3 main elements to the site at present
 - Information and Advice
 - Products and Services
 - Groups and Activities



What is Birmingham Connect to Support





Information and Advice

Current 9 areas of information

- Support for Carers
- Staying Independent
- Money and Legal
- Travel
- Keeping Active and Well

- Conditions and Disabilities
- Safeguarding
- Adult Social Care
- Equipment, TEC and Adaptions



Information and Advice

Quick example using Support for Carers

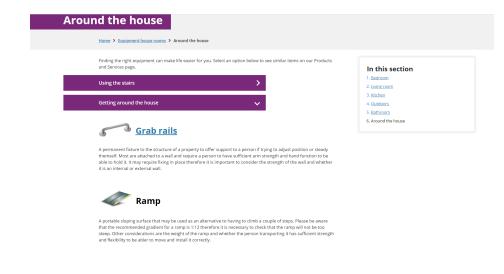
- Information on the Carers Hub
- Short description of the Cares Hub and link through to its website





Equipment House

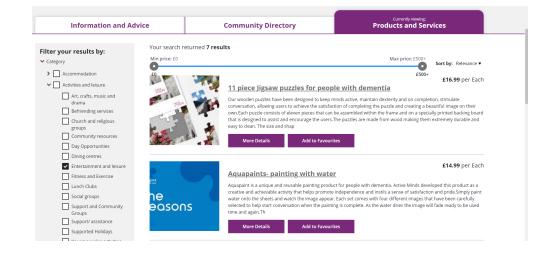
- Way of sharing the equipment available to help someone keep themselves independent in their own home
- Split up by rooms and then sections
- Working with Birmingham Community Equipment Loan Service to continue to improve





Products and Services

- Database of products and services in relation to Adult Social Care
 - Paid for content
 - Search criteria by categories and price
 - Undertaking a review of this part of the site





Groups and Activities

- Database of over 1600 groups and activities that citizens can access
 - Free or minimal costs
- Developed as part of Adult's Neighbourhood Network Scheme(NNS) workstream
 - For each of the 10 constituencies there is a commissioned organisation to lead on update and add new groups and activities
- Search by postcode and/or filter by activities



Groups and Activities

Quarry Lane Sports and Social Club

Social Club with the following activities: Ballroom dancing, Zumba, Karaoke, Line Dancing Classes all of which encourage connections for the over 50s.



Quarry Lane Sports and Social Club

Quarry Lane B31 2PY

quarryclub@outlook.com 0121 475 1032

Add to Favourites
Suggest a change

· 01302 221220



Site Development

- Continuing to develop and improve the site
 - Working with a Co-production group of staff and citizens
- Roadmap of activities for this contract cycle
 - Continue to develop the Groups and Activities section in partnership with NNS
 - Raise site awareness and engagement
 - Review the products and services section of the site







ANY QUESTIONS?

@birminghamcitycouncil





Visit Birmingham Connect to Support at https://birmingham.connecttosupport.org/





PRESENTATION



Ageing Better in Birmingham - Support to Tackle Loneliness and Isolation Benita Wishart





Ageing Better in Birmingham



Stephen Raybould, Programme Director

> Elina Rosen, Ageing Better Coordinator

> > **BVSC**

Neighbourhood Network Schemes



Benita Wishart,
Support &
Development
Manager
Prevention First

BVSC

Northfield Neighbourho od Network Scheme



Lois Maguire, NNS Scheme Coordinator

Rebecca Debenham, CEO

> Northfield Community Partnership



Working to reduce social isolation for people over 50 in the city

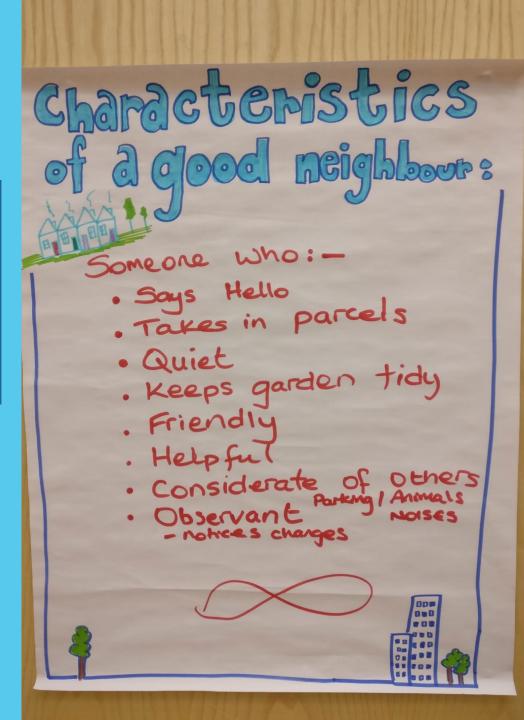




Video: https://bit.ly/2QBb4YI

Connection as a Protective Factor

https://www.ageingbetterinbirmingham.co.uk/le arn-more-get-inspired-by-stories/learningresources







