

Involvement in A Stitch in Time?

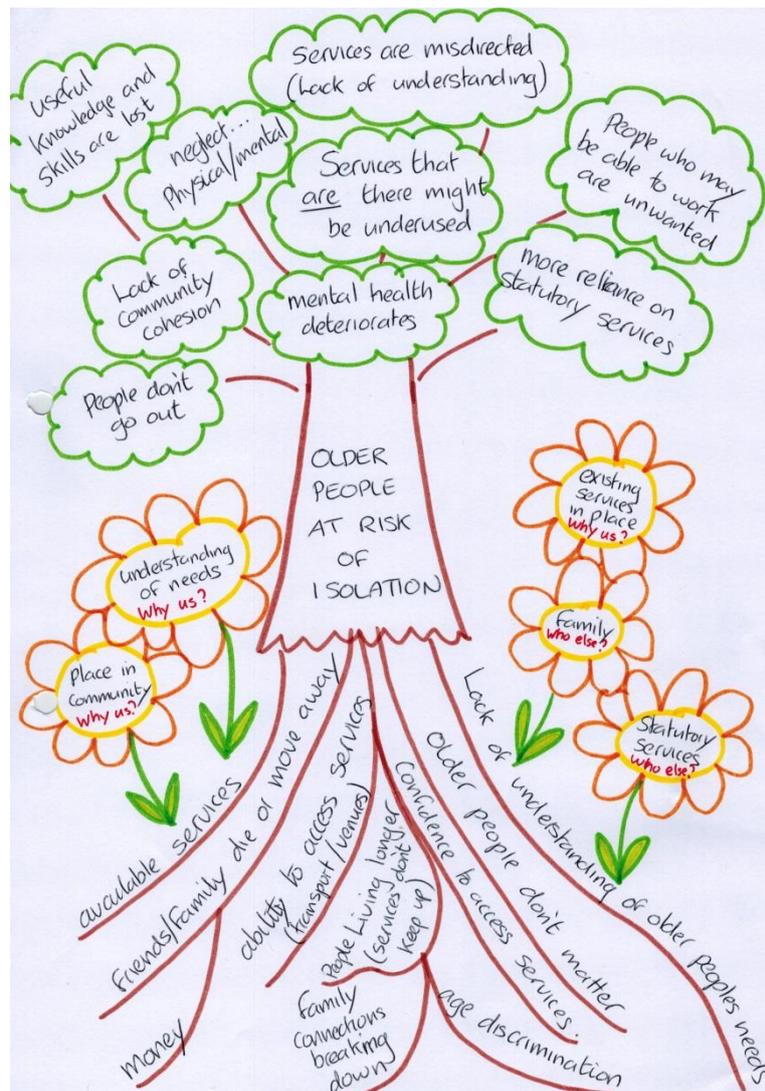
[A Stitch in Time?](#) was a two and a half year programme which explored the role of the third sector in Reshaping Care for Older People. One of the practitioners who took part in the learning set describes her experience.

My name is Theodora. I am the learning and training officer at [Pilton Equalities Project](#) (PEP) in North Edinburgh. PEP is a grassroots organisation that had been working in the community for the past 25 years. We have many different services catering for the needs of older and other vulnerable adults including 7 day-a-week day care services, mental health provision for older people and community transport.



Back in February 2013 I attended the launch of A Stitch in Time? I immediately saw the potential benefits of being involved and knew it would be a good opportunity to brush up on our evaluation processes and increase the profile of PEP's work on preventative care.

I found my forte in creating situation trees; a fun and useful way to look at the factors that affect older people, and once you understand how to start the process, this can be used as a way to analyse all services.



Logic models have been fantastic as a way to logically map the outcomes that each service delivers on and as a way to look at the service as a whole. This helped us as an organisation to really look at and analyse what we do; and made us realise that our services really do contribute to optimising older people's quality of life and keeping them in their homes longer.



Pilton Equalities Project
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We have also had the opportunity to create some new individual case studies showing the worth of voluntary sector organisations through the eyes of our group members. PEP has also been used as an [organisational case study](#). We have used A Stitch in Time? as a way to improve our own overall service evaluation using the opportunity to develop/try out different methods and tools.

A Stitch in Time has been a great way to show our worth and participate in something bigger than just our organisation. It's been fun, it's been informative and hopefully others can learn from PEP too.

Post script: 6 months after the programme ended

It's been great having useful reference material right there at my fingertips. Some of the work that I produced for A Stitch in Time? I have been able to use over and over again. The logic models have been used as direct attachments for funding reports to the likes of The Robertson Trust. I had been spurred on to create logic models for all of PEP's services and as a result have been able to quickly create funding applications as all the information for desired outcomes has been there.

I have even been able to utilise my 'May Day Show' report when thinking about future funding and potential projects.

It was great being involved with A Stitch in Time? and Evaluation Support Scotland.

For further information about A Stitch in Time? and other thematic programmes please visit our [website](#).

Evaluation Support Scotland

t. 0131 243 2770

e. info@evalautionsupportscotland.org.uk

w. www.evalautionsupportscotland.org.uk



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