

Background Information

Community Development Co-ordinator post

March 2019

LinkAge Network was formed originally in 2007, and although the organisation can work across the west of England, traditionally it has focused on Bristol. The aim of the organisation is to create sustainable solutions with people aged 55+ to:

- improve their health and well-being
- reduce social isolation and loneliness, and
- strengthen communities.

The organisation achieves these aims by delivering projects, running a community network and informing local people about what's on in their area.

The Community Development with Older People project is funded by Bristol Ageing Better (BAB) for three years between 2017-2020. The aim of the project is to reduce social isolation amongst the over 50s by taking a city-wide strategic approach to community development. The objectives of the project are to:

- Connect existing groups or activities
- Encourage new activities
- Champion asset-based approaches
- Contribute to evaluation of the project by UWE
- Co-ordinate and share intelligence, and
- Locate funding or support collaboration.

To this end, LinkAge Network employs three Community Development Co-ordinators (CDCs) who each work in an area of the city: north, central/east and south. It is to the south area of the city which LinkAge currently needs to appoint a maternity cover employee. The CDC works both independently in the south of Bristol and also as a team member covering the city. It is a strategic role working mainly with locally-based groups and organisations. The base of work is in the LinkAge Network office at The Park, Daventry Road, Knowle.

Funding for the project expires on 31 March 2020.