Stories & Data

- 9500 people have taken part in activities
- 41% participants are from Black, Asian & Ethnic Minority communities
- 63% participants have improved overall wellbeing
- 89% of people who have taken part in activities show continued engagement in social activities

Make Someone's Day



Dinner dates down the pub

#readytoreconnect









Ready to Connect

Neighbourhood Network Schemes

Meeting Prevention First Outcomes Supporting Three Conversations





Social Participation



Physical Activity



Income maximisation



Independence at home



Support carers

Edwin's Story

Meet Edwin extolling the virtues of Northfield Neighbourhood Network Scheme & Clouds End CIC





Video: https://bit.ly/3f4ONvJ



NNS Constituency Model

Sept 2018

Neighbourhood **Development Support** Unit, Birmingham City Council

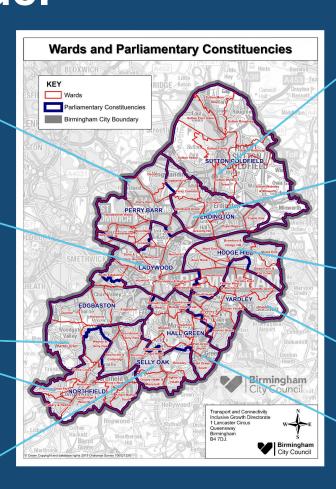
April 2019 Birmingham Settlement

- + Karis Neighbour Scheme
 - + Soho First
 - + Nechells Pod

Nov 2019 Family Service Gateway + Northfield Community Partnership +Age UK

Sept 2018

Neighbourhood **Development Support** Unit, Birmingham City Council



Age Concern Birmingham

April 2019

Witton Lodge Community Association + Compass Support

April 2019

POhWER

Nov 2019

Disability Resource Centre + Age UK

April 2019

GreenS quareAccord

Nov 2019

Birmingham's Neighbourhood Network Schemes

NNS: Connecting people, local activities & services





Purpose / Vision



Social Work Teams









20 Oct 2020 St Margaret's Allotments Ward End



Unity Hubb (Prevention & Communities grant & Hodge Hill NNS small grant) New Shoots Gardening Club (Ageing Better Fund)

















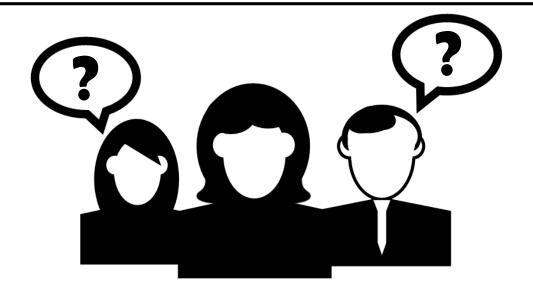


StephenR@bvsc.org
ElinaR@bvsc.org

BenitaW@bvsc.org

Lois@northfieldcommunity.org
R.Debenham@northfieldcommunity.org

Any Questions





Adapting Structures and Services to improve accessibility and inclusivity for older people





Background- Age Friendly Cities and Communities

- Is a concept developed in consultation with older adults by the World Health Organisation in 2006
- It's a response to an ageing global population and increasing urbanisation and reflects many more people will be growing old in cities.
- A Global Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities (GNFAA) now exists
 - 900+ Cities & Communities
 - 41 Countries 14 Network Affiliates- including the UK
 - 230 million people
 - 14 Network affiliates including the UK Age Friendly Network



What does an Age Friendly City Look Like?

Our environments play a key role in how we adjust to the ageing process and are a crucial impact on our physical and mental wellbeing.

