

Welcome to the first edition of the newsletter from Argyll and Bute's Reshaping Care for Older People Programme Board - this is presented in a brief question and answer format to give you some information on why, what, who, where, when and how?

Why are we Reshaping Care for Older People?

- Older people in Scotland are living longer healthier lives, looking after themselves and each other and staying active in their communities.
- The Scottish Government supports this in a number of ways like free personal care, free bus travel and help with council tax and energy bills.
- In future years Argyll and Bute's older people will form a greater proportion of the population than ever before. For the majority of us this will not make a huge difference to the lives we lead.
- But many of us will need some help. It may be with our health, looking after ourselves at home or staying in touch with others in the community.
- Older people might need services provided by the NHS, local authorities, voluntary and charitable organisations or the private sector.
- This kind of help is what we deliver through the care system. It might be provided in a hospital, a care home, someone's own home or in the community. It could be help with medical needs, with household tasks or with getting out and about.
- The important thing is that Scotland, and particularly Argyll and Bute, needs to make sure we can provide services that work for older people and that the country can afford.
- The system we have for caring for our older people is right at the heart of these services. We all need to recognise that the way the population is changing means we cannot simply stand still.
- We expect there to be 25 per cent more older Scots who will need some form of care in just the next six years.
- We have a set-up that was simply not designed to cope with the demands that it will soon face. We need to be creative and ambitious in planning the changes we know we have to make now for the future good of us all.



If we are strong, and have faith in life and its richness of surprises
and hold the rudder steadily in our hands I am sure we will sail
into quiet and pleasant waters for our old age

Freya Stark

What is Reshaping Care for Older People?

The Scottish Government has allocated £1.7 million in 2011-12 within the NHS budget to a Change Fund for Argyll and Bute and partner local authorities to redesign services to support the delivery of new approaches to improved quality and outcomes.

Plans for use of the funds are to be developed in partnership by health boards, local authorities and the third and independent sectors. They will focus on reducing delayed discharges, reducing unplanned emergency admissions to hospital and making more innovative use of care home placements alongside improvements in care-at-home provision, housing related support and supporting unpaid carers.



What are our Priorities?

- ⇒ Reduce the number of people who fall
- ⇒ Make sure people get the right medicines at the right time
- ⇒ Help people to be independent and to look after themselves
- ⇒ Provide palliative care in the right place
- ⇒ Support communities to support older people
- ⇒ Improve housing adaptations and equipment provision
- ⇒ Improve support for carers
- ⇒ Improve care for people with dementia
- ⇒ Provide high quality individualised services for older people

If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter by email, in a different format or wish more information please contact:

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How Will Reshaping Care for Older People Happen?

We are working in partnership across the NHS, Council and with independent and third sector organisations to agree how we can reshape services to make the biggest and best difference for older people in Argyll and Bute.

Our vision is that people will live lives that are as long, healthy, active and happy as possible. The overall aim for Argyll and Bute Community Care Services will be to enhance the quality of the lives of the people with whom we work in order to achieve this vision.

Our Services will be aligned to focus on four common goals:

- Maintaining Independence
- Recognising and preventing difficulties
- Regaining skills and confidence
- Delivering care that is dignified, respectful and person centred

When Will all of This Happen?

The Change Fund which supports Reshaping Care for Older People will be available until the end of March 2015.

During this time we will develop our services and move our resources to make sure that they are being used to best effects.

How Will we Know we are Making a Difference?

We will measure the impact of the changes that we make on the outcomes for service users. These measures will include the following:

- ◆ Reduced emergency admissions to hospital
- ◆ Reduced length of stay in hospital
- ◆ More carers feeling supported
- ◆ More older people feeling safe at home
- ◆ More opportunities for social interaction
- ◆ Better provision of respite care
- ◆ Earlier diagnosis of dementia

