LGA Call for evidence 2014

From: Liam Condron < liam.condron@ageuknorthants.org.uk>

Sent: 13 November 2014 17:54 **To:** LGA Call for evidence 2014

Cc: Partnership

Subject: Call for Evidence: Local Government's Response to an Ageing Society

Please forgive my rather patchy and last minute response to this call for evidence.

As the Health and Social Care community struggles with the spiralling costs of ill health and social need, statutory partners are increasingly aware that the ageing of the population is a key challenge as we seek to identify solutions. Northamptonshire is developing strategies in the context of a history of underfunding of services for older people and long term positioning as a low council tax authority.

There is an awareness that Northamptonshire's increasing and ageing population will drive unsustainable demand on hospital and Primary Care services. To respond to the needs of the frail elderly and those with long-term conditions requires a step-change in the way services are delivered out of hospital, improved access to primary and community care through community hubs and networked general practice and the associated development of integrated care pathways. An operating model comprising Community Hubs, a reconfigured community bed base and an enhanced Crisis and Discharge service has been agreed as the basis for integration of community health and social care services.

Please refer to http://www.neneccg.nhs.uk/resources/uploads/files/HN%20stakeholder%20brief%20041013.pdf

Workforce

Northamptonshire has the second lowest rate of jobless over 45s in the East Midlands region (29.4% compared to a regional average of 36.2%). However, this still equates to almost 36,000 45-64 year olds in the county who are not working. Demographically, the workforce is ageing as younger people, particularly in the south of the county either began to commute outside of the county or moved away either to further education or employment outside of Northamptonshire.

Please refer to http://em.hee.nhs.uk/files/2014/04/Northamptonshire-Workforce-Development-and-Education-Investment-Plan-2014-18.pdf

Dementia

Age UK Northamptonshire has delivered Dementia Friends training to over 950 people from over 30 organisations and is developing productive links with many employers, the Police, the Fire Service and District councils. Who are beginning to develop a sensitivity to the issues of ageing and to take their own measures to address them.

See http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/news/Newsreleases/Pages/Northamptonshire-Fire-and-Rescue-Service-is-helping-older-people-to-Age-Safely.aspx

Apologies again for this rather inadequate response.

Líam Condron

Líam Condron

Chief Executive **t** 01604 611200

e liam.condron@ageuknorthants.org.uk

Age UK Northamptonshire

31 Billing Road Northampton NN1 5DQ

Web: www.ageuk.org.uk/northamptonshire



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