An Age Friendly City is one where -

- People can live healthy, inclusive and active later lives
- Older adults are active participants and valued in society
- Environments, activities and services enable people to enjoy their lives independently and in good health
- Older people feel safe and secure in their homes and communities with access to all necessary health care and financial support



Impact of becoming 'Age-Friendly' On Birmingham?

The Centre for Ageing Better articulates the following impact of Age Friendly Status on a city: Age-friendly is built on the evidence of what supports healthy and active ageing in a place, allowing more people to live independent lives and contribute to their communities for longer. In addition, by committing to becoming age-friendly:

- Older residents are engaged in shaping the place that they live
- The potential for greater equity within the current older population is better understood
- Multi-agency and multi-level collaboration is strengthened, connecting the social and built environment across departments and reducing silo working

There are no definitive costs associated with implementing an age friendly action plan. Very often no new funding is required and age friendly activity can be about using existing resources better





How do we become Age Friendly?

- The World Health Organisation in consultation with older people developed a framework that is supported by evidence of healthy ageing
- The framework is based on eight interconnected domains that typify urban life
- The domains reflect both the physical and social environment, they intersect and interact with one another
- The quality of each of these domains and how we interact with them can influence our independence, health and wellbeing

Housing

> Transportation,

- Outdoor Spaces & Buildings
- Social Participation

Respect & Social Inclusion

Civic Partnership & Employment

Communication & Information

Community & Health Services

Social Environment



Built Environment













Birmingham's Journey to becoming Age Friendly

- For the past 18 months we have been working towards our long-term commitment to become Age Friendly which has involved developing a baseline profile of Birmingham's activity across directorates and external organisations
- Through the course of our research we have evidenced many of positive examples of citywide, panorganisation, age friendly activity
- Our ability to evidence this, has meant we have achieved the first milestone on our journey by successfully joining the UK Network of Age Friendly Communities in December 2019 (One of 14 affiliates of the global network)
- We are now working with BVSC and the Age of Experience citizen group to establish what features of an Age Friendly City should be a priority in Birmingham.
- Ageing Better in Birmingham's coproduction group members have actively supported the work around Agefriendly already, helping us steer the conversation around what matters for people over 50 across the city.











Birmingham's Journey to becoming Age Friendly

- We met with the BVSC Age of Experience Group in January 2021 to develop an understanding of the barriers, needs and preferences of older adults in Birmingham
- We were able to identify that social isolation has played a considerable part during the COVID-19 pandemic as older adults have felt the greatest impact of successive lockdowns
- There was a general consensus that the restrictions had led to feelings of loneliness and they are keen to re-establish local connections even at a basic level of meeting for a coffee at a café
- There were some positives that older people felt more visible and respected in their community as a result of the pandemic
- An Age-friendly City survey is currently out for consultation since the end of last week.
 We've so far had over 130 responses from residents from all over the city. At a glance, residents are well represented through different older age groups









Social Isolation in Birmingham

- Nearly 57,000 (37%) of people aged 65+ live alone in Birmingham
- This increases to 81,000 (53%) of this age group when we add those with life limiting illnesses- these figures are higher than England and Regional averages
- Living alone increases our risk of becoming lonely and socially isolated
- COVID 19 pandemic and subsequent restrictions have heavily impacted on older adults living alone
- Social distancing has exposed inequalities of digital access and those disproportionately facing digital
 exclusion are older people who have been shielding for the longest periods therefore exacerbating
 feelings of isolation.
- Therefore is key that Age Friendly activity such as BVSC's Ready to Connect campaign supports people to feel confident about reconnecting with their communities





Future Actions

- Develop a shared vision, to determine the priorities for action and to plan and resource how Birmingham will achieve its age-friendly outcomes
- Map and engage with stakeholders
- Establish corporate leadership buy-in as the scope of the age friendly programme is much wider than Adult Social Care
- Obtain written commitment of political support
- Apply for Age Friendly Status
- Develop delivery approach based on Age Friendly Vision and Plan, including evaluation of progress – an age-friendly action plan is at the heart of creating an age-friendly city



