

	Bolton	Bury	Manchester	Oldham
Lead Organisation	Bolton CVS	Groundwork Bolton, Bury, Oldham and Rochdale	Manchester Age Friendly Neighbourhoods at Manchester School of Architecture (based within MMU)	Age UK Oldham
Partner Organisations	Age UK Bolton, Bolton at Home	N/A	Southway Housing Trust	Action Together
Wards	Crompton, Halliwell and Tonge with the Haulgh	Moorside, Radcliffe North and St Mary's	Burnage, Moss Side & Hulme, Moston & New Moston Miles Platting from July 2016-Mar 2018 (funded by Mcr City Council)	Alexandra, Crompton and Failsworth West
Overview	Ambition for Ageing in Bolton takes an asset based approach to identifying skills and knowledge and gaps and generating and supporting ideas from older people within the three areas. It utilises and builds on the existing cross sector relationships to engage and support local communities to become better connected and define their own solutions.	Each ward presents a diverse range of people with a range of factors affecting each ward differently including employment, housing, community involvement and participation. Ambition for Ageing in Bury is resident led and through working with groups, organisations and individuals within the wards we are using their strengths and assets to build up age friendly communities.	MAFN are supporting the creation of resident-led partnerships in each neighbourhood, in order to promote active ageing and enable older people to define their own vision of an age-friendly neighbourhood. The team is working with residents, institutions, community groups and local businesses to co-create an Age-Friendly Action Plan for each area, which provides evidence to inform resident-led projects and support organisations to tailor their approaches to the needs of local older people.	Working in partnership Age UK Oldham and Action Together will use asset-based approaches to working with communities to improve the age-friendliness of the identified wards. From a variety of engagement events, community outreach and more detailed research with partners we will work with groups and individuals on projects aimed at increasing social contact and reducing social isolation.
Governance Structure	<p>A Strategic Steering Group oversees the project, its membership includes older people (drawn from the advisory group) programme partners and other key stakeholders including the local authority.</p> <p>The Advisory Group - consists of volunteers who are 50+ and reflect the diversity of older people in the area and have been recruited based on their knowledge and experience. This group informs and shapes the development of the project and is supported by the project steering group.</p> <p>An engagement workers group comprising of frontline development workers from organisations across Bolton meets to utilise local assets effectively, avoid duplications here learning and best practice from AfA and ensure the lessons learnt from the programme are rolled out to other organisations.</p>	<p>Critical Friends Group – using older individuals who are keen to be involved in their communities we have built up groups in each ward who can also share good practice between them and across the wards.</p> <p>Partnership group – Using organisations to work together and ensure there is no duplication of work and that programmes running within the borough align together to support age friendly communities. The Partnership group includes an older person from each ward. This group does not have a role in the decision making process for investments. The group meet quarterly and focus on learning and developing the programme with a view to including this learning in their future planning to develop sustainability and legacy.</p>	<p>The partnerships, supported by a constituted board, each consist of a wide range of residents and institutional partners from health, social care, police, regeneration, housing and voluntary groups who contribute to the development of the action plan and delivery of projects. Each partnership is served by an Age-Friendly Neighbourhood Board involving between 15-25 people. The boards are resident-led but all contain institutional partners, with each board having their own constituted entities, with their own chairs, secretaries and treasurers.</p> <p>The board and wider partnership are responsible for developing and reviewing the action plan with the support of MAFN, and for developing projects that respond to the issues and opportunities identified in the action plan. The board review the suitability of proposals and make decisions as to what should be funded.</p> <p>Each board have developed their own practices that suit their needs, for example, one board has created a sub-committee that only review projects and report back to the main board meetings with recommendations.</p>	<p>Older people from the selected wards are involved in decision-making roles across the delivery of the programme from participation in the project management group through to local delivery and monitoring.</p> <p>The Age Friendly Project Steering Group, made up of older people from the selected wards alongside local representatives linking in to the statutory, health, community, voluntary, faith and private sectors oversee the Ambition for Ageing Oldham programme, identifying and advising on approaches to deliver the project and overseeing monitoring/quality assurance of projects.</p> <p>Three ward level groups are being developed to help to manage the programme locally and feed into the core group.</p>
