

Loneliness and Social Isolation Select Committee

Biography

Diane Aslett, Development Officer, Age UKs and Age Concerns in Kent Consortium

Diane has worked in the voluntary sector since 1995, starting as a Programme Manager for a charity that supported literacy and reading in East Africa. She managed programmes with public, school and university libraries to make reading and reading materials available and accessible to students and the public to support education and literacy as a means to alleviate poverty.

In 2004 Diane joined Help the Aged as a Regional Development Manager in Kent. Her role was to provide advice, funding and support to groups and charities that provided services and activities for older people, with the aim of reducing isolation and loneliness and promoting health and wellbeing in later life.

Age UK and Age Concerns were charities that fell within Diane's remit for support and she developed close links with all of the Age UKs and Age Concerns in Kent. In 2013 the Age UKs and Age Concerns in Kent formed a consortium and invited Diane to work exclusively for them as a Development Officer.

Diane's role is varied but focuses on helping the different charities to form a unified service offer to older people in Kent through developing modernised services and support activities that are sustainable and that meet the changing needs of older people whilst retaining their local presence.

Diane works to secure funding from various sources, including Trusts and Foundations, the NHS and Government as well as supporting the consortium members to ensure that their services are well received by older people and commissioners through impact monitoring, analysis, re-design and development.