

STEVE MILSOM
DIRECTOR OLDER PEOPLE AND LONG
TERM CARE POLICY
WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT

RESEARCH AND OLDER PEOPLE : A
GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVE

DEMOGRAPHY

- ❑ In 1917, King George V sent **24** Royal 100th Birthday telegrams
 - ❑ In 1952 in the first year of her reign, Queen Elizabeth II sent **200** telegrams
 - ❑ In 2007 the Queen sent **4,623** messages – now in the form of Birthday cards
 - ❑ It is projected that by 2031 nearly **40,000** people in Britain will be over 100
-

STRATEGY FOR OLDER PEOPLE

- ❑ Launched 2003 – significant progress made – commended internationally
 - ❑ £13m invested over 5 years
 - ❑ Underpinned by comprehensive consultation and research
 - ❑ Driven forward by local authorities and voluntary sector
 - ❑ Commissioner for Older People
-

Phase 2 of Strategy

- ❑ Further research, evaluation and consultation informed way forward
 - ❑ Phase 2 launched March 2008
 - ❑ Further £7m over 3 years
 - ❑ Aims for next 5 years cover:
 - “Mainstreaming” ageing
 - Engagement and participation
 - Economic Contribution of older people
 - Independence (health, well-being, care, housing)
-

OLDER PEOPLE MONITOR

- ❑ Monitor will publish data and research including reports on “indicators of change”
 - Social inclusion – fear of crime, transport
 - Material well-being – employment, education
 - Active ageing – participation in activities
 - Social care and housing- help to live at home
 - Health care – access to surgery etc
 - Well-being – healthy life expectancy
-

Paying for Care

- ❑ Increase in demand
 - ❑ Higher expectations of service quality
 - ❑ Funding gap of £6billion – 1.7m more people (at UK level) will need care in 20 years
 - ❑ Current system will not be sustainable
 - ❑ Wide ranging consultation about options for the future – leading to a Green Paper
-

QUESTIONS FOR DEBATE

- What should the balance of responsibility be between the family, the individual and the state?
 - Should there be one care and support system for all or should there be variation in allocation of Government funding according to certain principles?
-

MORE QUESTIONS

- What is more important – local flexibility or national consistency?
 - What should the balance be between targeting government resources at those who are least able to pay and having a system that supports those who plan and save?
-

APPROACH IN WALES

- Advisory Group – Oct – Mar
 - Consultation Document – Mid Oct for 12 weeks
 - Web site – for user/stakeholder comments
 - Local consultation from Oct
 - National Consultation Events – North/South Wales – Nov/Dec
 - Wales “Green Paper” April 2009
-

SOCIAL SERVICES STRATEGY

- ❑ “Fulfilled Lives, Supportive Communities” sets out a vision for Social Services in Wales to reform and modernise this core local government function.
 - ❑ Social Care supports 150,000 and spends £1.3 billion – 70,000 workforce
 - ❑ Key themes of Strategy are improving:
 - Leadership, Commissioning, Partnership Working, Performance Management and Workforce
-

REVIEW OF FUNDING

- Commitment in Strategy to undertake a fundamental review of funding for social care in the medium to long term
 - Scoping study to start in Autumn
 - Review will be completed collaboratively with stakeholders over next 18 months
-

REVIEW OVERVIEW

- Develop good quality, cost effective service models that promote protection, independence and prevention
 - Examine the demographic, economic, social, health and other trends impacting on social care over the next 10-20 years
 - Use service models and trend analysis to assess the financial and other resources required to deliver a modern social care system
-

CONCLUSIONS

- ❑ In Wales a strong emphasis has been given to engagement and participation of older people
 - ❑ Commissioner for Older People has real potential to move forward agenda
 - ❑ Equal Opportunities is the new context to progress ageing issues
-

CONCLUSIONS

- Impact of demographic and other trends on delivery and funding of care system will be significant
 - A strong evidence base for development of policies for older people must be achieved through effective research, evaluation and engagement of users, their carers and stakeholders
-

DATE FOR DIARY

- UK International day of Older People
– 1 October 2008
 - Celebrate the contribution of older people to society
 - National and Local Events
 - Contact your Local Authority Strategy for Older People Co-ordinator
-