Investment Process	<p>We work with communities to develop their ideas, support them to complete applications and connect them to others who can help deliver the project.</p> <p>Volunteer Ambassadors have been involved in the development of the application process for investments and play an active role in supporting community members to develop applications. Volunteers receive training and guidance on making decisions on the allocation of investments.</p>	<p>Our process involves the Critical Friends Groups co-designing projects with groups and individuals and offering suggestions on how to improve project ideas. Groups are encouraged to apply for match funding as required.</p> <p>We have developed a Critical Friends Group checklist to ensure investments meet criteria including inclusivity and sustainability of projects. The Critical Friends Groups make decisions on investments in</p>	<p>The resident-led board participate in project development, either by taking part in workshops alongside the proposer or as part of interim reviews of projects in development. The board in each area decide how the investment fund should be spent, and offer suggestion to groups as to how their proposal can link in with the wider networks and opportunities in the community. Projects must demonstrate that they are responding to findings from the action plan, and thus are taking into account the views and priorities of the wider community.</p>	<p>The three ward locality groups make decisions on investments of up to £500 and prioritise areas where investment should be directed towards. The locality groups make recommendations for investments between £500 and £2,000 to take forward to the Age Friendly Project Group for a final decision.</p> <p>Participatory budgeting approaches will be taken including local participatory budgeting events in informal settings and telephone/online voting for</p>

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	<p>Applications are taken to a panel consisting of Ambassadors and members of the Advisory group who discuss the applications and make recommendations for funding. We focus in one quarter on supporting the development of project ideas and in the next quarter on making investment decisions.</p> <p>We continue to use the project ideas form for smaller investments and for those who wish to test their ideas out with staff and investment panel members before completing a full application. We support groups to improve their projects if they are initially unsuccessful. We will be delivering a `Spending Road Show` building on a previous pilot of participatory budgeting. This will provide opportunity for a larger number of residents to be involved in decision making.</p>	<p>their ward on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>The investment process also supports people in looking for other funding to ensure sustainability, for example, accessing council and other local funding opportunities.</p>	<p>Our project development process does not encourage speculative applications but when these occur we support the applicant to organise or attend a workshop with residents to ensure projects are developed collaboratively.</p> <p>Projects require both a resident-lead and an institutional partner to encourage the longer term sustainability and collaborations in the community, and the ability to disperse funding to new groups.</p>	<p>people to be involved in the decision making if they cannot / do not wish to physically access the events.</p> <p>Age Friendly ideas will be proposed by community members and community stakeholders at ward drop-ins. Support will be provided to develop ideas into a small project prior to the events. Ideas will be presented and attendees will prioritise which ideas they would like to see happen which will be taken forward up to the level of investment agreed in advance by the Age Friendly Project Group.</p>