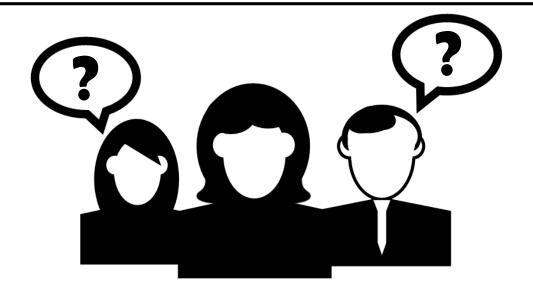
You can find out more about Age-friendly Cities at:

www.ageing-better.org.uk/uk-network-age-friendly-communities





Any Questions



BSAB Safeguarding Adults Partnership Event Loneliness and Isolation 25 May 2021

Carer Isolation and Loneliness

Dionne Williams
Managing Director



Forward Carers CIC delivers a range of services & initiatives









Forward Carers CIC Delivery Partners













































Carers' Stats



UK 6.5M Carers*

1 in 8 adults are Carers

Over 1,300,000 Older carers 60+* 65% have long-term health problems or a

disability themselves

UK

Over 115,000 carers

1 in 4 houses in Birmingham is home to a Carer





A Profile of Carers

Who are Birmingham's Carers? *



66% 39% provided more than 50 hours' care per week backgrounds



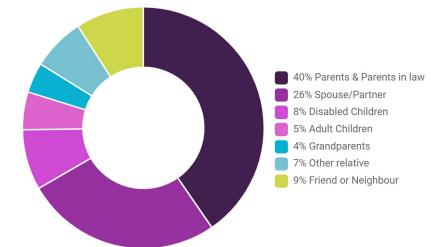
27%
live alone with the person they care for



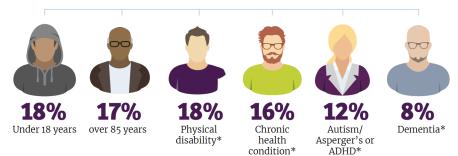
36% 50%
are aged
26 - 49
years half of Carers
are male and
half are female

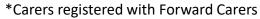


68%
have a
disability or
impairment



Who are Birmingham's Cared-for?



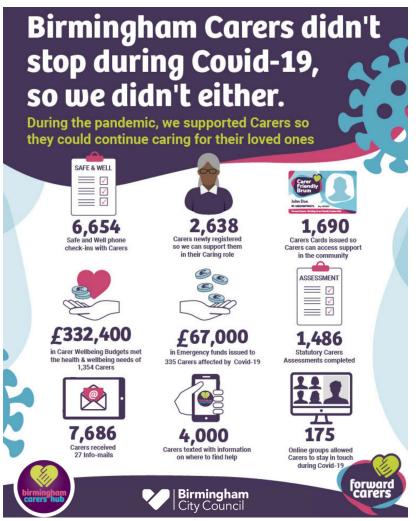


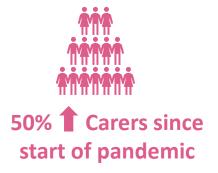
^{*} Primary cared for condition/disability





The Impact of Covid 19







Value of carer support £135 billion, saving the UK state £530 million



Why Do Carers Become Lonely and Isolated?

Caring responsibilities often restricts social contact, leading to loneliness

By putting the person they care for first, some Carers no longer have the time to see other friends and family

People often assume a carer is not lonely if they live with the person they care for

Some aspects of caring can be very difficult to share with others – dignity, stigma

Talking about the challenges of caring or accepting support can make some carers feel like they have failed or guilty

Financial difficulties.
Socialising is often
the first thing that
carers cut back on



Social Isolation and Loneliness Impact



8 in 10 carers feel lonely or socially isolated due to caring role

Not being able to afford to participate in social activities

45%

of Carers

Not being comfortable talking to friends about caring

57% of Carers

Have lost touch with friends and family due to caring

38%
Full time
working Carers

Felt isolated from other people at work due to caring role

83% of Carers

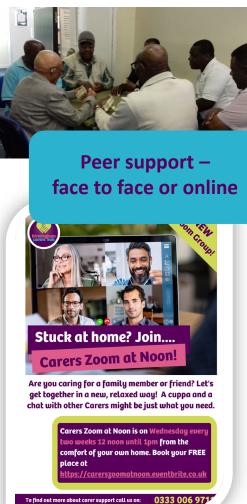
Feel they don't have enough social contact

^{*}Carers UK Report 'Alone and caring Isolation, Ioneliness and the impact of caring on relationships'



So what are the solutions?

Everyone is different, carers all have different needs for support, so there must be a range of options available.



