



Toward a Plan to make Dublin an Age-Friendly City: an experience of outcomes-based planning using real data, including the results of consultations with older people

Presenters:

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Objective:

The workshop will explore the model of decision-making involved in developing a plan to make an area of Dublin City more age-friendly. Participants will use real demographic, socio-economic and service data for the area, and the results of extensive consultations carried out with older people, to experience the process involved in developing an age-friendly plan for this community.

Interactive Discussion/Activities:

The workshop is participatory and will engage the 25 participants in an interactive process including work in pairs, small group work, and whole group discussion. Participants will use real demographic, socio-economic, service provision and consultation data to develop the outlines of a plan to make a community more age-friendly. They will assume different roles on the inter-agency planning group - e.g. municipal authority, health and social services, police services, NGOs, older people's representatives - and employ a particular planning model to develop the plan. They will also have an opportunity in small groups to reflect on how the model might transfer to their own work environments.

Learning Objectives:

Participants will be familiar with an age-friendly planning model that is focused on achieving clearly defined outcomes and will explore how this might be relevant to their own work in this area.

Summary of the Workshop:

Planning to make a community age-friendly is a complex task with decisions to be made about governance structures, resources, the role of older people in the process, where to focus action, how to measure progress in implementation and impact. This workshop will give the 25 participants involved an opportunity to gain insight into the processes involved in developing a plan to make an area of Dublin City more age-friendly. They will use current, real-time demographic, socio-economic, service provision and consultation data and experience a particular planning model developed by Ireland's national Age Friendly Cities and Counties Programme which is being trialled in Dublin City and a



number of other counties in 2013.

Dublin City Council decided to join Ireland's national programme in 2012 and the decided to set up local planning groups –Alliances - in each of the city's five administrative areas. The North West Area, with a population of 103,000 people, was the first of these to be established and it began by collating detailed demographic and socio-economic data for the area and mapping the current services provided by the agencies involved. Extensive consultations were also carried out with older people, and a local area plan was developed.

Workshop participants will be briefed on the background to the establishment of Dublin City Age Friendly Programme. They will also receive a presentation on the information available to the North West Area Alliance for planning purposes which will summarise the various datasets, and information on current levels and patterns of service provision. There will also be a presentation on the consultations carried out with older people living in the area.

Participants will then be introduced to the outcomes-based planning model. Working in small groups they will draw up an outline plan to make the North West Area more age-friendly. The plan will aim to impact in a significant way on the lives of older adults. Participants will also consider identifying a set of indicators to measure the implementation and possible impact of the programme.

The workshop will compare the plans developed by participants with those developed by the North West Alliance, and through whole group discussion identify the strengths and weaknesses involved in applying such an approach. Participants will also have an opportunity to reflect on how the model used in Dublin's North West Area might be applicable to their own work in this area.