

Steering Group - Terms of Reference

Purpose

The purpose of Future East is to draw together a range of regional stakeholders to enable a strategic approach to improving the outcomes for older people in the East of England.

The aims of Future East:

- 1) Increasing engagement, empowerment and independence of older people.
- 2) Tackling discrimination and age related inequalities and promoting equality.
- 3) To influence the development and implementation of national and regional policy as it relates to older people.
- 4) Raising awareness of demographic change in relation to older people.

Individual members of the Steering Group will maintain independence and may object to the collective view.

How we work

The Steering Group will meet on a quarterly basis. Work priorities identified by the Steering Group will primarily be carried out by Work Groups who will report back to the Steering Group.

If a participating organisation is unable to field a representative for two consecutive meetings then (unless there are exceptional circumstances) they will be excluded from the Steering Group.

Individual members of the Steering Group must recognise that by joining the Steering Group they join as active members. Any work that is agreed to by individual members becomes the responsibility of their nominating body in the event of a change in individual membership.

Chair

A Chair and two Vice Chairs are elected from and by Steering Group Members on an annual basis. Any action involving the release of funds requires the signature of the Chair and either one of the Vice Chairs.

Membership

Current membership includes:

BGOP / OPAG, Age Concern and Help the Aged (temporary name), Government Office, East of England Regional Assembly, Department of Work and Pensions, National Housing Federation East of England Care and Support Practitioners Group and any other organisations deemed relevant.

Accountability

- The Steering Group is accountable to the current membership.
- The Steering Group gives account of its activities to the Regional Assembly's Health and Social Inclusion Panel insofar as it is responsible for delivering Strategic Objective Five of the Regional Social Strategy.
- Finances are to be held and monitored by Age Concern and Help the Aged who agree to provide a Statement of Accounts to the Steering Group at each meeting.
- A Project Monitoring Report is to be provided to the Steering Group at each meeting.