

Delivering Social Change

Tackling poverty and social exclusion

JANUARY 2016

Delivering Social Change Signature Programmes – Is Anyone Better Off?

The initial six Delivering Social Change Signature Programmes are being evaluated using Outcomes Based Accountability (OBA) methodology in order to clearly identify their impact. An element of the evaluation of each programme includes a set of standardised questions answered before and after participation by those aged 13+. However we took the innovative approach of asking questions around:

Self-efficacy - the strength of a person's belief in their own ability to complete tasks and reach goals.

Locus of control - the extent to which individuals believe they can control events affecting them, either internal (the person believes they can control their life) or external (meaning they believe their decisions/life are controlled by external factors which they can't influence, e.g. chance/fate).

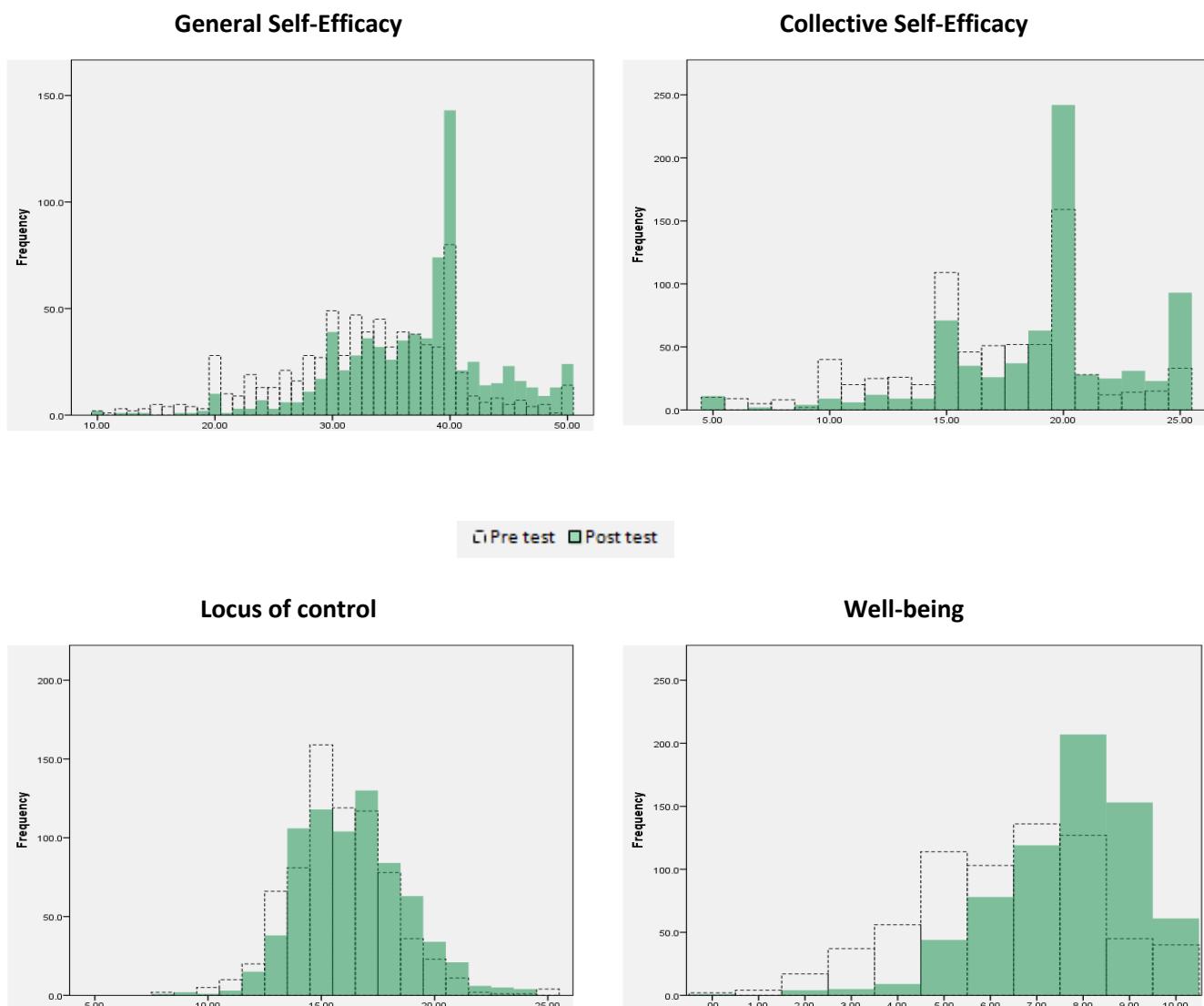
Well-being - a measure of life satisfaction.

Each month we will be looking at the evaluation of one of the Signature Programmes, starting with the **Community Family Support Programme (CFSP)**.

