SUPPORTING OLDER PEOPLE

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Choice Based Lettings Winners & Losers

- Good for people who know what they want & are able to actively pursue getting it

- Not so good for vulnerable people who find the system confusing and difficult to access

Common Problems

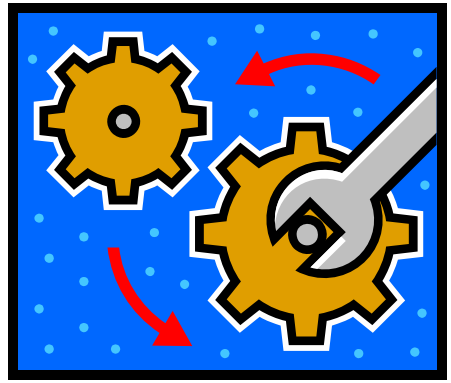
- Access to information on housing options and support in making choices

- Assistance in deciding what to bid for & bidding strategies

- Access to bidding method

Alternative Approaches

- **Service-centred** – how can we adjust the system?



- **Person-centred** – what problems do older people have & how can they be addressed?

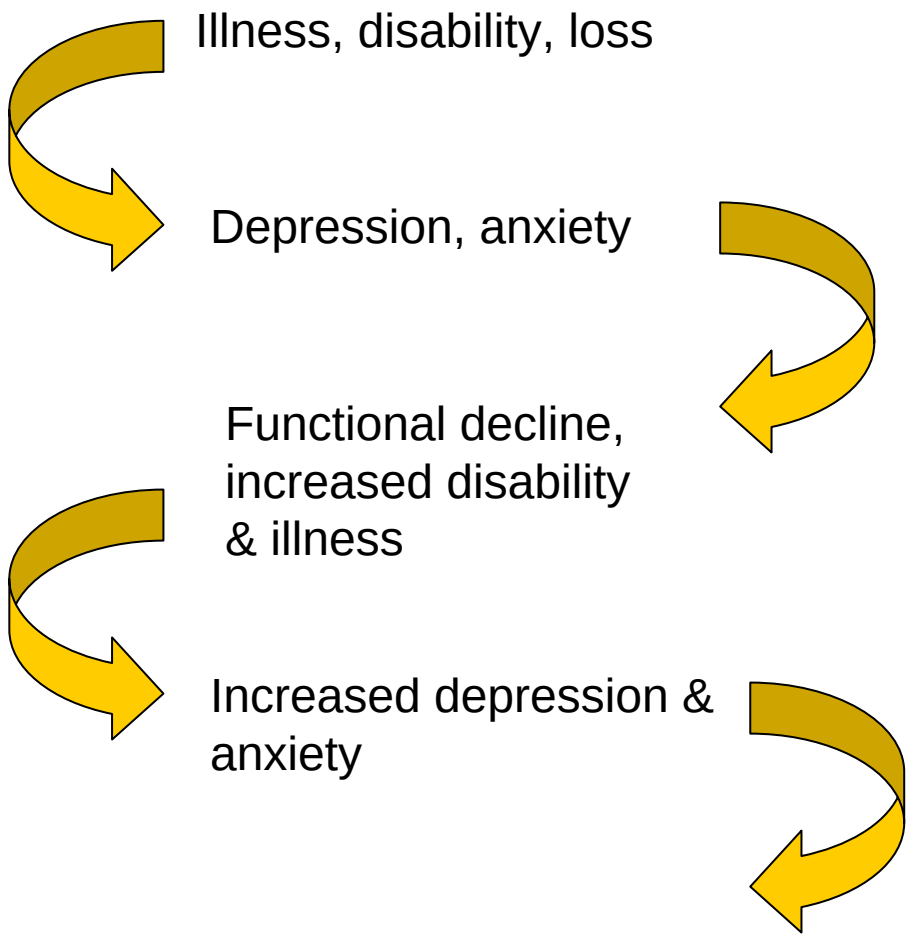
Older People

- 75% independent – relatively fit & active

- 20% at risk – losing mobility, shrinking social networks, entering downward spiral

- 5% dependent – need personal care, in contact with social care services

The Downward Spiral



Self Efficacy

- Sense of being in control of your life, of being able to make decisions and ensure that they are put into effect

- 17% of older people have low self efficacy – sense of powerlessness & not being able to improve things for themselves

Old Age & Disadvantage (1)

- Poor health:

	Men	Women
65-74	19%	19%
75-84	25%	28%
85+	32%	36%

- Difficulty with going out: 21% 25%

Old Age & Disadvantage (2)

- Depression:

	Men	Women
	20%	28%

- Living alone:

60-74	16%	29%
75+	29%	60%

Old Age & Disadvantage (3)

- Hearing difficulty – 25%
- Infrequent contact with family – 15%
- Severe pain – 10%
- Providing care to others – 15%
- Gross average income for 75+ - £10,000p.a.

Recognising Older People At Risk

- Functional limitation & pain
- Small social networks
- Low income
- Low education
- Bereavement
- Falls
- Experience of crime
- Over 75
- Living alone
- Caring responsibilities

Older People & IT

- Internet use:

	Men	Women
65-69	28%	18%
70-74	18%	10%
75-79	14%	8%
80+	9%	7%

- Mobile phone ownership:

80+	28%	19%

CBL – Older People's Support Needs

- 75% do not need special support – but IT based systems not accessible for majority
- 5% very frail & receiving social care services – partnership working
- 20% at risk & not in touch with social services – targeted support service needed

Housing Circumstances of Older People

- Tenure:

	65-84	85+
Owner occ.	73%	63%
Social rent	24%	29%
Private rent	4%	8%

- Property type

House	82%	71%
Flat	17%	28%

Choice

- Most older people making housing choices are owner occupiers

- The first decision is ‘to move or not to move?’

Housing Options Service

- **Staying Put:**
  - Adaptations
  - Maintenance/property improvement
  - Equity release
  - Support/care services
- **Moving on:**
  - Own.occ./shared ownership/rent
  - Housing with support
  - Housing with care
  - Availability – property type & area
  - Local facilities
  - Help with moving

Support for Choice

- **Staying put**:
  - Care and Repair service (HIA)
  - Floating support
  - Social care
- **Moving on**:
  - Elderly Accommodation Counsel (www.housingcare.org)
  - Local support & advice service
  - CBL
    - Accessible information & bidding process
    - Targeted special needs housing

The Vision –Housing Choice