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Fire as a Health Asset

Working Together – How Fire
can help Improve
Health and Wellbeing

ACO Steve Apter



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Fire and Rescue Recognise the Health and Wellbeing Challenge

- Demand for health and social care is rising
- Increasing numbers of children and adults with long term conditions
- Ageing population
- Placing **prevention** at the centre of all that we do is critical, there is no 'Plan B'
- The role of Fire and Rescue (FRS) in supporting, **not replacing** health and social care services in achieving this is central to developing Fire as a health asset



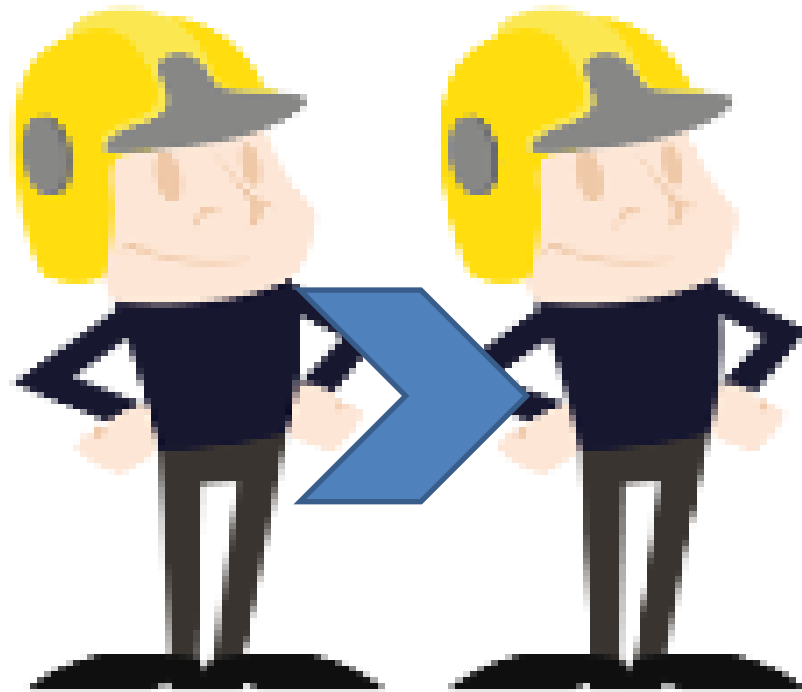
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Prevention can never be 'Plan B'

- We place **prevention** at the centre of all that we do
- The role of Fire and Rescue (FRS) is in supporting, **not replacing** health and social care services
- Fire is already working at a regional/local level
- Present and trusted in local communities
- Aligns with our risk



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The Journey So Far

- Recognition that Health & Social Care is facing the same challenge as the FRS did 10 years ago
- Fire Health Summit – April 2015
- Formation of Strategic Health group
- Formation of South East Fire as a Health Asset Collaboration Group



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The Journey So Far

- Published nationwide **consensus statement** to encourage local areas to develop **joint strategies for intelligence-led early intervention and prevention** and sustain people's independence for longer thereby reducing preventable hospital admissions and avoidable winter pressures
- **Working Together** document supported by Public Health England, NHS England, Local Government Association, Chief Fire Officers, Age UK - June 2016



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Where does it all fit?

- Supports a partnership approach to **local planning** through the 44 Sustainability Transformation Plans as advocated in the **NHS Five Year Forward View**
- FRS have the skills to contribute to and complement promoting health and wellbeing at a **regional** and **local** level
- **Making every contact count**
- Joined-up **multi-agency** approach
- **Local initiatives to deliver preventive interventions** to our people who would benefit most in their own homes and supports local action to deliver better health and wellbeing outcomes



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Why should Fire be a Health Asset?

- Fire can **support** partners as Fire as a Health Asset
- **Effective** use of resources
- **Collaboration**
- Best **experience/service** for the public
- Reducing/managing **public demand**
- Sustaining people's **independence**



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What we need to achieve?

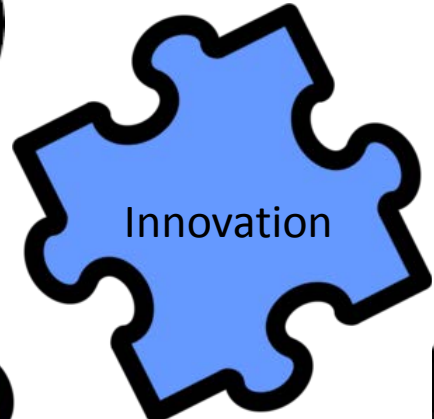
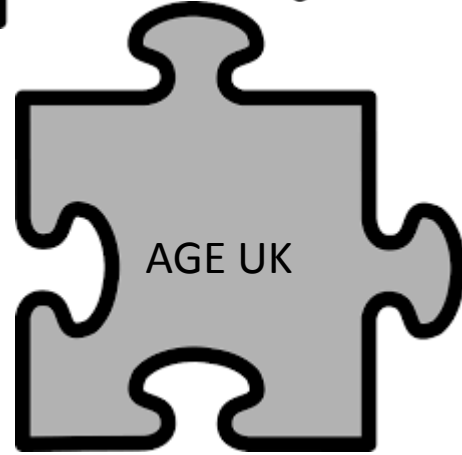
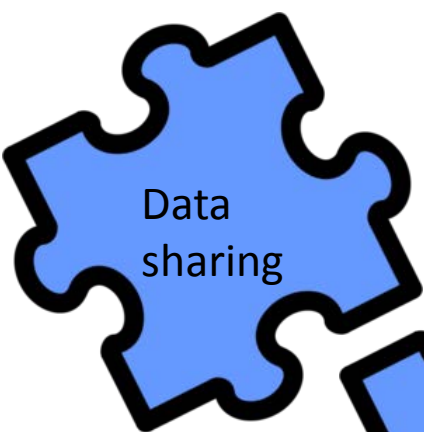
Recognition that FRS are well placed to work both at a regional and a locality level and with Local Care Organisations:

- Right links in Governance and Strategic Planning
- Collaborative Co-design and Production
- Improved Data Sharing
- Commitment

We intend to support local action and flexibility across the South East region to overcome the above risk factors



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