Intersectional Stigma of Place-Based Ageing (ISPA)

Led by Prof Vikki McCall

funded by the ESRC

DesHCA: designing homes for healthy cognitive ageing

Led by Prof Alison Bowes, Co-I Prof Vikki McCall

funded by UKRI/ESRC

Adapting the Adaptations Process: Tackling the Barriers within Policy and Practice

Led by Prof Vikki McCall

in partnership with CaCHE

Making Adaptations Work for Older People in Scotland

Led by Prof Vikki McCall

in partnership with Age Scotland

Developing local housing partnerships through 'Serious Games'

Led by SCIE with Socialudo, United St Savior's Charity, and Housing LIN funded by the Dunhill Medical Trust

- The impact of non-decent homes is not felt equally by all older people, with clear individual and spatial inequalities (Buffel et al 2023)

- Ageing is best supported by environments when they can adapt with people's changing experiences (Golant 2003)

- Ageism attached to 'othering' is a key barrier that stops individuals and professionals planning for the future.

BARRIER-FREE

UKRI
Economic and Social Research Council

ISPA

Patterns of discrimination and deprivation

43% of adults living in the **most deprived areas** of Scotland **report disabilities** compared to **23%** in the **least deprived areas**[1].

In England, **27% of females** and **25% of males** living in the **most deprived areas** are **disabled** compared to **14% and 12%** in the **least deprived areas**[3].

- Using data from UKHLS (Understanding Society) waves 11 and 12 (2019/22), we found **2,831 individuals** experiencing some form of discrimination; **47% of whom reported more than one type**, e.g. age AND disability, or age AND gender[2].
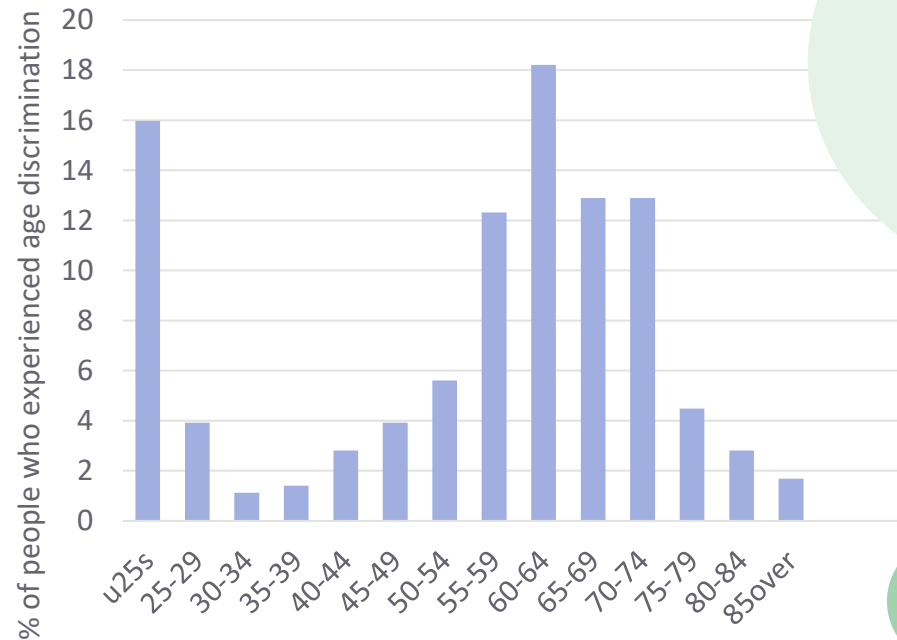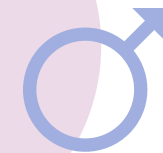
Age discrimination by age categories[2]

Age discrimination experienced mostly by people aged **60-64 (18%)** but was also common for those **under 25 (16%)**[2].

19% of those experiencing **age discrimination** also experience **discrimination based on a disability**[2].

51% of those experiencing **age discrimination** also experience **discrimination based their gender**[2].

THE POWER OF STIGMA AND THE AESTHETIC

Stigma is "constructed and deconstructed through **linguistic and aesthetic dimensions**…. scheme characteristics can also have de-classificatory and thus de-stigmatizing power" (Bricknell et al 2023: 2)

DESIGNING FOR HEALTHY COGNITIVE AGEING (DESHCA)

- There is stigmatised and limiting understanding of what age inclusive design can look like, and who can benefit from it

- There is a lack of knowledge around adapting to support cognitive impairment

- There is a tendency to imagine a home for others that we would not wish for ourselves.