'carer friendly workplace'

Good quality and affordable respite and replacement Care

Flexible access to universal provision



Better access to technology: connection and care



Community Carer awareness



"The biggest thing is not being able to afford or have the time to go out. Also, the inability to relax and not worry about having to go home early because my husband needs me. It's hard to enjoy social activities when you are tired and stressed and unable to 'switch off' from caring. You miss activities and eventually people stop asking."*

"As a Carer, support via zoom is one of the positives to come out of all of this. Being able to drop in for an hour is a perfect option for me"

*Carers UK Report 'Alone and caring Isolation, loneliness and the impact of caring on relationships'



Contact us



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Social media



@BirminghamcarersHub





@forwardcarers



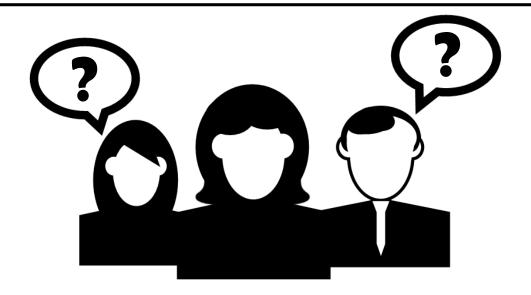


@forward-carers

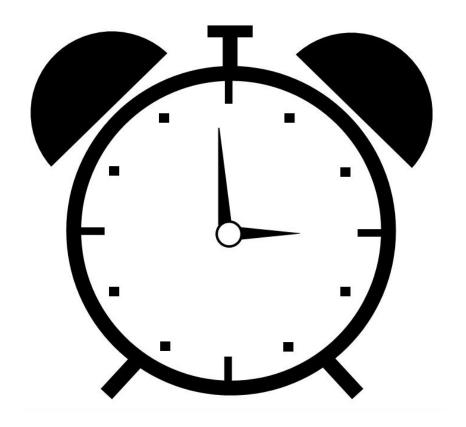
@forwardcarers



Any Questions



Break







Citywide Adults Safeguarding Team – Loneliness & Social Isolation Danielle Parker

Care Act s42 Safeguarding example

- Loneliness and social isolation are key factors.
- E.g. woman in her 20s isolated –
 experiencing mental ill-health- partner used
 the isolation & increased this through
 domestic abuse/coercive control.
- E.g. woman in her 60s vulnerable due to her mental health seeking friendship & support from a neighbour but financial abused.



Mr X's story

- Man in his 40s with care and support needs in relation to his Learning Disability.
- Use of social media & chat rooms to find friendship/have contact due to loneliness & social isolation.
- Chatting led to meeting up but the woman wasn't who she said she was & had a man with her.



continued

- X had money stolen from his flat after bringing the woman & a man back to his flat.
- They then returned & forced him to withdraw money from a cashpoint under threat of physical violence.
- X felt too scared to remain at his flat & went to live temporarily with family.



continued

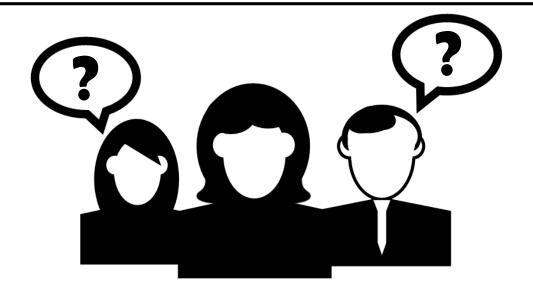
- X was supported to look at alternative housing options to better meet his support needs.
- Supported accommodation was found in to meet X's housing needs and reduce his social isolation and protect from future risks of financial, psychological and physical abuse.
- Partnership working with housing, police, adult social care & support agencies to

empower X.





