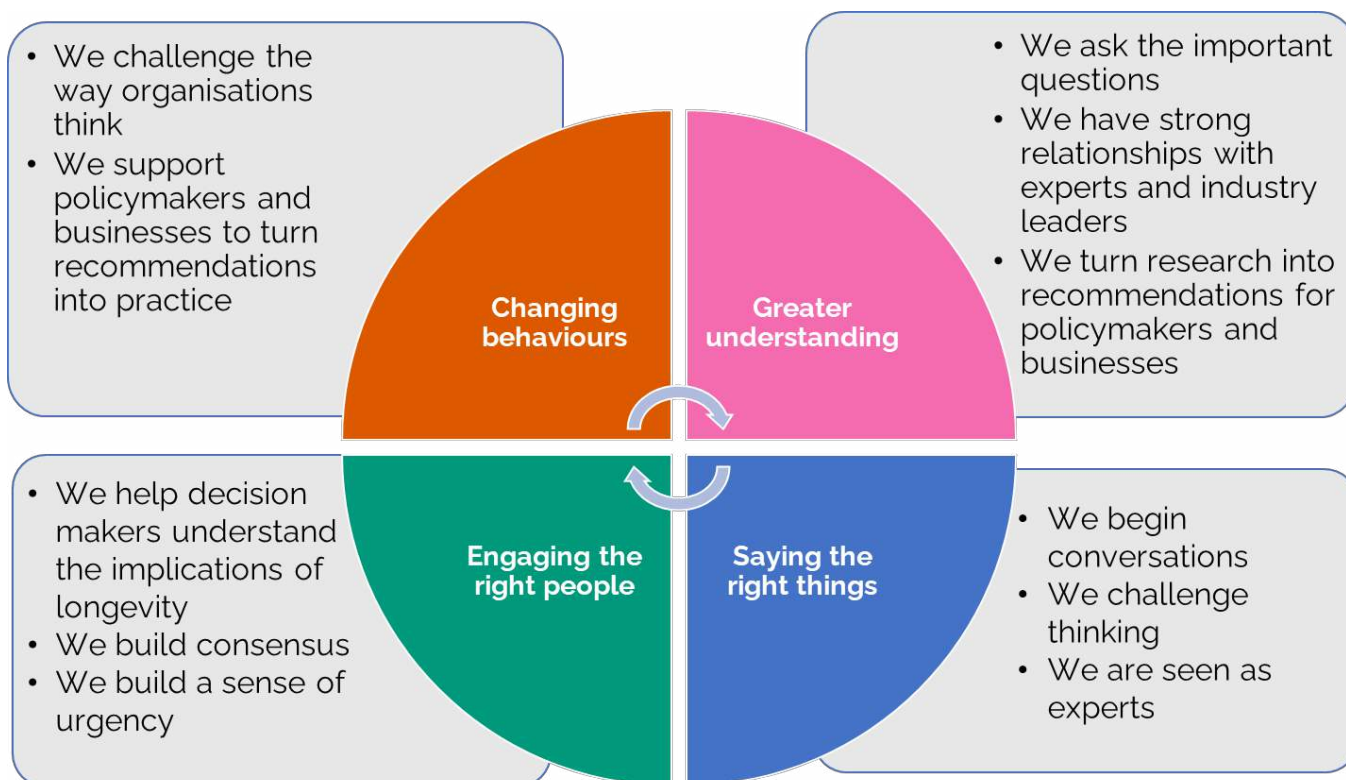


ILC-UK update to the ILC Global Alliance December 2025

Achievements and Performance



1. Building greater understanding

We have positioned ourselves as experts on longevity, healthy ageing and planning for the future

People want to hear from us and our expertise is sought after. Over the last quarter we have been:

- Invited to speak at PensionsUK annual conference on state pension reform alongside the independent State Pension Age reviewer (Dr Suzy Morrissey) and IFS.
- The publication of the initial findings of the UK Index was a leading story in The Times (and gave interview with Times Radio), coverage in New Statesman (amongst other nationals) and led to follow up engagement in local papers across the country – and for the first time in Northern Ireland (see more below)
- Invited to send the UK Index findings with evidence to the House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee
- Invited to speak at Innovate UK event on the Index findings.
- A guest on LCPs podcast with Stuart McDonald on the demographic change as part of series with other leading experts including Steve Webb.
- Speaking at Kings Fund's Annual Conference.