Asset Mapping activity	<p>We will produce What's On Guides for each area and will enhance the guides further by ensuring they are Dementia and Autism friendly in easy read formats.</p> <p>We will keep our asset map updated and continue to plot additional assets developed through the investments, sharing this information with other local asset maps from the GP Federation and Bolton Council and looking at ways of linking the information together.</p> <p>All partners are committed to celebrating and publicising existing assets via case studies and a range of communication mechanisms including social media and local press.</p>	<p>Through our Age Friendly ward groups we will work with them to understand what people in each ward see as assets. These groups will develop solutions to unused assets and through this develop a sense of ownership. We will monitor the use of assets that have received investment as well as using partner support to develop further use of these assets. Assets will be logged on Google maps.</p> <p>We will share information about assets in a variety of ways - through social media, email bulletins and leaflet drops. We will continue to develop our calendar of events and activities and ensure paper copies are available in communities.</p>	<p>Each age-friendly partnership is centred around a neighbourhood action plan, which is co-produced between MAFN, local residents and institutional partners. The action plan is a spatial representation of the experience of older people and provides robust evidence to inform the creation of projects to reduce or prevent social isolation. The action plan is also a resource for institutional partners to enable older people's experiences to be integrated within strategic and local planning. The action plan document is potentially under continual revision as the partnership gain more insight and as the local conditions change.</p> <p>The action plan incorporates a number of investigative approaches including spatial data, urban design analysis, and interpersonal research involving neighbourhood surveys and where older people contribute their own evidence as well as reviewing information gathered from other sources. Findings are generated that summarise the different experiences within a neighbourhood.</p>	<p>Local volunteers from each ward are recruited as community researchers and navigators to recognise and map assets and make initial connections and use appreciative inquiry methods to understand the potential and develop ideas.</p> <p>Online tools are used to record assets in the ward areas for use by partner agencies and community groups with access to the Internet for signposting people to local activities and support.</p>
Approach to community researcher/volunteers	<p>Volunteer Ambassadors are well connected within their communities and engage with different groups and assets. We will develop this further with the recruitment and training of community researchers aged 50+ who will identify further assets and talk to those living in the areas to determine what is valued and why, gaps that exist and what is needed. A report will be produced with their findings and will be used to increase awareness, share knowledge and influence commissioning.</p>	<p>We spend time with individual groups talking about community research and taking on board their ideas of what they want community research to look like. Our volunteers help at different stages for example some co-design, some deliver projects, some are part of the critical friends` groups.</p>	<p>Opportunities to get involved are not seen as traditional `volunteering` roles but of active roles within the partnership structure. They are wide-ranging, and include joining the MAFN Partnership and attending events, participating in research activities, providing local expertise to researchers, becoming a local investigator, assisting the mapping and networking of assets, joining a neighbourhood board and developing/delivering resident-led projects and activities.</p> <p>The focus of our approach is a staged progression, providing a route into the programme for those who would not normally feel confident or capable to engage in this type of activity.</p>	<p>Older people can volunteer as community researchers, ambassadors, organisers and administrative support. Volunteers are provided with support and training including ABCD and strength-based community research methodologies, sensory awareness, dementia awareness, equality & diversity, safeguarding, monitoring & evaluation, including application of Isolation & Loneliness measurement tools.</p> <p>Ward-level monitoring groups involving older people will test out the effectiveness and sustainability of the projects. In each area they will quality check progress using a variety of methodologies.</p>

	Rochdale	Salford	Tameside	Wigan
Lead Orgs	Kashmir Youth Project – known as KYP	Age UK Salford	Age UK Tameside	Age UK Wigan Borough
Partner Orgs	BACP (Bangladesh Association and Community Project)	Inspiring Communities Together Salford CVS	Action Together (AT)	N/A
Wards	Central Rochdale, Smallbridge & Firgrove and West Middleton	Broughton, Langworthy, Weaste & Seedley	Ashton Waterloo, Denton South and Hyde Newton	Atherton, Pemberton and Leigh West.
