Ageing, health and urban wellbeing


Document Version:
Other version

Queen's University Belfast - Research Portal:
Link to publication record in Queen's University Belfast Research Portal

Publisher rights
© 2017 The Author(s).

General rights
Copyright for the publications made accessible via the Queen's University Belfast Research Portal is retained by the author(s) and / or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing these publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

Take down policy
The Research Portal is Queen's institutional repository that provides access to Queen's research output. Every effort has been made to ensure that content in the Research Portal does not infringe any person's rights, or applicable UK laws. If you discover content in the Research Portal that you believe breaches copyright or violates any law, please contact openaccess@qub.ac.uk.
Ageing, health and urban wellbeing

Brendan Murtagh; Claire Cleland; Geraint Ellis; Ruth Hunter; Sara Ferguson; Rodrigo Reis; Ciro Romelio Rodriguez-Añez

Planning Research Conference
September 2017

1. HULAP UK (Belfast) and Brazil (Curitiba)
2. Actor Networks and assemblages
3. Policy discourses, disconnections and clusters
4. Comparative responses
5. Implications for research and practice
HULAP STUDY
Ageing in place, **de-institutionalised health and care** in the community (Liddle et al., 2014)

**Age Friendly Cities (AFC)** (WHO, 2007; Emlet and Moceri, 2012)

**Lifetime neighbourhoods**, adaptation and retrofitting place (Nefs et al., 2013)

Age neighbourhoods and **the suburbs** (Nijman and Clery, 2015)

Physical activity, **walkability** and ageing (Todd, et al., 2016)

Isolation, **loneliness** and perishing familial and social networks (Hagan 2014; JRF, 2012)

Older people as active **producers of their own place**, services and social interaction (Stewart et al., 2014)

Older people are **reified** and displaced by more profitable demographics (Peck et al., 2013; Liddle et al, 2014)

Latour (2005) that assemblages can be understood via 5 dimensions:

1. the **nature of groups**
   - Actor identification and legitimacy
2. the **nature of action**
   - The modalities of actor working and network mapping
3. the **nature of objects**
   - Governance arenas, speech and symbolic representation of issues
4. the **nature of facts**;
   - How evidence is created, translated and used
5. the **type of studies**
   - The discursive nature of policy and how, and who, produces it and ultimately receives it
Care sector

DOH Transforming Your Care

BCC Parks open space

PHA

NIHE Supporting People

BCC CD & CR

COPNI

Belfast City Council

Dept. of Infrastructure Planning

Dept. of Infrastructure Transport

Dept. of the Economy

BCC

Engage With Age

Housing Assoc

Dementia Friendly Community

Age Sector Platform

Loneliness GMPS

Civic Society NGOs

GMPS Social Economy cluster

ECNI S.75 a. b.

HSCT

PHA

HASP

G6 Senior Forum

Age Sector Platform

Loneliness GMPS

Civic Society NGOs

GMPS Social Economy cluster

Business

Property industry

Dept. for Communities Urban Policy

COPNI

Department of Infrastructure Planning

Department for Communities Urban Policy

Property industry

Care sector

DOH Transforming Your Care

BCC Parks open space

PHA

NIHE Supporting People

BCC CD & CR

COPNI

Belfast City Council

Dept. of Infrastructure Planning

Dept. of Infrastructure Transport

Dept. of the Economy

BCC

Engage With Age

Housing Assoc

Dementia Friendly Community

Age Sector Platform

Loneliness GMPS

Civic Society NGOs

GMPS Social Economy cluster

Business

Property industry

Dept. for Communities Urban Policy
**Networks inside networks**
Strategic ageing linked to core health & social care, including active role of the **private sector** as care and institutional provider.

**Local authority and intermediate agencies**; focused on ‘growth’ **competitiveness** and infrastructure.

**Strategic territorial** policy planning, urban policy and urban regeneration. Strongly connected to the property economy favouring densification, **youth lifestyles** and creative economies.

Older people seen largely as a **housing** challenge.

**Local ageing with strong participatory dimension and governance mechanisms**. Weak connection with land use policies, agencies and most of all resources.

**Diverse, innovative and responds to multiple needs but inward focused civic action**. Some evidence of **Shadow State** roles and responsibilities.
LP4 – Specialist accommodation for older people preferred option

The Local Development Plan will contain specific policies to address the most acute needs of the community as identified in an up-to-date strategic housing market. This will include:

- **Homes for older people** – Setting locational criteria to ensure specialist housing for older people, including retirement villages and care-related facilities, will provide ease of access to relevant services and facilities such as shops, public transport routes and health facilities. Proposals will need to be accompanied by evidence that the homes or bed spaces meet identified community needs.

- **Lifetime Homes** – Requiring an appropriate proportion of new homes on strategic housing sites to be built to Lifetime Home standards so that they are adaptable enough to match changing needs of people throughout their lifetime.
Moos (2015, p.2) sees as the ‘contemporary lifestyles, demography and socio-economic conditions of the young playing out in the (urban) landscape’.

A variant of gentrification but also connected with densification and planning frameworks that emphasise compactness, competitiveness and the ‘creative class’.

Respond to the interface between the housing and labour markets lifestyle amenities and cultural assets.

‘The downtowns have become increasingly attractive to young adults (on the) contrary, older adults have been increasing in concentration in suburban neighbourhoods (p.9).
Curitiba - municipal forms of service and care
Innovative practices

• Local responses to loneliness; getting older people socially and spatially connected
• Dementia friendly communities service delivery
• Governance and mobilisation of older people as an active political lobby
• Social economy cluster; creating alternative mobility circuits, but also responsibilisation and state downloading
Implications and next steps

• Universal policies (AFC) have their limitations
  – Important for integrating actors and resources but also downloading to the local and the third sector
• Spatial scale and neighbourhood focus
  – Focus on whole of city approaches or targeted neighbourhoods, especially the suburbs
• Connectivity and urban assets
  – Urban policies and programme leverage
• Everyday spaces of encounter and the meaning of place to older people
  – Socio-psychological responses to the street, pavement and public arenas