- Invited to FCA's consumer roundtable on targeted support to discuss the new regime and approach around advice/guidance and support.
- Asked to attend the GMCA Ageing Hub committee meeting to speak on the night-time economy report at the beginning of October.
- Invited to present the Nighttime Economy report alongside the launch of Greater Manchester's NTE strategy in November (which was delayed by GMCA partly to allow this to happen).
- Contacted to meet and discuss our research with colleagues from the Ministry of Health (Singapore) during their visit to the UK in November.
- Invited to speak at EU Flu Day and European Pain Federation events in Brussels.

2. Saying the right things

We bring together evidence in new and compelling ways

Even before we have developed the tool, the UK Better Lives Index continues to engage all those we speak to about it or share it with. We have been using specific local area data to engage with MPs and regional policy makers – and the story in The Times and the publication of the initial rankings and data was picked up by local papers across the country.

We invited over 40 of the stakeholders involved in the Greater Manchester night time economy (GM NTE) project to comment on the draft report and received constructive comments and positive engagement.

Congrats - it's an excellent piece of work packed with evidence-based insights and commercial and the wellbeing incentives to get this right... I found the document engaging, informative and potentially solution packed. The evidence of successful activity created by the case stories were both well placed and practical – Caroline Waters

Thank you for sight of the report – some properly brilliant stuff in there, including the Night Club case study which I knew nothing about and have followed up on – Joe Heys, GM NTE Strategy lead

We are challenging and solutions-focused, which has led to a strong response to our recent research and policy recommendations.

UK Better Lives Index

The UK Better Lives Index has helped us to cut through the noise and engage with politicians such as Baroness Jacqui Smith, Minister for Skills and Helen Godwin, Mayor of West of England.

And the response to [The Times article](#) has certainly been strong – if not wholly positive:

The authors of this report should step away from their spreadsheets and come blinking into the sunshine in the Wolds or coast to visit some of the places they so airily dismiss.

"The public know they're wrong - as more and more people choose to live here and we host millions of visitors each year. East Lindsey will continue to thrive long after this report is forgotten - Victoria Atkins MP, former Secretary of State for Health and Social Care quoted in [LincsOnline](#) on 29 September 2025

Other politicians and policymakers chose to use the rankings more constructively (see example below)

GM NTE report

One standout idea from the GM NTE report was David's Too Good to Miss app:

I also wanted to say how much I love the "Too Good to Miss" idea as a play on too good to go!

Emily Abbot, Intergenerational England

State of Healthy Ageing in Europe report

We published our "[State of Healthy Ageing in Europe](#)" report to highlight progress on healthy ageing and prevention across the EU. This was launched on ILC's [LinkedIn page](#) on 1 October – International Day of Older Persons – to highlight the importance of healthy ageing efforts and the progress being made across the 27 EU Member States. We also produced a printed version that was presented to stakeholders at our British Embassy event alongside the World Health Assembly on 13 October. Through the ILC Europe Network, we will continue to disseminate this to stakeholders in Brussels and beyond, seeking engagement from national and EU policymakers on healthy ageing and prevention policies.

3. Engaging the right people

We continue to build relationships with key policymakers in the UK and engage in key policy debates

This quarter, we:

- Attended several Parliamentary events, including:
 - Drinkaware's reception on its annual Monitor, where Drinkaware CEO, Karen Tyrell, mentioned its research collaboration with the ILC during her speech to attendees
- Attended the Labour Party Conference in Liverpool and engaged with a number of senior politicians including the Skills Minister Baroness Jacqui Smith, and the Mayors of the West of England and London – as well as productive conversations with other influential policymakers such as Georgia Gould MP, Josh Simmons MP, Anna Dixon MP, Polly Billington MP and Lord Stewart Wood.
- Professor Sir Mark Caulfield, Vice Principal for Health for Queen Mary's Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, is one of the speakers at the launch of the APPLE Tree project in October which is being hosted by Lord Weir who is standing in for Baroness Ritchie.
- Hosted a delegation from the China Development Research Foundation (CDRF) during their study visit to London. ILC hosted a research seminar with CDRF, showcasing findings from experts in hospitality & tourism and adult social care, to highlight what the UK is doing in these spaces and what China can learn from the UK (and vice versa).
- Hosted Chung Cheng University (Taiwan) colleagues from their Department of Adult and Continuing Education and Research Center on Aging Society to discuss our Healthy Ageing and Prevention Index and our work on lifelong learning. We are in conversations to participate in their annual conference next year.
- We've been accepted to host an official side event at the UN 2nd World Social Summit for Development. The session will bring together facilitators from AGE Platform Europe, German National Association of Senior Citizens' Organisations (BAGSO), HelpAge Canada and ILC-Canada.

