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to create a better borough



Ageing Well Partnership Board Meeting Minutes

Date and time: Thursday 11th June 2026 12:00pm -15:30pm

Location: Telford Gurdwara, Whitechapel Way, Telford TF2 9FN

<p>Attendees:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair - Paul Kalinauckas - Individual with lived experience as an older person • Angela Causton - Commissioning Officer for Telford & Wrekin Council • Sarah Poole - Co-production Lead within Adult Social Care • Sherell Fikeis – Telford Communities One Voice • Jessica Bradbury – Energize STW • Michelle Pullen – Energize STW • Fiona Moore - TWC Community services • Molly Brookes – TW All Age Carers Centre • Andy Dowdall – TWC Information & Advice Officer • Diana West - Representative from the Health Improvement Team • Rachel Threadgold – Health Improvement Team • Meghan Gardener - Housing Project Support Officer for Telford & Wrekin Council • John Linighan – Commissioning Specialist for Telford & Wrekin Council • Alan Jones - Representative from Telford Mind and Age UK (Wolverhampton) • Jo Hallen - Digital Inclusion Project Manager for Telford & Wrekin Council • Andy Mackay -Astley – Telford and Wrekin Council • Jane Jarman - TWC Community services
<p>Overview:</p>	<p>The meeting focused on updates and discussions related to the Ageing Well strategy and associated initiatives in Telford and Wrekin. Attendees shared progress on various projects, including community hubs, digital inclusion, physical activity programmes, and support for carers.</p> <p>The group also explored ways to improve communication and engagement with the community to ensure that services and resources are accessible and well-utilised. The</p>

	<p>meeting highlighted the importance of collaboration across organisations and the need for ongoing efforts to address barriers to participation and awareness.</p>
<p>Introductions and Housekeeping:</p>	<p>The meeting began with a warm welcome from Sherrel, who expressed gratitude for the attendees' presence and highlighted the importance of sharing community achievements. Sherrel emphasised the value of diversity and multiculturalism, noting her commitment to ensuring inclusivity in all initiatives. She shared a personal anecdote about her involvement in community projects and her passion for fostering collaboration across cultures.</p> <p>Sherrel also provided logistical information about the venue, including fire exits, toilet locations, and the availability of a gym, which was funded and built through community donations and volunteer efforts.</p> <p>Apologies were noted for;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emma Clutton - Service Delivery Manager - Oversees community social work teams, occupational therapy, safeguarding, and the independent living centre • Dag Saunders - Lived Experience • Claire Smout – Chief Officer Partners in Care • Claire Davies - Chief Executive STW Age UK • Denise Jackson - Individual with lived experience as an older person • Jan Suckling - Chief Officer at Health Watch
<p>Review of Previous Meeting Actions:</p>	<p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angela requested feedback from the board members on the progress and challenges we want to raise to take to the Health and Wellbeing board. AC advised she has not received any feedback from Board Members and asked if this could be considered for the next meeting • Sherell Fikeis offered to collaborate with Fit 4 All by involving the Gurdwara's over-65 ladies' group in Priorslee - COMPLETE • Jude to send Fit4All materials to Partners in Care and Age UK to promote - COMPLETE • Board members to ask for volunteers, experts by experience for support with reviewing the webpages and feedback to Andrew.dowdall@telford.gov.uk and Angela.causton@telford.gov.uk by 1st April with names of volunteers. A meeting then will be arranged – Unfortunately no volunteers came forward • AD to link in with Age UK to promote the Ageing Well webpages on the Age UK platform - COMPLETE • AD to use Google analytics to understand sources of referral and devices. AD to follow this up and feedback to the group COMPLETE • AD to link in with LW to promote the Ageing Well webpages to the Healthy ageing landing page at the ICB for public and professionals and to also include in the GP newsletters COMPLETE

