

## International Longevity Centre – UK Report to ILC Global Alliance

### ILC-UK successes and achievements 2014/15

Since the last ILC GA meeting in October 2014, we have published over 30 reports, held over 35 public events and have been featured on national and international media on a wide variety of topics. Our website has received over [50,000 unique visitors](#) and our Twitter account has grown to over [5,000 followers](#).

#### Sustainability

We launched the first wave of our flagship project, Sustainable Older Society (SOS 2020), which raises awareness of the need to adapt our economy and society to the big strategic challenges proposed by an ageing population. [Here Today, Gone Tomorrow](#), the finance stream of SOS 2020, modelled the outcomes of four different approaches to using defined contribution pension wealth, and found that up to 1.4 million people may not be able to secure an adequate income in retirement. [Creating a Sustainable 21st Century Healthcare System](#), the health stream of SOS 2020, urged health leaders to work to ensure that the £22bn savings being asked of the NHS act to stimulate not prevent innovation.

#### Older Workers

Another key programme of work was completed this year. [The Missing Millions](#), a series of reports ILC-UK produced in collaboration with Business in the Community, provided recommendations for business and government to help people stay in work longer. ILC-UK adopted a mixed-methods approach, analysing labour market statistics in order to identify high-level trends and focus groups to explore the complicated reasons for leaving the workforce. Recommendations spanned from expanding employees' rights to request flexible working to advocating mid-life career reviews. The work was endorsed by HRH The Prince of Wales who also attend the launch event. The programme received hundreds of news articles in national and international press. The recommendations inspired Barclays (a British multinational banking & financial services company) to set up their older apprentice scheme.

#### Pensions

In response to freedom and choice in pensions, ILC-UK produced a report, [Making the System Fit for Purpose](#) and was successful in advocating a "second line of defence" so that there is additional protection against consumers making detrimental decisions. ILC-UK also advocated the creation of a new Pensions Commission to set out the strategic direction of pension's policy, a call quoted and echoed in a report by the UK Work and Pensions Select Committee and by a number of key industry bodies. This received significant coverage from both broadsheet and tabloid national newspapers, regional press, trade press and online comment.

#### Transport

Using data on transport usage from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA) and evidence from the ILC Global Alliance conference in October 2014, we published the [The Future of Transport in an Ageing Society](#) report in June. The project from ILC-UK and Age UK set out the key transport challenges that are arising from the UK's ageing population. It received significant media attention.

#### Ageing & Demographic Change

During the UK General Election, ILC-UK published analysis of the main party manifestos, [Vision Needed to Tackle the Challenge of Population Ageing](#).

Inspired by ILC-UK Chief Executive and founder, Sally Greengross, who turned 80 on the 29th of June this year, we launched our new factpack, [80 at Eighty](#) giving 80 facts about life in your 9th decade. A celebratory party was held by Age UK, where Alex Kalache gave a heartfelt speech. We were also honoured to be invited to hold a reception at [No.10 Downing Street](#) by the UK Prime Minister's wife, Samantha Cameron, this September which was attended by parliamentarians and key decision makers in government.

ILC-UK also appeared on [BBC World Business Report](#) and on BBC [Breakfast TV](#), several times, for three of our projects; the Commission on Hearing Loss, Community Matters, and the Ready for Ageing Alliance. Our work on loneliness and older men sparked the biggest phone in ever recorded for a [BBC Five Live](#) debate, a major radio station programme in the UK.

## Future Plans

ILC-UK will look in more detail at the future of nursing in health and the ageing workforce in social care. There is a lack of underpinning and embedded practice of older people's nursing both in undergraduate programmes and post graduate courses in all adult specialities. This creates a missed opportunity to produce a workforce equipped to meet the needs of older people with multiple comorbidities and complex health and social care needs. ILC-UK will explore shared caseloads in health and social care, educating the workforce to be fit for future and current purpose and deliver coherent messages about a new way of managing care which is UK focused and UK created.

The social care sector already employs a large and steadily increasing migrant workforce, and whether or not the share of migrants will continue to grow hinges on a series of factors, such as a gap in skills of the native workforce and migration policies. ILC-UK will undertake original quantitative research in order to build a profile of migrant workers within the care sector. In addition, the project will analyse the demand side in terms of care service users and identify potential future shortfalls.

In the autumn we are launching an online [European Adult Immunisation Hub](#), supported by Pfizer, which will provide a platform for materials to discuss the role of adult immunisation in supporting healthy ageing. We will be collating interviews and blogs as well as promoting evidence and news on adult immunisation. It would be fantastic if our European colleagues could contribute.

Finally, in November, we are holding our first major conference, "[The Future of Ageing](#)". Delegates will listen to keynote speeches from distinguished thought leaders on demographic change including Baroness Altmann (the Minister of Pensions) and the Government Chief Scientific Adviser.

### Parliamentary and policy activities (Baroness Sally Greengross)

As Vice President of the Local Government Association, Sally was involved in their major piece of work this year entitled "Ageing: The Silver Lining", which explored the challenges and opportunities that an ageing population presents for local government and local communities in the next 30 years.

Sally was involved in the Pension Scheme Bill before the Election, working with colleagues and tabling several amendments, including one on pension guidance. The former Pension Minister invited her to a ministerial dinner on defined ambition and collective pensions which was also attended by the Ministers from the Netherlands and Sweden. The objective for the dinner was to compare the reform in our respective countries, and to share experiences, more practically, on guiding pension policies through the political process.

Sally sat on the Industry and Parliamentary Trust's (IPT) Sustainability Commission. The IPT's Commission focused on what the UK Parliament and future governments can do to better understand sustainability and create an environment to promote sustainable business practices.

Alongside other ILC GA colleagues, Sally was involved in a session at the "Symposium of Ageing in Emerging Markets" organised by Oxford University earlier this year, and in June 2016, Sally has been invited to speak at the inaugural Horasis Global Meeting, co-hosted by the UK government and part of the [International Festival for Business](#). She will be alongside heads of government and Nobel Laureates including **David Cameron**, Prime Minister, United Kingdom; **Valdis Dombrovskis**, Vice-President and Commissioner, European Commission, Belgium; and **Edmund S. Phelps**, Nobel Laureate in Economics, Columbia University, USA. Her focus will be on managing demographic change and how to offer flexible solutions across national boundaries.

At the end of this month, Sally will be giving a keynote address to the Keele World Affairs Lecture Series on "International Longevity in the 21st Century" where she will be tackling the controversial issue of human rights for all, not a separate human rights for older people.