Any Questions



PRESENTATION





Reducing Social Isolation & Loneliness Sukie Binning, Head of Operations







Reducing Loneliness & Isolation Sukie Binning Head of Operations

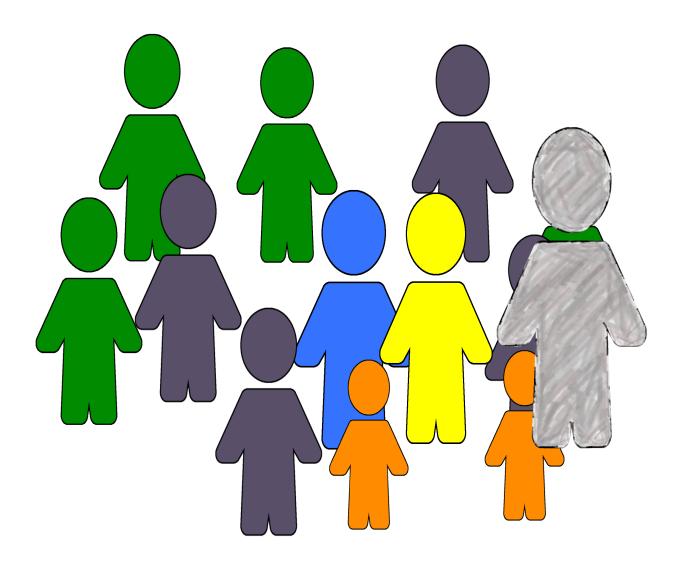




Who are we?

- Support people aged 50+
- Mission Statement:
 - "To promote the well being of older people across Birmingham and Sandwell."
- Accurate high quality Information & Advice
- Activities to reduce loneliness & isolation
- Services to maintain independence at home

Gradual loss of Social Connections







The Pandemic

- Most of the country turned to technology to stay connected – Zoom and WhatsApp
- Survey of 150 people aged 70 and over only 5% were digitally active
- Telephone befriending and teleconference activities



ageuk Paul's Story ageuk



Trusting a tradesman

- 75 year old gentleman who lived alone and owned his own house
- Cold called by a roofer who had seen a loose tile
- Took over £15,000 over a 6 month period
- A concerned neighbour brought Paul in after he complained to her
- Reported to police and Trading Standards "I can't believe I've been so foolish"





Relaxation of Restrictions

- Rebuilding social connections:
 - Social engagement friendship groups
 - Physical activity walking groups, exercise
 - Interest-based activities book clubs, IT clubs

Creating safe spaces for meaningful social connections protects vulnerable older people from abuse





Any questions?

PRESENTATION



Loneliness & Isolation A Preventative Approach Elizabeth Shepherd & Paul Moore





LONELINESS & ISOLATION

A PREVENTATIVE APPROACH

May 2021



Who are the Active Wellbeing Society? Our vision: Healthy, happy people living active and connected lives

- · A mutual, member-led cooperative
- Ethos based on removing barriers to participation
- Run free activity programmes learn to ride, group exercise, walking, running, growing, art/craft
- Food poverty support food parcels/distribution, community cafes, cooking skills
- Community support and engagement active streets, community conversations
- Social prescribing link workers
- Listen & Connect telephone support service
- Deliver a programme of virtual activity support (over 1k sessions during Covid).



A TIME FOR CHANGE

In March 2020 with the first Covid Lockdown imminent we started having conversations about how we could support individuals and communities through these difficult times. We moved quickly to develop alternative models that encompassed practical and emotional support.

During the Covid-19 pandemic #BrumTogether has been the city's coalition of voluntary, community and faith groups. The network included more than 80 partner organisations working together to provide those most in need with essential support and services. This has involved coordinating and delivering food parcels, hot meals, hygiene products, clothing, baby supplies and children's activity packs to families.

The Active Wellbeing Society have also delivered a telephone support service, virtual wellbeing activities and sharing positive stories of people coming together to support each other.





TAWS KEY ACTIVITIES MARCH 20 - MARCH 21





1,919 bulk food orders distributed to partners = 95,675 parcels



35,471 cooked meals though Community Cafes and doorstep delivery



1,145 online sessions physical and support activity 968hrs content



20,000 calls received for support 6,038 people had telephone support = 14,845 calls & 5,640hrs support



76,951 food parcels delivered to 45,300 households via TAWS



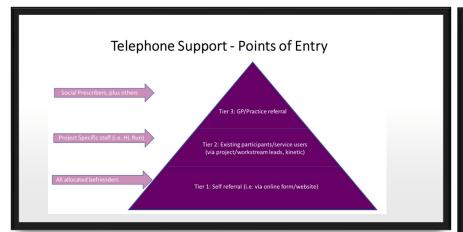
4.1 tonnes donated clothes distributed to 598 households

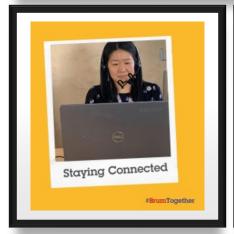


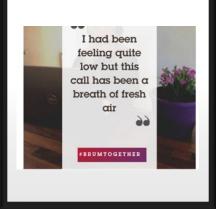
1,018 unique volunteers 25,580 hours of support



80,000 items of supplies*
2,000 children's activity packs









A Personal Journey..

