

Age Friendly York

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Working together, to improve and make a difference



“It is often said that, “a dementia friendly community is age-friendly, but an age-friendly community is not necessarily dementia friendly.” In fact, neither one wholly encompasses the other.”

Turner, N and Morken L, (AARP, 2016), Better Together: A comparative Analysis of Age-friendly and Dementia Friendly Communities

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Some areas of difference

Dementia friendly is 'disease-specific' lens

Combating stigma and raising awareness is front and centre in dementia friendly

Age-friendly tends to be deeper and broader across all the elements of a good later life, taking longer and requiring political commitment

Age-friendly is grounded in public health principles and has more of a focus on prevention

Dementia friendly places central importance the role and engagement of carers

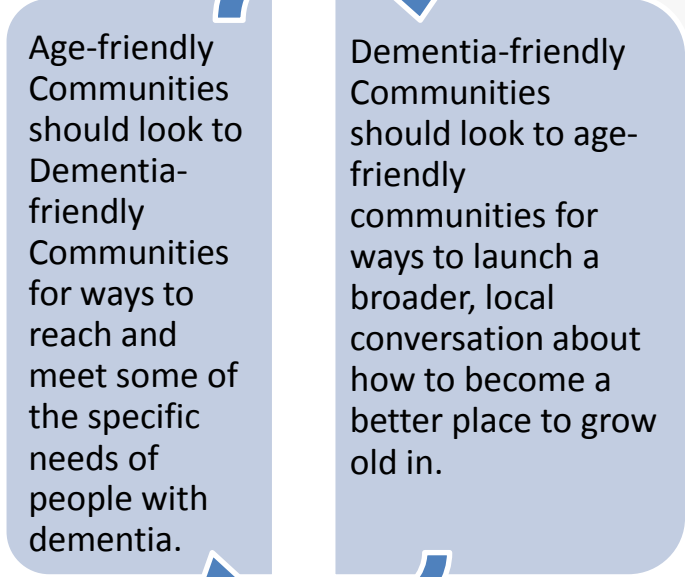
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Age-friendly and Dementia-friendly Communities

Age-friendly and Dementia-friendly Communities share many common goals albeit with different overall focuses.

Both schemes can benefit from working more closely together.



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How Age-friendly and Dementia friendly Communities can work together

Ensure that people living with dementia and their caregivers are included in all steps of the AFC process (e.g. through dementia advisory group)

Include dementia focused stakeholders on steering groups and work groups

Align staffing resources from start (or take steps to coordinate if both are already well established)

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The domains can act as a useful guide to adapt action plans to meet the needs of people with dementia

Getting Out and About- your journey (domain 1)

Reliable, well-maintained, frequent clean and well lit
accessible has priority seating and not-overcrowded
set up to facilitate boarding and waits for passengers to be seated
set up to ensure drivers are courteous and helpful

Your destination (domain 2)

Public areas are clean and pleasant
Green spaces sufficient, outdoor seating well maintained
Venues – easy to reach, accessible, well lit, conveniently located

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Some common ground on approach

A focus on helping people remain independent and included in their community, for as long as possible

Putting people with lived experience at centre

Considering both the social and physical environments

Engaging a broad set of multi-sector stakeholders

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Why do we need a dementia strategy in York?

“York is one of the best places for dementia, but until I got diagnosed, there was nothing”

Quote from person who uses services

Timely identification of dementia is the first step to provision of meaningful support for the changing needs of the individual and their family and carers

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Why?

- To ensure we are prioritising people living with dementia in the City and improving their quality of life
- Raise awareness
- To develop self sustaining community led support approach
- To use learning from the work of the DAA, including the dementia action co-ordinator role

York Dementia Action Alliance Action Plan 4 strands

- Raise awareness and reduce discrimination
- Involve people with dementia in the building of services
- Provide a hub for resources and information
- Raise the standards of services for people with dementia

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Transforming the Dementia Action Alliance into a Dementia Academy

Funding agreed to scope the feasibility of a York Dementia Academy
Dementia Strategy would be the framework for the Academy to operate

To co-produce with partners and people living with dementia a development plan for York Dementia Action Alliance that is future proof and recognises the growing numbers of people within the City of York who live with dementia.

To scope out opportunities for income generation including membership fees and training fees.

To build relationships with local academic institutions to establish the appetite for collaborative working in translating research into best practice in York.

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