Welcome

A message from the joint Chairs and Chief Executive

This report details the outcomes and impacts of our work for older people in Rotherham during 2016 and 2017. These have been another couple of very challenging years to be a local Charity. There have been many changes in the environment in which we work, as well as a continued pressure on available resources and an increasing need for support from older people in the Borough.

During this time we have worked hard to make sure that Age UK Rotherham is a sustainable and effective Charity that can continue to support older people now and in the future; we know that the number of older people and, consequently, their need for support will continue to grow in the coming years.

In 2016 and 2017 we continued to deliver a range of high quality services and support for older people across Rotherham helping them to:

- Live more independently at home;
- Be less lonely and more connected with others;
- Stay safer at home and in the community;
- Have access to information and advice that enables them to exercise choices about things that affect their lives;
- Maximise their income so that they can support themselves to live well and be as healthy and independent as possible;
- Have a voice about things that affect older people in the community.

Our impact for older people is detailed further in this report.

Our final words go to all of our staff, volunteers, colleagues in partner organisations, Trustees, funders and supporters of every kind - without you we could not have continued to provide our services and support for older people across Rotherham Borough in the past two years. Thank you all, we could not achieve the same impact without you!

Our Board of Trustees during 2016 and 2017

Trustees
Pat Cahill (To Aug 2016)
John Cox (To Nov 2017)
Roger Evans
Shafiq Hussain
Barbara Laird
Chris Rivington OBE
Pat Wade

Chief Executive/Company Secretary
Lesley Dabell

Bankers
Cooperative Bank plc
27 Bridgegate
Rotherham S60 1SN
We’re Age UK Rotherham

Age UK Rotherham is an independent local charity that works with and for older people in the Metropolitan Borough of Rotherham.

Our aim is to help Rotherham people to maintain their independence and quality of life as they get older. We also aim to give older people the opportunity to take part in activities that will help them to stay healthy and active, maintain social contacts and mix with people from different generations.

Whilst our services are available to all people over the age of 50, our main focus is on supporting people over 65, especially those who are particularly vulnerable due to declining physical or mental health or who face additional barriers such as money problems or lack of family support.

Our key priorities

These were our six main priorities for 2016 and 2017

1. Continue to deliver and develop our range of flexible practical and enabling services to support older people’s independence

2. Reduce loneliness and social isolation experienced by Rotherham’s older people

3. Provide a range of earlier intervention and preventative services to support older people with long term conditions to manage these better

4. Provide advice and information on a range of issues for older people and their carers

5. Enable older people in Rotherham to have a voice and a choice about things that affect them individually and collectively

6. Ensure that Age UK Rotherham is a high quality organisation that is well governed and sustainable in order to meet its vision
Outcomes and impact

Our outcomes and impact of our work with and for older people in Rotherham during 2016 and 2017

13,372 requests for help on a range of issues such as benefits advice, care needs and blue badges were made by around 4,346 older people

32 older people received support through our befriending service and our Link Line service

63 older people used our Social Centre to help them maintain social contact

1,092 fire safety checks were carried out as part of home visits made for other services

516 contacts were made by our team of Community Connectors

Our Hospital Aftercare Service has helped 863 older people to get back on their feet after a stay in hospital.

“...It’s been so nice to have some support on coming out of hospital and to know someone was coming to see me gave me confidence to stay at home.”
As a result of our work:

- More older people are supported to maintain independent living and a good quality of life.
- More older people are helped to stay safer at home and in the community.
- Fewer older people feel lonely and isolated.
- More older people are staying active and connected in the community through volunteering and other activities.
- More older people have more money and have accessed their full benefits and entitlements.
- More older people have had a voice about things that affected them as individuals and as a group.
- More carers (many of whom are older people themselves) have been offered information and support to help them care.

£6.4m gained in benefits such as Attendance Allowance and Pension Credit, with support from our Information and Advice team.

- 250 older people were supported through our help at home services.
- 157 older people (on average) visited EngAge groups per week and these groups were made possible by an average of 28 active older people from their communities.
- 253 older people took part in Loneliness Conversations, delivered in partnership with Rotherham Older People’s Forum. 82% of them said they are lonely ‘sometimes or most of the time’.

Through Engage Rotherham we established October as Older People’s Month, working with Rotherham Older People’s Forum and other partners to shine a light on the needs and voices of older people and campaigned to establish Vision 2025: ‘Rotherham is a great place to grow older and live in later life’.
A moment to say thank you

Thank you to everyone who helped to make 2016 and 2017 memorable and successful.

Age UK
Allotts Business Services
Asda Rotherham
Clifton Methodist Church
Co-operative Wickersley
Engage Rotherham Groups
EON via Age UK
Friends of Clifton Park
Healthwatch Rotherham
Independent Training Agency
John Box Associates
Love is Louder
Marjorie Coote Old People’s Charity Fund
Mears Group
Morrisons
Oxley and Coward
Ray Matthews
Rother FM
Rotherham Advertiser
Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group
Rotherham Golf Club
Rotherham Harriers
Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Board
Rotherham Hospital Foundation Trust
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Rotherham Minster
Rotherham Older People’s Forum
Rotherham Pensioners Action Group
Rotary Club of Rotherham
Rotherham Social Prescribing Service
Rotherham Together Partnership
Rotherham United Community Sports Trust
South Yorkshire Community Foundation
South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
South Yorkshire Police
St James Church, Clifton
Tassibee
Tesco Extra Rotherham
Tesco Maltby
Voluntary Action Rotherham
Ye Olde Bell Hotel and Restaurant
Yorkshire Venture Philanthropy Fund
We would like to thank our supporters, funders, customers, staff, volunteers and partners who have worked with us.

Our volunteers

Our volunteers supported our work in a range of ways. This included work across all service areas as well as supporting us with administration and fundraising.

Volunteers provide valuable resources that complement and enhance the services provided by paid staff, adding value and quality to those services and helping to sustain them.

Around 80% of our volunteers are people over the age of 50. They report positive impacts on their own health and well being as a result of volunteering for Age UK Rotherham.
We’d love your support

Donate
Support from individuals, grant providers and businesses is essential to our work with older people.

Volunteer
Our volunteers are important to us. By sharing your skills or simply donating your time you would be helping a great cause.

Fundraise
There are lots of ways you can raise money and we’ll provide support to help you along the way.

Campaign
Many people campaign with Age UK to help improve support and services for people in later life.

We’d love to hear from you

For more information about our services please contact:
Advice and Information Service
Tel: 01709 835 214
Care and Support Services
Tel: 01709 786 955

Registered office:
Galax Business Centre, Eastwood Trading Estate, Fitzwilliam Road, Rotherham S65 1SL
Visit us online at: www.ageuk.org.uk/rotherham

Age Concern Rotherham Ltd operating as Age UK Rotherham is a registered charity No. 1039771 and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales No.1927474. Our registered offices are Galax Business Centre, Eastwood Trading Estate, Fitzwilliam Road, Rotherham S65 1SL.