@DesHCA_Project

DesHCA
DESIGNING HOMES FOR HEALTHY COGNITIVE AGEING

The Aesthetics of Ageing & Adaptation

… So my mum's now 89, so probably when she was just before she was 79ish, she didn't think that she was old. And she certainly didn't want to look like she was old and she didn't want it to look like a council house, (no offence to anyone from a council house)

but she didn't want it to look [like] I'm an old person and this is all that is available…

… She wanted it to look nice. Because there's pride in what you have. […] Whoever you are. There's pride in what you have.
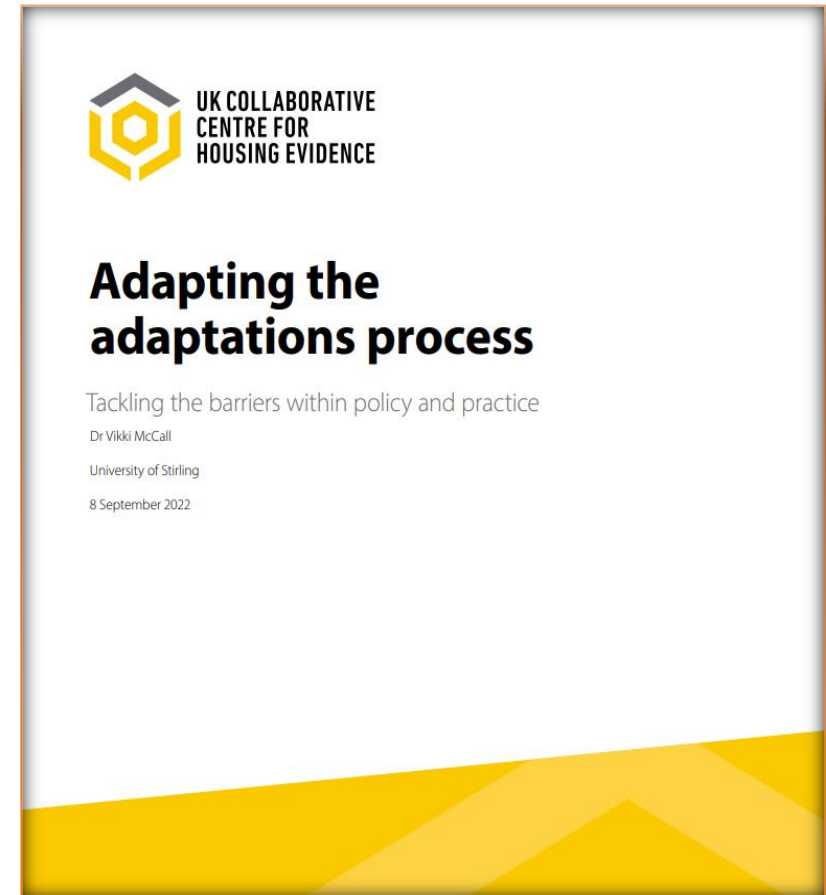
ACCESS

Tackling the Barriers within Policy and Practice

The current system often **does not work smoothly** for key stakeholders, service users, or service providers (health, social care and housing) involved in supporting or delivering the service.

When the adaptations process works well, this is often related to **positive relationships** between people, partners and services.

If the ambitions of planning for the ageing demographic are to be fulfilled, **the current adaptations system in the UK not only needs to be reviewed, but reset to support investment**, partnership working and integration of adaptations into wider health, social care and housing priorities.

UK COLLABORATIVE CENTRE FOR HOUSING EVIDENCE

Adapting the adaptations process

Tackling the barriers within policy and practice

Dr Vikki McCall

University of Stirling

8 September 2022

UNIVERSITY *of* STIRLING

BE THE DIFFERENCE

Barriers within the Adaptations process
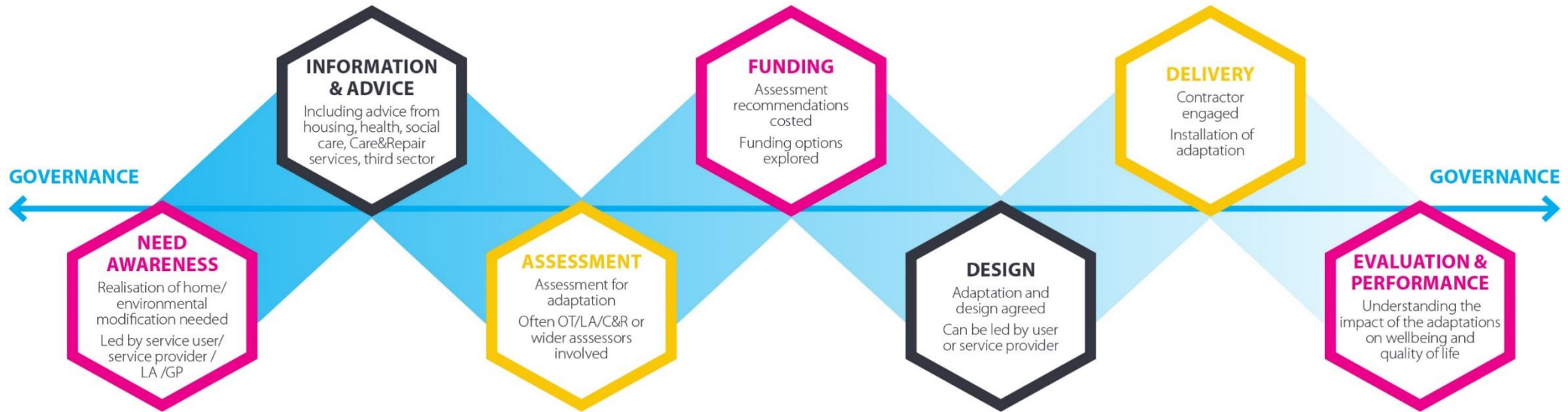
INFORMATION BARRIERS INCLUDE:
- Fragmented and different information and advice between the UK nations and local authority area
- Different processes across tenure
- Some LAs defunding Care & Repair
- Vague or unclear information/ advice
- Gatekeeping
- Lack of ownership of adaptations across organisations/departments

