Mayor of London

Mayor’s Older People’s Advisory Forum

Minutes

Tuesday 4 November 2014, 10-12am, Committee Room 4, City Hall

Attendees
Sue Johnson, GLA, Standing-in Chair
Catherine Pymar, Open Age
Geoff Pope, CAB
Ellen Lebethe, London Older People’s Strategies Group
Lynn Strother, Greater London Forum for Older People
Mervyn Eastman, Positive Ageing in London
Mervyn Kohler, Age UK
Pat Prendergast, London Irish Elders
Sam Mauger, Age UK London
Stacey Halls, Open Door London

In attendance
Professor Anthea Tinker, King’s College London
Dr. Jay Ginn, King’s College London
Laura Austin Croft, GLA, Health Team
Baroness Liz Barker, UK Age Friendly Cities Network
Mavis Hoyle

Absent and apologies
Dot Gibson, National Pensioners Convention Greater London Region
George Clerk, London Minority Ethnic Elders project
Helen Leech, Open Age
Jon Pushkin, London Older People’s Advisory Group
Louise Briggs, AGILE London
Mohamed Lodhi Khan, Policy and Research Institute on Ageing and Ethnicity
Michael Borio, IndependentAge
Rhiannon Watson, GLA
Nicola Humberstone, Association of Greater London Older Women
Russell Taylor, Department for Work and Pensions
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<td>Minutes and Matters Arising</td>
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The minutes of last meeting, which took place on 12 February 2014, were agreed as a true record.

Economic Contribution of Older Londoners report

The report received the following publicity in response to the GLA press release of the report launch

- BBC London
- ITV London
- Evening Standard
- LBC radio - Interview with Deputy Mayor Victoria Borwick on LBC with Nick Ferrari
- City AM paper and online

The GLA promoted the report

- on its website (various places)
- on the GLA Economics publications webpage
- on its older people’s web page
- in its internal L@W.

GLA Economics

- put the report on the datastore with the appropriate links
- informed the UK data service
- sent out an ezine publicising the report
- tweeted the report via GLA Economics and re-tweeted via GLA Intelligence to promote more widely.

Age UK London promoted the report

- via tweets
- in e-bulletins
- on their website
- London Age magazine Autumn 2013 (on-line and hard copy)
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<td>• 50+ Skills and Contributions Bulletin: September 2013</td>
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<td>DWP promoted it in their Later Life newsletter</td>
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<td>It was mentioned and minuted at September 2014 UK Advisory Forum on Ageing meeting.</td>
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<td>It was mentioned in the Equality and Diversity Forum's notifications</td>
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<td>UK Advisory Forum on Ageing (UKAFA) meetings</td>
<td>Ellen Lebethe attended the UKAFA meetings held on 19 March; 11 June and 17 September. Minutes of the March, June and September meetings were circulated to Forum members.</td>
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2 **Chair’s Updates**

**Know Your Rights Campaign**

The January Know Your Rights campaign focused on encouraging older Londoners to claim Pension Credit and other benefits to which they may be entitled. It was carried out in partnership with Age UK London, CAB and supported by DWP, libraries across all London boroughs and London Councils. It generated over 1,500 enquiries and an estimated £557,065 in annual benefits on behalf of older people.

