

Press release

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How Commissioners can work to ensure that disabled and older people are included in life of their local community

A new report published today by the National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi) shows how Commissioners can help make sure that services help people to live good lives in their communities. Increasing attention is being paid to the importance of public sector commissioning which helps to ensure that a broad range of opportunities and supports are available for disabled people and older people.

The main findings from this report suggest that Commissioners need to have knowledge of community resources that already exist before they can develop a strategy for increasing inclusion. Commissioning which focuses on building community capacity and encouraging and strengthening community action is an important aspect of this approach. This report focuses on how to empower local people to provide support to others and enable older and disabled people to contribute to community life.

The 'Commissioning for Community Inclusion' report sets out 'Eight Essential Actions' which underpin an effective approach to commissioning for community inclusion. These are:

- Know your community
- Commission jointly
- Think co-production
- Hand over control to people and communities
- Focus on outcomes not processes
- Develop the market
- Think about workforce and leadership
- Communicate and enthuse

Steve Strong, NDTi Project Manager commented:

“Community inclusion is an important part of the prevention agenda in health and social care as it enables people to use their own time and resources to help them stay independent for as long as possible. It is not just about traditional health and social care services. Commissioning for community inclusion recognises that universal and commercial services need to be accessible to all.”

Please click [here](#) to access a copy of the report and click [here](#) for a copy of the NDTi Insights which gives you the most important bits of learning from this report.

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For further information please contact Steve Strong, Project Manager at NDTi on 01225 789135 or steve.strong@ndti.org.uk

Notes to Editors:

About NDTi:

- NDTi is a not-for-profit organisation that promotes inclusion and equality for people who are at risk of exclusion from any part of society – and who may need support to lead a full life. NDTi's main work is centred on issues around age, disability and health.
- Examples of the organisations that the NDTi is currently working with include: the Department of Health, the Department for Education, Joseph Rowntree foundation and numerous local authorities, NHS and third sector organisations across the UK.
- Other examples of the recent and current NDTi work include:
 - Producing a free toolkit for the NHS and local government to use to deliver age equality in health and social care services, on behalf of the Department of Health
 - Developing good practice advice in delivering the personalisation agenda for the older people's and mental health fields (for the DH)
 - Designing and delivering tailored programmes for local health and social care communities on embedding person centred practices and system change for older people
 - Two key projects for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's Better Life programme on promoting equality, inclusion and choice for older people with high support needs
 - Running a two year change programme to increase the voice, choice and control of older people with high support needs, for the Office of Disability Issues
 - Running a series of Master Classes on age equality in health and social care for the national Ageing Well programme.
- Further information about NDTi is available from our website www.ndti.org.uk