Engagement of Older people

The Dorset experience
Jackie Allen
Statutory agencies contact forums regarding any proposed changes of service or new projects –

Example:

**Establishing Dorset Age Partnership** – Chaired by an older person – holds quarterly meetings in each district annually

**Ageing Well Strategy** – This involved over 3000 older people and culminated in a strategy co-written by a Local Authority officer and an older person
Dorset Association of Senior Forums

Some activities of forum members include involvement in groups dealing with:

- Transforming Social Care
- Dignity, Privacy & Respect
- Equality & Diversity
- Housing issues e.g. sheltered, extra care and home improvement agencies (Chaired by an older person)
- Transport issues
- Connecting Health and Social Care
Dorset POPP

- A Steering Group comprising all partners from the statutory and voluntary services was developed with forum members.
- Advertised for Manager older people involved in short listing applicants, marking applicants presentations, sitting on selection board at final interviews and appointment of this post.
- Other staff e.g. Community Development Workers were appointed with full involvement of older people.
- Dorset POPP Board comprising Director of Adult & Community Services, Chief Executive of NHS Dorset, a representative of the third sector and FOUR older people was established, giving the majority vote to older people.
Dorset POPP

Community Commissioning Fund
£50,000 annually

- Over 250 projects initiated by local older people have been pump primed from this fund
- Decisions for this funding are made by older people through the Exchange Group
- Involved in commissioning & monitoring the Champions, Wayfinders & Evaluation parts of the programme
Dorset POPP

8 desired outcomes have been identified with full involvement of older people

That older people ...

- ...have housing suitable for individual needs
- ...are socially integrated and not isolated
- ...are making a positive contribution and experiencing fulfilment as a result
- ...feel secure and safe
- ...feel free from discrimination
- ...feel financially secure
- ...are in good health in mind and body
- ...have dignity, choice and control throughout their life, especially towards the end