

Greater Manchester Older People's Network Newsletter

May 2019

Championing Older People's Voices in Greater Manchester (GMOPN Network Event)

Date: 23rd May 2019

Time: 10:30-14:00

Venue: St Thomas Centre, Ardwick Green North, Manchester, M12 6FZ

Do you want to be more involved in making decisions about the things that matter to you? Do you feel that you're often asked what you think but seldom really heard?

On the 23rd of May, the GMOPN will be holding its next network event, focusing on how to support older people to feel valued members of society and their communities. The GMOPN is all about getting your voice heard and giving you opportunities to participate. We want to know what makes you feel valued and make sure that you can get involved on your own terms. Join us to help develop a charter for participation and co-production with older people. **Places are reserved for individuals over the age of 50 and people supporting older people to attend. To book a place please email GMOPN@macc.org.uk or telephone 0161 834 9823.**

Working groups

Our health, transport and housing working groups have been going really well and the groups have started to develop their own agendas. The housing working group has already completed its first action by submitting an official GMOPN response to the GM Spatial Framework, developed by GMCA. We will continue to invite partners to come along to these meetings to discuss the ways that policy makers and organisations can work together with older people.





Celebrating the GMOPN: Where are we now and where are we going?

Greater Manchester Older People's Network (GMOPN) Event Report

Liz Jones (Macc)

Launch of new report

We are pleased to launch our new report based on the findings from our recent celebration event. The event titled 'Celebrating the Greater Manchester Older People's Network: Where are we now and where are we going?' was held in January and focused on celebrating the GMOPN's achievements and setting a campaigning agenda for the year ahead. Workshops were held on the topics of transport, housing and health and this report reflects those discussions.

If you would like a copy of the report please call Victoria on 0161 834 9823.



University of Manchester Volunteer of the Year Awards

At the University of Manchester's recent Volunteer of the Year Awards, Tom Hickman received a commendation for his support of the Greater Manchester Older People's Network. Tom volunteered with us last year in the run up to the Health and Social Care event that we held in May and we really valued his support. Congratulations tom!

Welcome to our new members from Leigh!

On 9 May 2019, the Greater Manchester Older People's Network travelled to Leigh to find out what issues older people living in Wigan and Leigh face and to find out what good participation looks like with older people. Our fantastic network members Jan Kitching, Elizabeth Lynskey, Marie Douglas and Judie Collins gave great presentations about the work of the network and we met lots of lovely new people. We are very happy to welcome them as part of our network!





Ambition for Ageing news

Engagement panel

At the recent engagement panel held in April, Action Together Tameside gave a presentation about informal relationships and the importance of creating opportunities to encourage the development of informal relationships to reduce social isolation. John Hannen, the Ambition for Ageing Programme Manager, then discussed the mayoral challenge. If you have any questions about the Engagement panels please contact Victoria on 0161 834 9823.

AfA Seminar: Developing the strategy for age-friendly Greater Manchester – an introduction to phase two

Wednesday 22 May 2019, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

St Thomas Centre, Ardwick Green North, Manchester, M12 6FZ

The seminar will be an opportunity to hear about, and discuss, the development of the GM Age-friendly programme, and the next phase of the GM strategy.

If you would like to attend, please contact Victoria on 0161 834 9823 who can book you a place online.

AfA Seminar: People make places, do places make people?

Wednesday 19 June, 14:00 – 15:30

St Thomas Centre, Ardwick Green North, Manchester, M12 6FZ

Presented by Sheila Peace, Emeritus Professor of Social Gerontology, The Open University, this seminar will consider how we use public spaces in our communities, neighbourhoods and wider towns and cities, and if ageing changes our experiences of using public spaces.



Events and participation opportunities

Dementia Action Week Celebratory Event:



Dementia Action Week Celebratory Event

Friday 24 May 2019, 10:00am - 3:30pm

Science and Industry Museum, Liverpool Road, Manchester, M3 4FP

Join United Dementia to celebrate Greater Manchester's achievements for people living with dementia and their carers. Lunch will be provided. **For more information or to book a place please telephone Michelle on 011382 48399.**

Greater Manchester Active Ageing Programme Steering Group:

The Greater Manchester Active Ageing programme is looking for a couple of older adults to represent Greater Manchester on their steering group, to discuss the future plans and progression of the programme. The group meets every 3 months. **For more information about the programme please contact Beth Mitchell: 07808 730078 or beth@greatersport.co.uk**