

Ageing Well Network Terms of Reference

The 'Ageing Well' Network has been created to provide voluntary organisations involved in providing services of any kind that are available to people aged 50+, with a voice and a greater involvement in partnership working.

(Services can include, but are not limited to, providing information, advice, support or direct delivery etc.)

The Ageing Well Network will actively promote the voluntary sector and the valuable contribution it makes to meeting the 'older peoples strategy' outcomes in Bridgend County. The network will also rely on the voice of its beneficiaries aged 50+ to inform its work.

Aims of the Network

- Raising awareness and understanding of issues relating to people over the age of 50+ and ensure these are communicated amongst the voluntary sector, statutory sector and general public.
- Improve networking and co-operation amongst local voluntary organisations, to share best practice and reduce duplication.
- Identify any gaps in service and/or best practice working where appropriate and work together to identify opportunities to address such gaps
- Provide a representational role for the sector. The nominated representatives will feed information from the Ageing Well Network to and from the relevant Partnership Boards, ensuring the voice of the sector is carried forward to these partnerships. The representatives will normally be the Chair and Vice Chair, but are not restricted to those roles.
- Maintain positive links with the Never Too Old Action Team (NTOAT), the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing (HSCWB) Partnership and others as appropriate.

Objectives

- To promote good practice and encourage positive attitudes towards people aged 50+
- To discuss initiatives and consultations concerning people aged 50+ and respond collectively where appropriate.

- To share information and good practice and ensure these are communicated to the appropriate groups.
- To identify gaps in provision and work to address these gaps.
- To raise awareness of older peoples issues and concerns at the appropriate level (as identified through the sector provider's beneficiary groups)
- To invite and encourage statutory agencies to attend in an observer capacity as appropriate in order to clarify and explain policy, planning and decision making in Bridgend County Borough on issues affecting the Ageing Well Network and its beneficiaries.
- To create networking opportunities.
- To encourage the active involvement of the Network on issues which affect people aged 50+ with whom they work and encourage new, more equal relationships between voluntary and statutory sector organisations.

Membership

Membership is open to voluntary organisations providing a service to people aged 50+ or whose beneficiaries are aged 50+ and operating within the boundaries of Bridgend County Borough.

Where a member is a local or regional branch, they will represent their local member organisations/offices. Where a group is separately constituted it will have its own membership rights

All members will be asked to complete a membership form and return it to the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Facilitator at BAVO. Any new members should contact BAVO for the membership form.