Overview	<p>In Rochdale the LDL has re-structured with KYP overseeing the support and facilitation of 3 steering groups one in each of the AfA wards Central, Smallbridge & Firgrove and West Middleton.</p> <p>The approach utilises a mixture of collaborative community based Action Research (test, learn, reflect and adapt) and a Participatory Budgeting model supported by Neighbourhood workers.</p>	<p>A network of volunteer well-being champions will be supported to become part of a neighbourhood network ensuring peer to peer support and developing a shared vision for the project.</p> <p>Phase 1 – Volunteer champions seek the views of older people through their networks - taking into account age friendly outcomes Phase 2 – Age-friendly action plan developed Phase 3 – Further develop neighbourhood networks developed in each ward to take on responsibility for delivering the action plans Phase 4 – Projects for investments developed linked to action plans.</p>	<p>Valuing Older People in Tameside is utilising Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) practices to deliver the Ambition for Ageing programme.</p> <p>Older people will also be supported to refer to and access AUKT services to improve their personal wellbeing and reduce social isolation.</p> <p>We will work with partners to ensure engagement with a wide range of people.</p>	<p>Participatory Asset Mapping sessions with older people living in the wards will give residents the opportunity to explore what works well and what could be improved within their ward.</p> <p>A co-production approach applies to the way proposals for investments are developed and where positive results are found, work will be done with older people and the wider programme to extend the programme and/or seek longer term sustainability.</p> <p>We continue to re-evaluate our methods using a test and learn approach.</p>
Governance Structure	<p>AfA Rochdale / KYP (Kashmir Youth Project) will co-support the steering group for Central Rochdale alternating venues between KYP and BACP (Bangladesh Association Community Project) and directly facilitate steering groups for Smallbridge / Firgrove and West Middleton. KYP will support the continuation of these and will respond to the needs of older people by rotating venues / locations across all 3 wards.</p> <p>There will be a Strategic steering group made up of the following: Rochdale Borough Council, Rochdale Borough Housing Heywood Middleton and Rochdale Circle, Great Places, Royal Voluntary Service, Heywood, Middleton and Rochdale Clinical Commissioning Group, Link4Life.</p> <p>All 3 wards supported by the LDL team (AfA co-ordinator, Admin Worker and 3 Neighbourhood Workers). Ward steering groups will contribute to ongoing development stages of the programme, clear on priorities for their ward based on evidence gathered from research. They will be trained to appraise</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Networks will deliver and govern the programme in each ward being responsible for the development and delivery of action plans as well as investment processes and decisions. As the groups develop they will involve others who will be able to help with the implementation of the action plan This will vary from one group to another as to who this might be</p> <p>The Asset Based working group of Salford's Health and Social Care Integration programme will have oversight and advisory function and will link the programme in with other work in Salford.</p>	<p>An initial steering group has been established covering all three wards and there are now small steering groups in each ward . These groups are volunteer led steering groups with a membership of older people overseeing the projects in each ward, advising, challenging and acting as funding panels.</p> <p>Programme Board - Age UK leads a programme board to oversee the delivery of the programme within the wider older people's delivery landscape. This consists of representation from both partner organisations at CEO level and Officer level.</p>	<p>We will continue to hold Forum/Steering group meetings in each ward every quarter where project updates will be given, local issues discussed and opportunities for networking. It is the long term ambition that these forums will continue and be a sustained legacy of the programme.</p> <p>Decisions on investment funding will continue to be made at resident-led Local Investment Panels.</p>

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	proposals for community investments prior to a wider PB event. They meet at least once per quarter and are the pre-cursor to PB events in each ward.			