COVID exacerbated levels of loneliness and isolation alongside levels of inequality Increase awareness about Loneliness & Isolation Our data reflects that of the ONS Mapping of Loneliness during the pandemic.

Common Themes

Mental Health Conditions

65% people aged 18-54 years old.

hemes Challenges

Low mood
Physical Heath Conditions
Decrease in support networks
Unemployed
Past Trauma
Live alone
Live in shared accommodation
Lower socio-economic background
Loss and bereavement
Carers

90% lived in Quintiles
1 & 2 (40% of the most deprived areas in the country).

Interconnected with multiple disadvantages.

Domestic Violence Homelessness Housing issues **Grooming & Sexual Exploitation** Lack family or friendship support Gang Violence Substance misuse Medication issues Unable to reach professional support Single parenting with children with disabilities Fuel Poverty Poverty - benefit issues, paying bills. Change in circumstances - loss of a job, house Bereavement.



LISTEN & CONNECT



Our Vision

To promote good mental health, physical wellbeing, and a sense of community belonging; through meaningful conversation and connecting people with local resources and opportunities that will support them to lead the lives they want to live.

Our Mission

- The service provides 12 weeks of person centred support and seeks to offer a preventative strengths-based community response to loneliness, isolation, increasing levels of anxiety, depression, health inequalities and inactivity.
- The combination of listening, tangible solutions and working in collaboration with other agencies means we can work to create a stable space for people to consider exploring wider community connections.
- Taking a serious approach to a person's meaningful use of time can mean a huge difference to their self-esteem, well-being
 and confidence
- We recognise the complexity of people's lives, the multiple barriers to participation and meeting them where they are at.
- Creating opportunities but realising the impact COVID restrictions has had upon behaviour. The pathway into activity can often require support and confidence building not just referral into a social group or physical activity.

Tapiwa,



"IT WASN'T EASY TO REACH OUT TO A SERVICE BUT THE WHOLE EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN AMAZING EXCELLENT, EXCELLENT SERVICE... THE COMBINATION OF TALKING THERAPY AND THE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IS EXCELLENT. FOR ME IT WORKS 100%

1:2:1 Cycling

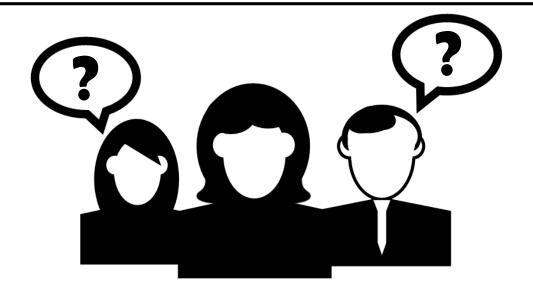
Free Bike

12 Weekly Telephone Calls

Food Parcels

Signposted to Counselling "IT'LL BE A GREAT WAY FOR EXERCISING, A GREAT WAY TO DE-STRESS. I'VE GOT LOADS GOING ON IN LIFE, I'M OFF SICK FROM WORK, I'M STRESSED, I'VE GOT AN OPERATION THAT I'M WAITING FOR, I'M BROKE, I'VE GOT NO MONEY. ALL THOSE THINGS, THE BIKE DOESN'T NEED A LOT FROM ME! I CAN JUST GET ON IT, AS LONG AS I'VE EATEN. I CAN, I'VE GOT MY WATER." "I'M REALLY EXCITED, I'M REALLY GRATEFUL AS WELL, SO THANK YOU SO MUCH! IT'S GOING TO BE SO HELPFUL.

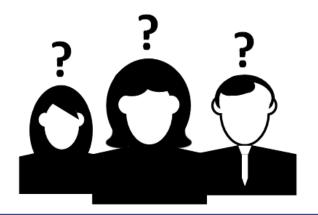
Any Questions



Breakout Session - Group Discussion

What are you most worried about regarding loneliness and safeguarding in Birmingham?

15 Minutes





Feedback









Closing Remarks





Please complete an evaluation form for today's Safeguarding Adults Partnership Event and email to:

BSABSupportTeam@birmingham.gov.uk