FUNDING BARRIERS INCLUDE:
- Governance
- Waiting lists
- Availability of funding (inc time of year)
- Differences in eligibility between area, tenure
- Minor, major adaptation assessment
- Means testing
- Perceived as a challenging process
- Inequalities between areas and groups
- Ineligibility for preventative actions

DELIVERY BARRIERS INCLUDE:
- Contractor availability
- Equipment/ material supplies
- Increased cost of materials
- Need for maintenance plans
- Delays in assessment/ funding/ delivery time may result in ineffective adaptation
- Learning curve for users/clients on managing contractors
- Supervising quality of work
- Agreements for changes to communal areas

GOVERNANCE ←

INFORMATION & ADVICE
Including advice from housing, health, social care, Care&Repair services, third sector

FUNDING
Assessment recommendations costed
Funding options explored

DELIVERY
Contractor engaged
Installation of adaptation

NEED AWARENESS
Realisation of home/ environmental modification needed
Led by service user/ service provider / LA /GP

ASSESSMENT
Assessment for adaptation
Often OT/LA/C&R or wider asssessors involved

DESIGN
Adaptation and design agreed
Can be led by user or service provider

EVALUATION & PERFORMANCE
Understanding the impact of the adaptations on wellbeing and quality of life

→ **GOVERNANCE**

NEED AWARENESS BARRIERS INCLUDE:
- Unequal access to adaptations
- Stigma
- Lack of accessible housing/ reallocation and little support for early intervention to support rehousing
- Reactive changes
- Challenges with partnership working
- Confusion around eligibility
- Lack of trust in LA/Government
- Identifying 'need'
- Overlap with other agendas (e.g. sustainability/ digitalisation)

ASSESSMENT BARRIERS INCLUDE:
- Criteria difference between the UK, local authority area and tenure
- Funding availability
- Differences in housing policy between tenure
- Waiting list for assessment
- Lack of data sharing
- Duplication of assessment across partners
- Bureaucratic process /paperwork
- Complex internal processes within LAs
- Lack of training to support staff to apply wider 'housing solutions' approaches

DESIGN BARRIERS INCLUDE:
- Unattractive (stigmatizing) design
- Available funding and costs
- Lack of representation/ voice of user groups
- Perception that adaptations can detract from asset
- Family/other household needs
- Non-integration of inclusive design
- Options limited due to house type (esp space)

EVALUATION BARRIERS INCLUDE:
- Lack of data sharing across partners for full impact evaluation
- Lack of overall evaluation strategy
- Lack of mechanisms for recycling adaptations and equipment
- Lack of follow up/ regulation
- Lack of longitudinal academic evidence on impact

"I don't know if you could even call it a landscape and if it's a landscape, then it gets massively potholed and filled with obstacles and just kind of blind alleys, you know, it's confusing.
<u>We find it confusing, and we are so called experts</u>"

(Participant Six).

The adaptations process is seen as a 'fight'

"I think we had a few points of crisis, and that really can set you back. When you feel you're on top of things and you've got that control over the situation that really takes a lot of the stress away."
(Focus Group 3)

Making Adaptations Work for Older People in Scotland

BE THE DIFFERENCE

Planning for the future

Stigma and Complex Landscapes

BE THE DIFFERENCE

Developing local housing partnerships through 'Serious Games'

Serious Play for Serious Change

Hopetown was developed as an impact methodology for supporting important insight and strategy around housing and ageing

The research emphasized:

- The importance increased need for partnership working between housing, health and social care

- The need for more strategic planning for future demographic change

- Housing planning and support is an underexplored yet key priority, especially in the preventative agenda

Housing and Ageing: Linking strategy to future delivery for Scotland, Wales and England 2030

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ng for housing and

Inclusive Spaces need an integrated solution

- They have the power to overcome:

- ➢ **Stigma**

- ➢ **Discrimination**

- ➢ **Ageism**

  & Future-proof for the benefit of all groups

Housing can be the

'Ripple in the pond'

INCLUSIVE LIVING ALLIANCE

For more detail, please feel free to e-mail me! vikki.mccall@stir.ac.uk