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AD to link with partners for feedback from groups by 26th March – Not COMPLETE • AC will share the Focus Group advert for all Partners to please share within their organisations platforms - COMPLETE • AC to share the Terms of Reference with board members for feedback prior to the next board meeting on the 11th June – COMPLETE, No Feedback received, however the board was in agreement to sign the Terms of Reference off as final. <p>General and Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that information, advice, and guidance for carers are reviewed and updated to reflect the local offer and available support. • To explore opportunities for collaboration with local organisations, such as Age UK and faith groups, to engage with older people and carers in their communities. • To promote the Healthy Telford newsletter and Community Support newsletter to ensure attendees are informed of relevant initiatives and services.
<p>Energize presentation:</p>	<p>Both Jessica and Michelle gave a presentation on Energize and their community offer – please see presentation slides attached to the minutes.</p> <p>Also link here to the ASC video: https://youtu.be/uhOR4StPaVE?si=ECzfeNpYIW Cp8UNX</p> <p>Booking link for the 22nd June Get Yourself Active Event in Bridgnorth: Click here for more information and to book your place</p> <p>Also details here for the VCSE Alliance mapping survey mentioned for all VCSE organisations based in Telford and Wrekin or serving residents in the borough: https://thrivelab.short.gy/TWVCSA</p>
<p>Focus Group update:</p>	<p>Angela held a discussion on the importance of reviewing the progress of the Ageing Well Strategy. Angela highlighted the need to assess the strategy's impact since its launch in 2022. She proposed conducting a stocktake through a refreshed consultation process, including focus groups and a revised questionnaire. The aim is to gather feedback from the community on whether they have noticed any changes or improvements since the strategy's implementation. The group agreed on the importance of a "you said, we did" approach to demonstrate accountability and transparency in responding to community input. There was also a suggestion to use</p>

	<p>focus groups to engage experts with lived experience to provide insights into the strategy's effectiveness. Everyone agreed to this approach.</p> <p>It was agreed by the Board we would do some brainstorming on this and bring back to the next Partnership Board meeting as an agenda item.</p>
<p>Ageing Well Strategy progress</p>	<p>The Chair asked the group for updates and progress of work undertaken in relation to the Ageing Well Strategy</p> <p>Sherrel shared several examples of successful community initiatives. She highlighted a recent breast cancer awareness session organised for a group of older Indian women with 55 attendees gaining valuable information and feeling empowered to seek help.</p> <p>Sherrel also described a digital skills session where older women were taught how to use the NHS app enabling participants, including a 92-year-old woman, to independently book appointments and access healthcare services.</p> <p>The meeting also touched on the importance of collaboration with local organisations and faith groups to engage older people and carers. Sherrel mentioned ongoing efforts to build relationships with groups such as Age UK and the Gurdwara to raise awareness of available support.</p> <p>Additionally, there was a discussion about the Carers Card, a national scheme offering discounts and benefits to unpaid carers. The card is free for those registered with the local Carer Centre, and efforts are being made to encourage more carers, particularly from minority communities, to register and access support.</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing Programs - Several health and wellbeing programs were discussed, including falls prevention classes, seated and standing exercise sessions, and the "Move to Thrive" initiative for people with dementia, Parkinson's, and their carers.</p> <p>While some programs, such as park yoga at Bowring Park, have seen high attendance, others, like the Movement to Movement classes, have faced challenges in engagement. Efforts are ongoing to expand participation by promoting these programs more widely and tailoring them to community needs.</p> <p>The "Feed the Birds" initiative was also highlighted as a valuable program providing companionship to individuals who receive care in bed or have limited mobility.</p> <p>The Healthy Hearts pilot, which focused on delivering NHS health checks in South East Telford, was noted as having concluded in March. However, the community blood pressure project continues, targeting ethnically diverse communities, men, and areas of high deprivation.</p> <p>Rachel Threadgold outlined the main points within the update provided by the Health Improvement Team for the period Mar-May 2026 (report attached with meeting minutes)</p> <p>During discussions around the 'Move To Thrive' project it was highlighted that engagement was still low and needs boosting, through raising awareness of the project to the community of people with dementia and their carers, and the bodies who support them.</p>