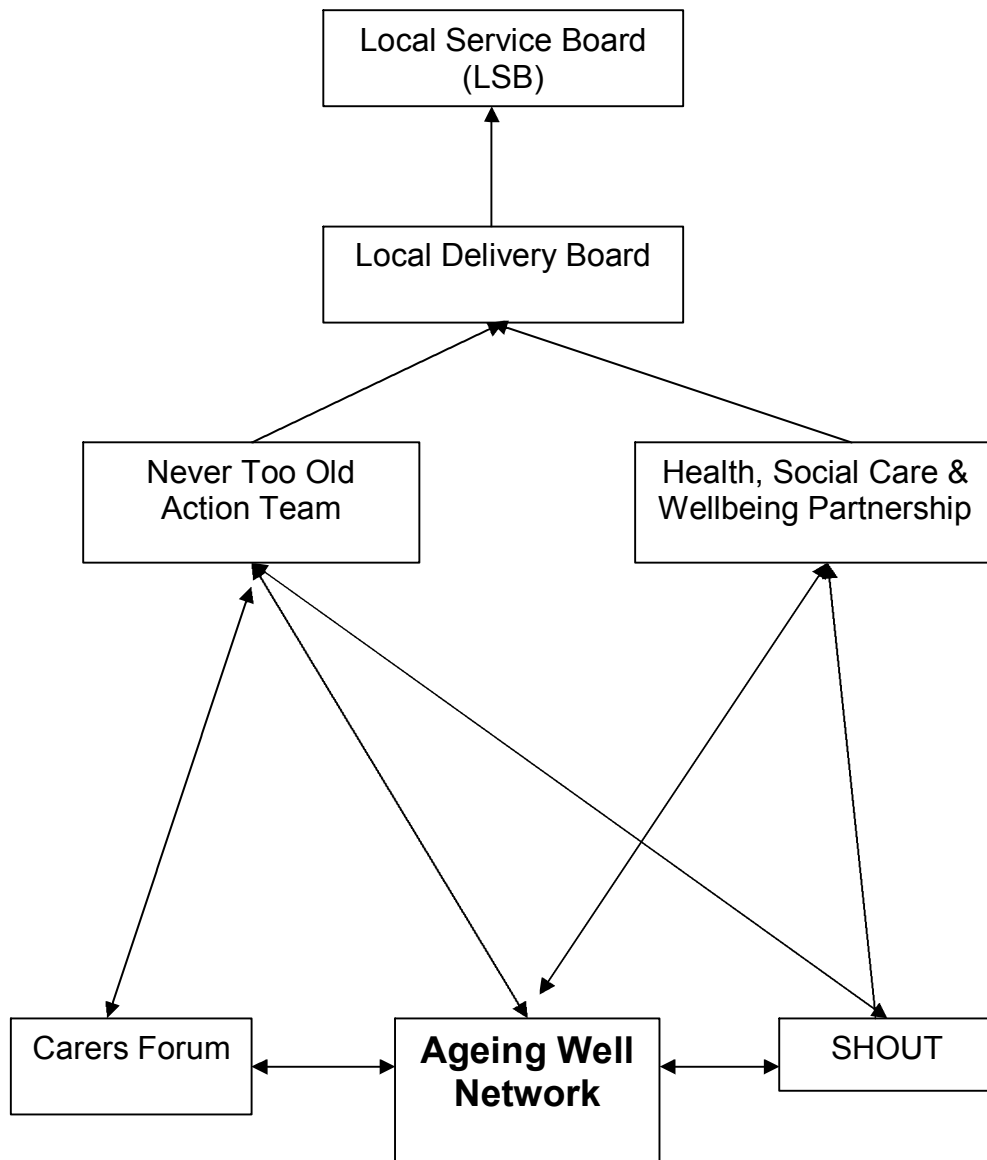
Colleagues from the statutory or the voluntary sector will occasionally be invited to attend part of the meeting to talk to the group about their area of work. Presentations will be made to promote discussion and enable active consultation.

Organisational Arrangements

- BAVO will facilitate the Ageing Well Network
- The agenda will initially be set by the Chair and Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Facilitator and then sent out to the Ageing Well Network for amendments or additions.
- The Network will meet no less than four times a year.

- The agenda for the forthcoming meeting and the previous minutes will be sent out at least one week before the meeting date.
- Meetings shall be held in various venues across the County Borough of Bridgend (availability and cost permitting).
- The Chair and Vice Chair will be nominated by members every two years and may be eligible for re-election.
- Members will mandate representatives to attend partnership meetings and subsequent subgroups. Voluntary sector organisations should name the representative/deputy attending the meetings on their behalf.
- Member groups will be limited to one vote in any issue of collective response (up to two participants will be able to represent an organisation but they will only have one vote).
- Observers to be invited to attend the meeting at the discretion of the Ageing Well Network members.
- Smaller Ageing Well Network ‘task and finish’ groups can be arranged as and when needed, to work on a particular issue and then feed back to the wider group. The members of the such groups will not always be the same and may encompass people from outside of the network where appropriate (eg advisors). This would be decided at the discretion of the fuller Ageing Well Network.
- The existence of the network will be publicised through the NTOAT, its member organisations and through the BAVO newsletter and website.
- The Terms of Reference will be reviewed after the first six months and then periodically when required.

Diagram One: Position of the Ageing Well Network in the Wider Meeting Structure



The Ageing Well Network will sign up to existing agreed protocols and partnership accountability within the County. Key issues that remain unresolved can be fed into BAVO and taken to the LSB.

From time to time it may be necessary for the Network to feed issues directly to the Older People's Champion and the Welsh Assembly Government.