



North East Forum on Ageing Declaration

Our vision

North East Forum on Ageing (NEFA) vision is that all older people in the north east of England are seen as equal members of society, and so we seek to improve the quality of later life through partnership working between partners and older people; creating communities where older people feel secure, valued and able to contribute to society.

About the Forum

NEFA is a network which brings together, in partnership, older people and organisations drawn from civil society and the public and private sectors. It celebrates the lives of older people and their contribution to society and seeks practical ways to improve services and support to older people.

Through the Forum partners bring their distinctive skills to work collaboratively, achieving more in partnership than as individual organisations or sectors. Our focus is on the most disadvantaged and preventing exclusion and deprivation in later life.

Why now?

UK society is undergoing profound change, with average life expectancy up by 30 years over the last century and one in four of today's children likely to live to 100. In the UK there are now more people over State Pension age than children under 16. This presents a significant challenge to our attitudes and the way we view older people and meet their needs. Too many of today's older people find themselves in unsuitable housing, facing deprivation, isolation and exclusion.

There is also a real opportunity to embrace the value of people living longer. The Forum working groups are the engine of the network, with partners collaborating across a range of themes, promoting a positive solutions approach.

Our Purpose - Working together, we will ensure that older people, today and tomorrow:

- Are visible, valued and heard
- Enjoy a good quality of life and wellbeing
- Can make informed choices about health and wellbeing
- Have social networks and access to friends, family and community support
- Are able to access information and services they need

Our Values

- Equality
- Inclusivity
- Openness
- Transparency
- Non party political