Building an *age-friendly* Manchester

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Manchester City Council
Overview

- Ageing in the city
- About Manchester’s ageing programme
- Framework
- Questions
“Population ageing and urbanisation have in their different ways become the key social trends of the twenty-first century.”

Prof Chris Phillipson 2010
“There is emerging evidence that urban environments may place older people at a heightened risk of isolation and loneliness.”

- Changes in which urban spaces are developed to meet the needs of younger consumers;
- Older people’s social well-being is prone to changes in population. The loss of family members, friends and neighbours has implications for the maintenance of stable social relationships.
- Older people are affected by changes linked to social issues, such as changes in services and levels of crime.”

Scharf/Gierveld 2008
Ageing in the city

“I just sit in this flat staring at the television or the walls. You get to a point where you think I can’t cope: I mean you think what’s the point being stuck in this flat day in day out.”

“Some councils will see an outward migration of affluent people in their 50s and 60s who choose to leave the cities…..the remaining older population…tends to be….poorer, isolated and more vulnerable with a lower life expectancy and a need for acute interventions”

Audit Commission 2008

Social exclusion in later life
- Material resources
- Social relations
- Civic activities
- Basic services
- Neighbourhood exclusion

Scharf et al 2004
A tough patch

- Population 504,000
- Greater Manchester: ten authorities, pop: 2.6 million
- Unusual older population: result of cohort migration/economic decline in 70/80s
- Second lowest male life expectancy in England
- High levels of pensioner poverty, ill-health and disability
- Vibrant public, community and private sectors
Inequalities in later life: Depression and wealth

English Longitudinal Study of Ageing
Inequalities in later life: Mean walking speed and wealth, people aged 60+
Creating a vision for Manchester

- Launched in 2003
- Multi-agency partnership
- 2004/2009 strategies
- 2012 Age-friendly Manchester

"Manchester has established itself at an international level as a leading authority in developing one of the most comprehensive strategic programmes on ageing."

John Beard, Department of Ageing and Life Course, World Health Organisation
## A ‘citizenship’ approach to ageing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical</th>
<th>Care</th>
<th>Citizenship</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patient</td>
<td>Customer</td>
<td>Citizen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Focus on individual</td>
<td>Focus on individual, family and informal</td>
<td>Focus on social networks</td>
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<td>support</td>
<td>neighbourhood and city</td>
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<td>Clinical interventions</td>
<td>Care interventions</td>
<td>Promoting social capital and participation</td>
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<td>Commission for ‘frail</td>
<td>Commission for vulnerable people</td>
<td>Age-proofing universal services</td>
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<td>elderly’</td>
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<td>Prevention of entry to</td>
<td>Prevention to delay entry to care system</td>
<td>Reducing social exclusion</td>
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<td>hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health (and care system)</td>
<td>Whole system</td>
<td>Changing social structure and attitudes</td>
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VOP allows us to have a say on the things that matter…
it’s a voice for older people

Elaine Unegbu, VOP Board member
Positive images of ageing
• The core trinity; crime, transport and physical environment
• Neighbourhood regeneration
• Cultural offer programme
• Housing and housing support projects
• Road safety
• Public health
  – Free swimming and physical activity
  – Alcohol; sexual health
• Research community
Working locally
The future

- Age-friendly Manchester programme
- New resources and partnerships
- Age-friendly workforce
- Age-friendly design/Design Lab
- Demonstrator sites
- Research
Ageing, economy and technology

- Principles
- Capacity and expertise
- Partners
- Themes
- Priorities
A *draft* shared framework for discussion

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Settings</th>
<th>Themes</th>
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<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>Politics</td>
<td>Social participation</td>
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<td>Economy</td>
<td>Civic representation</td>
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<td>Media</td>
<td>Mobility</td>
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<td>Transport system</td>
<td>Inclusion</td>
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<td>Anti-discrimination</td>
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<td>Neighbourhood</td>
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<td>Safety</td>
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<td>Workplace</td>
<td>Consumer choice</td>
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<td>Generational relationships</td>
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<td>Community facilities</td>
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<td>Street</td>
<td>Communal housing</td>
<td>Creativity</td>
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<td>Community groups</td>
<td>Health</td>
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<td>Home</td>
<td>Personal social and health care</td>
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<td>Friendships and family</td>
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1. Cities are viewed as key drivers for economic success – "the urban renaissance" – but can they integrate ageing populations as well?

2. Can the resources of the city be used to improve quality of life in old age – only 1 in 20 older households may have the money to take advantage of what great cities have to offer.

3. Can cities be designed in the interests of all age groups?
4. How can we investigate new ways of securing participation of older people in technology regeneration and planning.

5. How do we bring together urban designers, developers, architects with older people
Summary: key messages

- **Vision and plan**: championed by local politicians.
- **Older people**: making older people partners, leaders and peers in the city programme.
- **Making ageing everyone’s business**: the WHO framework describes how responsibility for planning for the age-friendly city
Summary: key messages

• **New partnerships**: creating active partnerships that reach beyond the ‘usual suspects’.

• **Research, policy and practice**: city strategists and policy makers form effective alliances with academics and researchers, practioners and citizens.

• **Networks**: international, national and regional networks facilitate the exchange of good practice and knowledge.
Thanks....

I’m here!

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