



## **Mid and East Antrim Agewell Partnership (MEAAP) Involving Many to Prescribe Alternative Care Together (IMPACT) Programme**

### **Background**

The project is the result of a call for proposals to develop a network of care and support for older people at a local level, creating a bottom-up, asset based approach, using all the resources in a local area, to provide care and/or support to assist in improving the health and wellbeing of older people.

Proposals were sought from local consortia for an innovative approach aimed at achieving a radical change in public sector provision from one founded not just on technical excellence, but also on a human framework that will provide for the specific wishes of older people, such as adequate time in providing care and interacting on a personal basis with the person being supported.

There were six objectives:

- Continuity of care
- Considerate care
- Cost effectiveness of care
- Completeness of care
- Community focussed

### **The IMPACT Programme**

The programme will support the development of 6 localised health and wellbeing hubs, co-ordinated by one strategic hub. The 6 local hubs (3 urban and 3 rural) will partner with 6 GP practices, Community Pharmacists and staff from the Health and Social Care sectors to offer person centred care and community based support. This will be delivered to a minimum of 1,100 older people aged 70 years and over, via up to 13,200 funded alternative care prescriptions. These will be facilitated by at least 36 Community Partnership Agreements to deliver a wide range of activities, services and support programmes.

The aims of IMPACT are to:

- Put people control of what happens to them
- Identify the health and wellbeing outcomes that matter most to the individual and seek to improve them
- Build knowledge and diversity within health and social care support
- Develop and sustain integrated, valued and safe partnerships
- Reduce the cost of health and social care support

The programme will be managed from the strategic hub, staffed by a project manager and an administrator, and delivered via 6 project officers (key workers) based in each of the 6 local hubs.

The older people will be supported by a key worker who will help provide them with person-centred services and support to improve and meet the health outcomes that matter most to them. The keyworker will use a guided conversation approach to put the older person's wellbeing needs on a par with their medical needs, using an integrated healthcare model, which aims to reduce dependency on the unscheduled use of primary and secondary health and social care services.

By adopting the key principles of "listening, connecting and transforming" the project aims to build local knowledge and diversity within health care, developing and sustaining partnerships that are integrated, safe and valued by all healthcare practitioners, ultimately reducing the increasing costs of health care and support associated with an ageing population.

The consortium comprises: Mid and East Antrim Agewell Partnership; Mid and East Antrim Borough Council; The Northern Health and Social Care Trust; The Health and Social Care Board Northern Commissioning Group, Primarycare and Community Together (PACT); Antrim/Ballymena and East Antrim Integrated Care Partnership Committees (ICP) (both subgroups of the Health and Social Care Board).