PROJECT IDEA: AGE-FRIENDLY PROJECTS AND UNCOVERING COMMUNITY SPACES

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT:

This project combines several project ideas from the workshops, which look at ways to support the starting up of new community groups and utilise community spaces where activities can be run from. People wanting to start up new groups will be given information about what they need to consider legally and practically. Work will be carried out to uncover community spaces that are not currently well used, thereby providing a space for new groups to meet in.

WHY IS THE PROJECT NEEDED?

Projects that currently exist for people over 50 do not always meet the needs and interests of all people within this group. Other projects require people to travel too far a distance; they would like something on offer more locally. Most neighbourhoods have spaces available to groups to meet in but people might not know that they exist or how to access them. This project will combine these two things, enabling new groups to use new spaces.

HOW WOULD WE KNOW IF IT'S BEEN SUCCESSFUL?

New groups are established

More activities are taking place across Greater Manchester

Community venues improve takings and usage levels increase

WHO IS IT TARGETED AT?

People who have an interest and wish to meet others who share this interest, but no local group is available

People who find it difficult to travel out of their neighbourhood to attend an activity and would like it to happen closer to home

Community venues that would like more people to use them

WHAT MAKES THIS PROJECT AGE-FRIENDLY?

Creates more local, affordable and accessible activities

Encourages people to leave their homes to attend something more local

Utilises local venues and encourages them to open up to more people

People can take ownership of a group and run activities that they are interested in

CAN AMBITION FOR AGEING INVEST IN THIS PROJECT?

Yes. It meets many of the AfA project idea selection criteria. In particular: the project has the potential to take place across GM; could potentially be repeated again with alternative funding; could contribute towards making GM more age-friendly; and could help to reduce social isolation for those who attend.