Delivered in partnership with DEL and associated delivery agents, the CFSP is a “whole family” programme designed to support parents and children to enhance their prospects and fully participate in society. The Executive’s Delivering Social Change Fund funded the CFSP for three programme cycles, running from November 2013 to June 2015.

The graphics below show that participants on the CFSP experienced a positive effect as a result of their involvement in the programme. This is strong evidence that the programme contributed to feelings of improved capacity or confidence (self-efficacy), an improved belief of control of their own lives, and increased well-being for programme participants. Extensive research on these measures show that improvements in these three measures lead to much better outcomes for participants including: better educational achievement, better interpersonal relations, better efforts in learning, increased positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles and behaviours.

Community Family Support Programme



For more information email research@ofmdfmni.gov.uk

Active Ageing Strategy Launched

On 26 January 2016 Junior Ministers Emma Pengelly and Jennifer McCann launched the Executive's **Active Ageing Strategy**, aimed at enabling older people to enjoy the benefits and rewards of life for as long as possible.

The Strategy outlines the Government's commitment to support older people to live actively to their fullest potential. It stresses their rights and their valuable contribution to society and it challenges all forms of ageism. It focuses on five key themes of independence, participation, care, self-fulfilment and dignity.

It aims to deliver outcomes across Government Departments which support older people's quality of life in key areas around: living independently; involvement in civic and community life; health and social care; employment; participation in cultural, educational and physical activity; and dignity and human rights.

The Strategy covers the period 2016 - 2021. It has been agreed by the Executive and is part of the Delivering Social Change initiative. The views and input of older people, as well as representative groups and community and voluntary sector organisations, contributed to the development of the Strategy.

You can access the Active Ageing Strategy here:

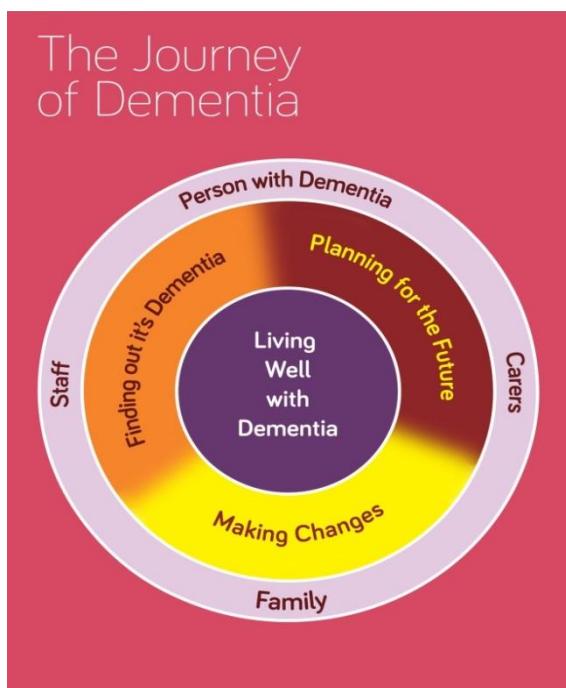
<https://www.ofmdfmni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/ofmdfm/active-ageing-strategy.pdf>

Dementia Signature Programme – Update

Northern Ireland Dementia Learning and Development Framework

The Northern Ireland Dementia Learning and Development Framework was developed following extensive consultation and engagement with key stakeholders from June 2015 to January 2016. In addition it was informed by best practice guidance and reviews of other frameworks as well as a regional scoping exercise of current training.

The Northern Ireland Dementia Learning and Development Framework

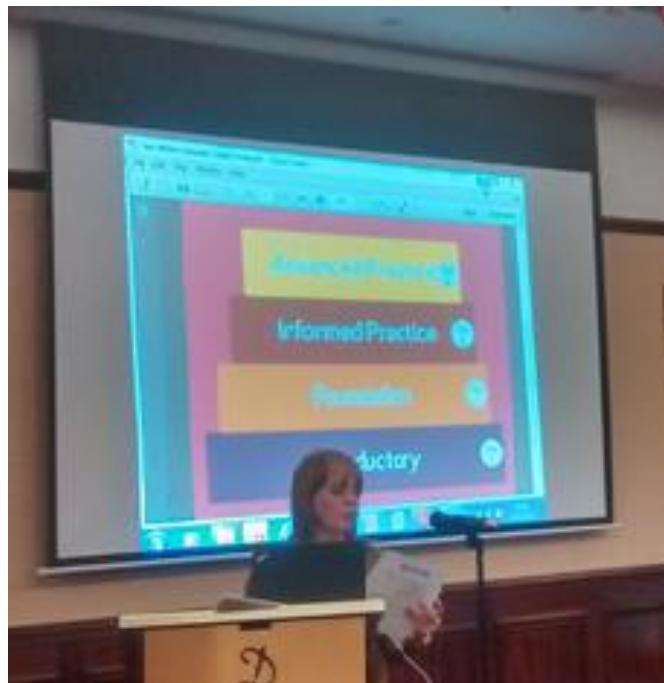


Supporting health and social care staff to deliver better care to people living with dementia, their families and carers

At the core of this Framework are the principles that people living with a dementia and their carers have the right to be treated with privacy, dignity and respect; have their human rights upheld and independence promoted; are involved in decision making; and receive safe care and treatment from staff who are suitably qualified, competent and well motivated to undertake their roles.