Plans for the next campaign are being developed. In September, members of Southwark and Lewisham Pensioners Forum and the Blackfriars settlement centre were invited in to participate in a focus group session, aimed at obtaining their feedback on last year’s campaign and developing ideas for the next campaign. This will be launched in late January 2015.
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<td>Digital Inclusion Strategy</td>
<td>A draft of the Digital Inclusion Strategy has been completed and took into consideration the views made by community stakeholders at the roundtables held by the GLA. This includes the barriers faced by disabled people, older people, migrant and refugee communities and those people living in social housing. The strategy will outline how the Mayor can make a positive difference in this area by coordinating the work of partners, undertaking any specific interventions and supporting others. There will be some further community consultation before the strategy is published at the end of the year.</td>
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<td>Relationship between the Mayor’s Older People’s Advisory Forum (MOPAF), the UK Advisory Forum on Ageing (UKAFA) and Positive Ageing in London (PAiL)</td>
<td>The role of the London Regional Forum of UKAFA has been formally passed over to PAiL. PAiL agreed a process for appointing both the London representative on UKAFA and their deputy and filled both positions through this process. Ellen Lebethe has been appointed as the London representative and Irene Kohler the deputy. Ellen, as the chair of LOPSG, has been and will continue to represent MOPAF on PAiL. MOPAF’s Terms of Reference have been amended to reflect these changes.</td>
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<td>Mayor’s revised London Housing Strategy</td>
<td>The statutory London Housing Strategy is about to be published/any day.</td>
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<td>In drafting the final version of the strategy, the GLA took all consultation responses into account including the one submitted on behalf of MOPAF based on what was raised at the last MOPAF meeting. Due to the number of responses received it would not be appropriate to respond to each response individually. Below are some of the key policies relating to older people.</td>
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<td>• Policy 6 – New homes should be built to Lifetime Homes standards, with at least ten per cent wheelchair adapted or easily adaptable.</td>
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<td>• Policy 8 – The Mayor will work to retrofit all poorly insulated homes in London by 2030, including through his RE:NEW programme.</td>
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<td>• Policy 29 – The Mayor will explore the expansion of the Housing Moves and Seaside &amp; Country Homes schemes for under-occupiers and those in employment.</td>
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<td>• Policy 34 – The Mayor will increase the provision of older people’s housing across all tenures, including extending the funding in the affordable housing programme.</td>
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<td>• Policy 35 – The Mayor will lobby Government for greater financial incentives for older people to downsize, including tax incentives.</td>
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<td>• Policy 36 – The Mayor will encourage bids for supported housing under the GLA’s 2015-18 affordable housing programme and fund as many suitable applicants as possible.</td>
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<td>More generally, the Strategy sets out the Mayor’s plans to increase annual housing delivery to around 42,000 homes per year, more than at any time since the 1930s. Achieving this will require reforms to how homes are funded, to the land market and the development industry.</td>
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<td>Consultation on the Mayor’s Hate Crime Reduction Strategy</td>
<td>2.1 The final strategy to be sent to Forum members, once published</td>
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| The hate crime reduction strategy is being finalised following an extensive period of consultation. MOPAC received a wealth of feedback from stakeholder groups, which fully supported the key objectives of the strategy. These relate to:  
  • Increasing awareness and to boost confidence to report hate crime  
  • Protecting communities and individuals targeted by hate crime and reduce repeat victimisation  
  • Ensuring swift and sure justice for hate crime victims.  
| | | |
| Broadening the definition of hate crime to include other characteristics, such as age, is highlighted in the strategy as an area for further exploration as part of the government’s response to the recent Legal Commission’s review of hate crime legislation. How successful broadening the definition will be, will depend on the amount of evidence there is to support such a change. The final strategy will be launched shortly. | | |
| 3 | Consultation on the draft Age Friendly London report | 3.1 The report authors to take the members feedback into consideration when drafting the report. |
| Professor Anthea Tinker and Dr. Jay Ginn, King’s College London | | |
| Professor Anthea Tinker and Jay Ginn, King’s College London gave a PowerPoint presentation on their thinking on drafting their Age Friendly London report. Forum members were generally content with the proposed approach. | | |
Baroness Liz Barker mentioned
- there are 12 UK communities accredited to the World Health Organisation’ Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities. She is trying to promote and increase membership of the UK network.
- there will be an age-friendly cities conference taking place in London on 16 March 2015.
- the Local Government Association has held a task and finish group and is seeking evidence on the role of local authorities in preparing for the opportunities and challenges of an ageing society.
- Dublin has an age friendly airport.
- She is involved in an All Party Parliamentary Group on Housing and Care for Older People which is looking at older people and downsizing and producing a report on the affordability of retirement housing.

Members mentioned the need for older people to be
- visible
- engaged with. Engagement needs to include different cohorts of older people (different boroughs, age, ethnicity, gender, class)
- involved in civic participation and in co-designing solutions to the issues they face
- digitally included, including in the co-design of digital equipment.

Anthea mentioned an initiative where older people are co-designing with architects.

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| 4    | **Age/Friendly London Report survey results**  
Sue Johnson, Diversity and Social Policy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 4.1 The findings are to inform the drafting of both the Age Friendly London report |
The survey looked at what improvements there had been in London to make it an age-friendly city, what has become worse and what would make London more age-friendly.

MOPAF members and/or their organisations were amongst those who participated in the survey.

The findings have been shared with relevant GLA and Transport for London policy officers.

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| 5    | **Consultation on the refresh of the Mayor’s Health Inequalities Strategy delivery plan**  
Laura Austin Croft, Health Inequalities                                                                                                           | 5.1 Presentation to be circulated to members.                          |
|      | Laura Austin Croft, Health Inequalities lead in the GLA’s Health Team, presented the outline proposals being considered for the refresh of the Mayor’s Health Inequalities Strategy delivery plan, as well the London Health Commission’s recent Better Health London report.  

The refresh of the Mayor’s Health Inequalities Strategy delivery plan will focus on
- The Mayor’s role in leading action on health inequalities
- Levers for reducing health inequalities in the new health and social care landscape
- Describing and tracking health inequalities going forward.

Members were asked to respond to a number of questions which featured in the background paper circulated to members prior to the meeting; including questions on
- ways the Mayor’s role could be used to reduce health inequalities
- how the new structures and functions could best support action to reduce health inequalities
- the proposed set of indicators. |

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|      | Members made the following comments  
|      |   • It is good that a set of health inequalities indicators have been drawn up.  
|      |   • Lack of resources is an issue and must be affecting how older people are treated.  
|      | Members asked the following questions  
|      |   • How widely has the consultation paper been circulated? Can members circulate the paper more broadly?  
|      | Laura Austin Croft responded that  
|      |   • The Age Friendly report recommendations could be considered as part of refreshing the delivery plan  
|      |   • the consultation paper can be circulated more broadly by members  
|      |   • the issue of the lack of resources and its impact on the treatment of older people features in the London Health Commission’s recent report  
|      |   • Members are welcome to provide additional responses to the consultation following the meeting.  
| 5   | The Forum to pass provide additional responses to Sue Johnson or directly to Laura. |
| 6   | AOB  
|      | Some members’ software does not support the Foundry Form Sans font. This makes it difficult for them to print out Forum meeting documents.  
|      | The Forum was informed that the Age Action Alliance has started a Creative Arts group.  
|      | Concern was expressed about expectations that older people should do voluntary work.  
| 6.1 | Forum documents to use a universal font.  
<p>| 6.2 | This issue will be picked up by the Economic Contribution of Older Londoners working group. |</p>
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<td>Date of next meeting</td>
<td>Sue Johnson to confirm date</td>
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<td>The next meeting will take place, dependent on emergent policy issues and the availability of the relevant Mayoral advisor.</td>
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