Investment Process	<p>KYP will increase awareness of investment opportunities across the 3 wards. All existing Steering group volunteers have been trained and supported to fully understand their roles and have are ready to assess and put forward potential investment activities for participatory budgeting events.</p> <p>Neighbourhood workers will encourage and identify residents to get involved in AfA projects and will be able to signpost them to the most suitable area be it volunteering / steering group or linking with new and existing AfA activities in their community</p> <p>Each ward has a Steering Group consisting of older people who will receive and consider the information / research gathered for their neighbourhoods and will advise on the priorities for their ward. They will also consider any applications for Community Investment funds and approve them to the next stage.</p> <p>The applications will then be put to a public vote during an open Participatory Budgeting Event.</p> <p>Simultaneously, if there are no relevant applications which meet identified need, the Steering Group (or smaller task and finish group) will build up a project specification and either source and deliver the service/activities via KYP/BACP or put out a call for suppliers.</p>	<p>The neighbourhood networks will consider different approaches to allocating small investments to support the priorities identified within the neighbourhood action plans including older people participatory engagement events.</p> <p>Salford CVS provide support to ensure the networks have the skills to manage, distribute and monitor the small investments distributed across the neighbourhoods and that this is carried out in a fair and transparent way.</p>	<p>Discretionary Investment funding – a pot of funding overseen by the Steering group will be available for very small scale spending that arises throughout the Investigation, Community Audit and associated processes. This will be available so that delivery can be quick and easy.</p> <p>Participatory Budgeting will be used once specific pieces of community research have been carried out - older people will 'vote' which actions (identified by community audits and appreciative enquiry) to fund and the volunteers implementing the actions will be supported to lever in additional 'match' funding from partners, other funders and businesses.</p>	<p>Older people in the wards are supported to develop a proposal for investment in line with criteria. A Local Investment Panel (LIP) then makes a decision on what will be funded. Key criteria is how much older people are involved in the proposal and the potential outcomes of the investment and its potential for long-term benefit.</p> <p>Volunteers are encouraged to form 'issue groups' to develop ideas for potential investments.</p>
Asset Mapping activity	<p>LDL volunteer researchers will continue to identify assets and work alongside services in each ward to connect with older people to research on the quality of life experienced by over 50's, their personal circumstances, social opportunities and gaps / ideas identified for investment opportunities.</p> <p>KYP will train volunteers and give them the skills to capture this information in a non-intrusive way.</p> <p>KYP have conducted a handover with CVS Rochdale to oversee the volunteer research and asset mapping function. This will be supported by the AfA co-ordinator Neighbourhood Workers, who will collect the data alongside volunteers and be inputted onto the database by the Admin Worker.</p>	<p>Building on existing intelligence Champions will help the partnership to build a detailed understanding of not just assets within the wards but older people's perceptions and engagement with previously identified assets. The questions asked will be positive and will also serve the purpose of promoting the programme and increasing engagement. This information gathered will directly feed into the development of the neighbourhood action plans.</p>	<p>3 main mapping activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Audits will enable a shared understanding of community assets and identify priorities for action. Community Maps will showcase the rich asset base of wards and highlight the work that this programme is developing to communities and partners. Appreciative Inquiries (AI) will engage the wider community into positive 'Community Actions'. 	<p>Assets will continue to be mapped utilising Google maps with snapshots of different time periods. Groups who have received investments will be added to the mapping in addition to information provided by our Volunteer Ambassadors and at forums.</p>

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Approach to community researcher/volunteers	<p>Volunteers will be recruited, managed and supported provided by KYP. They will be provided with initial and ongoing training and support on research methodologies, inclusion, equality & diversity, safeguarding, monitoring & evaluation.</p> <p>Existing groups and contacts in the community will be approached for the research and will be supported by a volunteer if and where necessary. Other methods to gather information on needs will also be trialed (based on test and learn approach)</p>	<p>The volunteer well-being champions are being trained in community reporter skills to enable them to collect stories using pictures, videos and words, empowered conversation to enable them to engage with individuals who may be effected by dementia, volunteering out in the community safely, managing difficult conversations, using measurement tools including well-being plans and loneliness and isolation measurement tools and using data to tell the story.</p> <p>Some community reports filmed by volunteers can be found here https://communityreporter.net/ - Enter A4A in the search box.</p>	<p>Community Investigators' will be recruited from each of the wards and will undergo Action Together's Community Researcher participatory research training (developed with MMU). They will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of and empathise with the issues faced by older people in their neighbourhoods that could contribute to social isolation, an emotional sense of disconnection and a general loss of self-confidence. • Have contact with, and knowledge of, local older people including those socially isolated, and believe in the positive contribution they can make to a community. 	<p>Our peer research project will look at older people's experience of social isolation. In co-production with our ward-based volunteers we will explore ways of engaging people not likely to attend meetings. We will work with MICRA to develop a specific questionnaire appropriate to each ward including questions around isolation and issues raised at forums.</p>

To find out further details or speak to the LDLs in local areas, please see the Ambition for Ageing Website: <http://www.ambitionforageing.org.uk/>