The development of the Learning and Development Framework was led by an Expert Steering Group which was comprised of eight senior professional health and social care managers from the statutory and independent sector.

As part of the consultation and engagement, seven regional workshops were organised on a monthly basis and attended by a total of forty-eight individuals/stakeholders who represented the statutory and independent sectors. This included various health and social care staff and regulators as well as representatives from universities, colleges, trade unions and training agencies. In addition to the above involvement, a Virtual Reference Group comprised of 146 individuals/stakeholders was regularly consulted upon in relation to the development of the framework at various stages.



Teresa McGarvey from Dementia Together NI delivering her presentation as part of the Dementia Learning and Development Stakeholder workshop held in Dunsilly Hotel on 3 December 2015 .

Key to the development of the framework was the contribution made by people with dementia and their carers. People with dementia were represented by Dementia NI whose mission statement is to be the independent voice for people living with a dementia.

Members of Dementia NI and carers were present at several of the monthly framework development workshops. The project team from Dementia Together NI also attended several

meetings with Dementia NI to share with them specific areas of the framework seeking their comments, as well as speaking to Carers group from Alzheimer's Society.



Stakeholders including people with dementia and their carers in attendance at the Dementia Learning and Development Stakeholder workshop held in the Dunsilly Hotel.

The first draft of the Dementia Learning and Development Framework was issued and presented at the final stakeholder workshop on 7 January 2016.

An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and the Framework will now undergo a consultation period from February to March 2016. We anticipate a formal launch of the final Northern Ireland Dementia Learning and Development Framework Report in June 2016.

**For further information on the Northern Ireland Dementia Learning and Development Framework please contact Teresa McGarvey, Project Officer.
Email: teresa.mcgarvey@hscni.net**

More information about the Dementia Signature Programme and the other Delivering Social Change Signature Programmes is available at:

<https://www.ofmdfmni.gov.uk/topics/social-change/delivering-social-change-signature-programmes>



Children's Services Co-operation Act (Northern Ireland) 2015

On 9 December 2015 the Children's Services Co-operation Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 received Royal Assent and became operative. The Act was introduced to the Assembly as a Private Members Bill by Steven Agnew MLA and was amended during its passage through the Assembly by a number of MLAs and the wider children's sector. It can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2015/10/contents/enacted>

The Act was introduced to improve co-operation amongst Departments and a wide range of bodies including District Councils, HSC Trusts, HCS Board, the Education Authority, NIHE, PSNI and the Probation Board as they deliver services aimed at improving the well-being of children and young people. Within the Act the term 'well-being' is defined using eight general parameters. The factors identified in the Act which contribute to the well-being of children and young people are:-

- Physical and mental health;
- Enjoyment of play and leisure;
- Learning and achieving;
- Living in safety and stability;
- Economic and environmental well-being;
- Making a positive contribution to society;
- Respect of rights; and
- Promotion of good relations.

The Act also outlines how the Children and Young People's Strategy should be monitored, requires the Programme for Government to take account of reports on the Strategy, and provides powers for statutory bodies to pool budgets to support services for children and young people.

Work is underway on the development of the new Children and Young People's Strategy in order to comply with the Act.

Development of the next Children and Young People's Strategy

A substantial amount of work, consultation and engagement has been ongoing since June 2015 to support the development of the new Executive Strategy for Children and Young People. This includes reviewing the previous strategy, analysing and assessing relevant documents, engaging with stakeholders, and considering how the new Strategy may be developed through a process of co-design. From this work a number of key themes and issues have been identified which will be considered as the Strategy develops.

Further engagement will also be required in order to share some of this emerging thinking with stakeholders so it can be tested, discussed and refined. For each outcome we need to agree what we aim to achieve through the strategy, what data we need to assess progress and what actions are required. We want to continue to obtain your views on how this analysis should be carried out and benefit from your support and experience in considering these issues. Many thanks to the people who have already made a valuable contribution.

It is also important that we now begin a process of engaging with children and young people to hear their views and to ensure they play a central role in the development of the strategy and we appreciate the key role children and young people's organisations play in supporting this.

We welcome your contribution and urge anyone who is interested in this work area to please get in touch with the **Children and Young People's Unit**, OFMDFM at CYPU@ofmdfmni.gov.uk or telephone **Alastair Carroll** on **028 9052 3423**.

If you would like to contact the Delivering Social Change Communications Team:-

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