

How can social enterprises contribute to health and wellbeing in an ageing population?

This is one of a series of events bringing together people from the social enterprise sector, the public sector and the CommonHealth research team to explore the role of social enterprise in improving health. CommonHealth is a five year research programme of the Yunus Centre for Social Business and Health at Glasgow Caledonian University which is developing ways to measure the impact of social enterprises on the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities. As the Focus 50+ project comes to an end this event will offer an opportunity to discuss the findings, and consider the implications for the future role of social enterprise in the health and social care sector.

Thursday 25th May, 2017

Venue: Grassmarket Community Project, 86 Candlemaker Row, Edinburgh, EH1 2QA

Programme

9:00	Registration and tea/coffee	12.00 - 12.30	Marketplace: Participants will be encouraged to interact with each other about some of the issues and discussions that have already taken place.
9:30	Welcome and overview of the CommonHealth research programme		
10.00 - 10.30	Overview and findings of Focus 50+		
10.00 - 12.00	Design Thinking Workshop: What will it mean to be 50+ in 5, 10 or 15 years from now? What will future services look like for those over 50? What will the alternative look like? What do social enterprises have to do to future-proof themselves and ensure their sustainability? Using participatory, design-led techniques we will explore these questions. This session will be active, fun and informative.	12.30 - 12.45	Reflections on the day Three key speakers from the social enterprise sector
		12.45 - 13.00	Wrap up and what next?
		13.00	Lunch

Registration: Use this link to register your free attendance <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/knowledge-exchange-forum-tickets-32951597114>

CommonHealth Research Programme Outline

CommonHealth is a 5-year research programme, co-funded by the Medical Research Council and the Economic and Social Research Council, which aims to develop methods to evaluate new pathways to health creation and health inequalities reduction arising from the work of social enterprise. The programme is being delivered through 8 inter-connected projects, listed below, covering historical and conceptual framing and reviewing the evidence base before moving to a set of empirical projects using both qualitative and quantitative research methods.

Guiding principles

- Collaborate between academic research, policy making and social enterprise practice.
- Adopt an open and transparent approach to research and dissemination.
- Encourage active dialogue between researchers and sector partners.
- Build an atmosphere of trust among researchers, participants and partners for future developments.

Outcomes

- Building capacity in all sectors.
- Developing knowledge and understanding of social enterprise between sectors.
- Shaping a new way of looking at social enterprise and the contribution it can make to health and wellbeing.
- Contributing to cohesive academic - practitioner discourse to help influence policy.

CommonHealth Projects

ARCHITECTURE

Project 1 (2014-16): A historical perspective on social enterprise as a public health intervention

Using historical research methods, archival research and oral history, this project examines the development of social enterprise in Scotland from the late 1970s until c2010. It explores how the definition of social enterprise has changed over time, how success has been defined and measured, and how social enterprise missions have related to health and wellbeing.

Project 2 (2014-16): A contemporary analysis of social enterprise as a public health intervention

This project attempts to set out the conceptual basis of social enterprise by researching the views of numerous stakeholders (from service users to the heads of national organisations) through interviews and evaluative reports. The evidence has been analysed to develop our understanding of how social enterprise functions as a form of 'non-obvious' health initiative.

CASE STUDIES

Project 3 (2015-18): Growth at the Edge

Growth at the Edge investigates the impact of social enterprises supported by Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) on health

and wellbeing in rural and remote areas of Scotland. The project takes an action research approach, using 'design thinking' and ethnographic methods.

Project 4 (2014-16): Passage from India

This project used ethnographic approaches to explore the work of WEvolution, an organisation supporting the creation of Self Reliant Groups (SRGs), which are groups of people, predominantly women, providing peer support, access to group savings and loans, and sharing and learning new skills with a view to starting small enterprises.

Project 5 (2015-17): Focus 50+

Focus 50+ is working closely with three organisations – Lingo Flamingo (Govan); LifeCare (Edinburgh) and Orbiston Neighbourhood Centre (Bellshill) to investigate the impact of social enterprises on the health and wellbeing of older adults. Focus 50+ is also engaging participating organisations in exploring their future potential through the delivery of design thinking workshops.

TESTING

Project 6 (2016-18) Aberdeen Foyer

This project aims to explore the challenges of collecting, recording, analysing, reporting and using data on health and wellbeing outcomes in a social enterprise. Working with Aberdeen Foyer, the project will review the effectiveness of existing measures, and develop and test new measurement frameworks. A comparative investigation with other social enterprises is also being planned.

Project 7 (2016 - 18): Housing through Social Enterprise

This project is focused on the health impacts of social enterprise within the housing/homelessness sector. It will follow tenants using the services of three different social enterprises, examining the impacts on their health and wellbeing as they move away from homelessness. The project also aims to develop research methods for evaluating the impacts of social enterprise, for wider use.

Project 8 (2016-2018): Bringing it all together

This project will collate and synthesise the data from across the CommonHealth programme in order to answer the following research questions:

- What range of health and wellbeing effects have been observed in social enterprises?
- What are the mechanisms through which social enterprises lead to improvements in health and wellbeing?
- Are there common threads, or else discordant findings, across the projects within the programme?

Project Plus (2016-2019): Arts and health through social enterprise

This PhD project focuses on the contribution of the arts and creativity through social enterprise (Impact Arts) to health and well-being of people aged 60 and over in Glasgow (Govan). By employing a mix-method approach to data collection and analysis, the project aims to explore how a community-based arts initiative (Craft Café) affects its participants.