	<p>Diana West outlined that Public Health was promoting the project in every way possible and appealed to the board members to please support promotion of the project. Recent changes to the project were outlined, including that under the new name "All new Move to Thrive" the group sessions were now open to all older people and people with Parkinson's and their carers, as well as people with dementia and their carers. Diana has already sent the new details of the project to Ange Causton, who will circulate to all Ageing Well Partnership Board members, for them to share onwards. Public Health feel that the advocacy of board members and associated colleagues might give the project the boost in promotion that it needs.</p> <p>Digital Inclusion - Jo provided an update on digital inclusion initiatives, including a partnership with AbilityNet to deliver NHS app support in GP practices. This project supported over 85 patients in downloading and using the app, resulting in significant cost savings for the NHS. Jo emphasised the importance of upskilling front-of-house staff in GP practices to provide immediate support to patients.</p> <p>A community digital hub approach is being developed to expand digital skills support. This involves training staff and volunteers in community centres, faith groups, and grassroots organisations to provide basic digital skills assistance.</p> <p>Jo shared a poignant story about a woman who attended a digital support session shortly after her husband's passing. The woman sought help to gain digital skills so she could volunteer at a wildlife rescue organisation.</p> <p>The Live Well Community Hubs were also discussed as key venues for delivering digital inclusion support. Wellington was noted as the busiest hub, with Jo providing regular assistance to residents.</p> <p>Updates on Housing and Care Services - Megan provided updates on housing-related initiatives. She discussed the Extra Care Provider Forum, which has been re-established to address operational issues, share best practices, and discuss challenges such as mental health and hoarding behaviours. The forum is provider-led and supported by the local authority, with plans to include guest speakers such as representatives from mental health organisations.</p> <p>Megan also shared updates on the LAS accommodation referral form, which now includes extra care referrals to improve reporting capabilities and inform future commissioning decisions.</p> <p>She mentioned the proposed development of a 27-unit high-needs extra care facility at Farcroft in Wellington, specifically designed for people with dementia. This project aims to reduce reliance on EMI placements and is subject to planning approval, with construction expected to begin in late summer.</p>
<p>Any other business – Open Forum</p>	<p>John raised concerns about the limited awareness of the Ageing Well Strategy among the public and suggested exploring ways to improve outreach. He proposed holding public-facing events or market stall-style gatherings to share information and engage directly with residents.</p> <p>There was a consensus on the importance of face-to-face interactions, particularly for reaching minority communities and individuals who may not engage with online resources.</p>

	<p>Sherrel shared an example of a multi-cultural afternoon tea event that successfully brought together diverse communities, highlighting the value of in-person engagement.</p> <p>Andy presented a draft design for a leaflet and screen display to promote the Ageing Well offer in Telford and Wrekin. The group provided feedback on the design, including suggestions to add a web link alongside the QR code for accessibility. Andy agreed to incorporate the changes and proceed with the final version</p> <p>The meeting concluded with a discussion on the importance of ongoing communication and collaboration. The group agreed to revisit the topic of public engagement and outreach at the next meeting to brainstorm further ideas.</p> <p>Sherrel was thanked for hosting the meeting and for the fabulous food.</p>
<p>Summary of Actions:</p>	<p>Angela:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop a template for capturing updates on the Ageing Well strategy and share it with board members for their consideration. This is expected to be completed by the next board meeting • To liaise with the Integrated Care Board (ICB) to obtain updates on the Healthy Ageing and Frailty Strategy and present this information at the next meeting • To include the topic of improving communication and public awareness of the Ageing Well strategy as an agenda item for the next board meeting to facilitate a brainstorming session. <p>Rachel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To continue promoting the Moving On sessions and work with Sherrel, the Alzheimer's link workers, and Age UK to increase engagement work with Sherrel, the Alzheimer's link workers, and Age UK to increase engagement • Angela to share details of the All new Move to Thrive project to board members for wider Dissemination • To support the community blood pressure project by engaging men, women, and ethnically diverse communities, and to explore opportunities for training volunteers as blood pressure checkers <p>Jo:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To finalise and share the recruitment leaflet for experts with lived experience. • To attend Live Well hubs or similar community events to promote the recruitment of experts with lived experience. <p>Andy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To add the website link to the Ageing Well campaign screen design and finalise it for use • To ensure the updated Ageing Well campaign materials are circulated and implemented. <p>Megan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To add Angela to the Extra Care Provider Forum and ensure collaboration on relevant projects. <p>Michelle:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•To continue developing the movement and activity resource booklet in collaboration with social workers and occupational therapists from Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Councils.•To share the draft version of the resource booklet with the group once available.•To liaise with commissioning and operational staff to explore embedding the movement and activity resource booklet into care contracts and specifications. <p>General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To ensure that information, advice, and guidance for carers are reviewed and updated to reflect the local offer and available support.• To explore opportunities for collaboration with local organisations, such as Age UK and faith groups, to engage with older people and carers in their communities.• To promote the Healthy Telford newsletter and Community Support newsletter to ensure attendees are informed of relevant initiatives and services.
Date of next meeting:	Next Meeting Date Thursday 17th September 13:00pm – 15:00pm