Fulfilling Lives: Ageing Better – Partnership funding awarded and research underway

The Isle of Wight is one of 32 local authority areas to have been successfully shortlisted in the first stages of a £6m funding bid through the Big Lottery Fund’s Fulfilling Lives: Ageing Better initiative. This initiative aims to fund community-led approaches that enable older people who are at most risk of social isolation and loneliness to lead more fulfilling lives. The Isle of Wight was successful owing to the collaboration taking place around the My Life, a Full Life programme and its vision for a new, more integrated way of delivering health and social care services on the Island.

Age UK IW has been chosen as the organisation to lead the next stage of the funding bid on behalf of the Island community and as part of this role must coordinate the development and submission of the vision and strategy for the Island’s project by 30 April 2014. In December Age UK IW heard the news that they had been awarded £20,000 partnership development fund monies to help research and compile the bid.

Local organisations involved in the bid, led by Age UK IW, have now embarked on a campaign ‘Isle Engage’ to find out more about social isolation on the Island and to encourage the community to put forward its views about what would make life better for those over 50 living on the Island. A survey has been launched and publicised and aims to collect information by midnight on Sunday 16 March 2014.

To take part you can:
- Complete the survey online by visiting www.ageukiw.org.uk
- Or call Isle Engage on 01983 539309
- Pick up a paper copy in Island libraries, GP surgeries, Age UK IW office in Newport, Isle of Wight Council office at County Hall and help centres.
- Email isle.engage@gmail.com requesting a paper copy
- Writing to Freepost RTGG-LRCS-JRBZ, Newport, Isle of Wight. PO30 1TY
- Attend an Isle Engage event, call 01983 539309 to find your nearest event.

Please take part and encourage others to do so to help secure up to £6 million for older residents living in our Island community.