

CONSORTIA

- **ARC EoE** (East of England)
- **ARC KSS** (Kent, Surrey, Sussex)
- **ARC SL** (South London)
- **ARC NWC** (North-West Coast)

AIMS and OBJECTIVES

- Understand the perspectives of older adults regarding technology use to aid social wellbeing
- Understand the views and work of practitioners and professionals regarding technology use to aid social wellbeing for older adults
- Co-develop recommendations for policy and practice to support design, evaluation and implementation of digital technologies to aid social wellbeing

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT & ENGAGEMENT

A research advisory group of older adults was recruited to support the development and delivery of this research project. This has included co-producing social wellbeing definition, co-facilitating dissemination events, sense making of findings and improving the reach and accessibility of recruitment material and research outputs.

BACKGROUND

Digital technologies (DT) are seen by government and local authorities as vital to a sustainable future of social care. Covid-19 accelerated adoption and innovation (DT) in social care, but it often focuses on financial provider orientated goals. This may exacerbate rather than reduce social well-being, particularly for older adults in need of social care and living independently.

STUDY DESIGN

Work package 1: Scoping of literature and technology horizon scanning

Work package 2 Phase 1: Interviews with professionals working in roles related to older adults, social care and digital technologies

Work package 2 Phase 2: Interviews and focus groups with older adults

Work package 3: World Café Style events (face/face and online Oct/Dec 2023) to support dissemination and the co-development of recommendations for technology implementation practice and policy

DISSEMINATION

- 3 research briefings:
 - [Summary of findings from professionals](#)
 - [Summary of findings from older adults](#)
 - Recommendations for policy and practice – in progress
- [Lay summary of research findings](#)
- Two dissemination events with social care and social work practitioners, tech developers and older adults: 1 virtual and 1 face-face
- Academic Papers – in progress
- Podcast – in progress

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