- We are in continued conversations with WHO Europe, with plans to host a joint event, contribute to their healthy ageing strategy and produce joint evidence on the value of healthy ageing.

We continue to meet regularly with key civil servants in the Treasury, DWP and the DHSC, with various British Embassies around the world – and liaise with the House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee and APPG on Older People and Housing.

We all thoroughly enjoyed the seminar yesterday. It was a pleasure to meet you and the team, and we are very grateful for your hospitality and for facilitating connections with other key partners. – Dr Zhicheng Wang, Programme Manager, CDRF (via email)

We are engaging key international players around the need to act on demographic change.

David Sinclair spoke at the [International Federation on Ageing conference](#) in Cape Town alongside the Annual Meeting of the ILC Global Alliance.

We presented at the International Pharmaceutical Federation's annual Congress in Copenhagen on Medication Adherence to an audience of over 200. While there we hosted a private roundtable. WHO Europe, Denmark's National Institute of Public Health and the Head of Pollution and Health at the European Environment Agency were among the attendees:

- Professor Bente Klarlund Pedersen, Professor of Integrative Medicine, Director of Centre of Inflammation and Metabolism (CIM) and Centre for Physical Activity Research (CFAS), Rigshospitalet and University of Copenhagen
- Ian Marnane, Head of Unit, Pollution and Health, European Environment Agency
- Professor Morten Hulvej Rod, Director, National Institute of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Southern Denmark
- Professor Robert Leo Skov, President, European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
- Stefania Ilinca, Technical Officer Long-term Care, World Health Organisation, Europe

We have made connections across new sectors

We are building connections across new sectors that are key to our work and reaching new audiences.

Night time Economy (NTE) project

As part of the work commissioned by GMCA we reached out to various key stakeholders working in the entertainment, cultural and leisure sectors such as:

- Michael Kill, CEO, Night Time Industries Association
- Julieta Cuneo, 24 Hour Sustainable Cities Lead, GLA
- Ben Lumley, Head of Night Club programme, Liminal Space
- Anoush Darby, Transport for Greater Manchester
- Jay Taylor, Music Venues Trust
- Julia Fawcett, The Lowry

Blogs/Guest blogs

ILC's blogs continue to engage – and also enable us to offer a platform to our Partners and funders.

Thanks so much for your very helpful blog on Government proposals for mandatory eye tests for people over 70. We have had a lot of members express concern over the proposals – Harriet Radermacher, Policy Manager, u3a

We're also continuing to publish pieces from funders and potential funders such as the IFoA's Continuous Mortality Investigation and IPFMA.

Our events are engaging and a way for us to build relationships

We have hosted a number of successful events both in the UK, abroad and online in the last quarter. Here's some feedback from a few of them:

Thank you so much for inviting us to participate in such a varied and interesting discussion. Having time to get beyond individual statements was really powerful and genuinely useful – Karen Tyrell, CEO, Drinkaware (by email after our breakfast roundtable with Independent Age at the Labour Party Conference in Liverpool)

We hosted a dinner on the future of social care which was attended by a number of high-level stakeholders including Professor Deborah Sturdy, Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care, and Professor Nicola Ranger, Chief Executive for the Royal College of Nurses. This dinner helped shape our paper on the future of social care, produced in collaboration with the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries.

4. Changing behaviours

We are changing minds and increasing policy attention on long lives

Ben Franklin was invited by Stuart McDonald to talk about the fiscal and social impact of ageing and how to make the most of the Longevity Dividend on the [Beyond Curious with LCP](#) podcast.

Ben Franklin spoke at Brightwell's DB investment forum in front of industry.

We are helping ideas come to fruition

Local papers in Northern Ireland published the UK Index findings highlighting that families in some areas, including Derry and Belfast, face some of the greatest challenges anywhere in Britain and the north.

The Member of the Legislative Assembly of Northern Ireland (MLA) for Foyle, Sinead McLaughlin, subsequently argued that:

These rankings are a stark reminder that behind every statistic are real people, families, children, older people, working hard but struggling to stay afloat. This is not just a problem in one city or one region. Too many communities across Northern Ireland are being left behind compared to the rest of these islands. Access to opportunity, services, and security should not depend on where you were born or live.

This is why I am seeking to introduce the Regional Balance Bill. This legislation is not just about the North West, it is about ensuring every part of Northern Ireland receives the investment, support, and opportunities it needs. It is about addressing the inequalities that leave some areas behind while others thrive.

Every community deserves a fair chance. The Regional Balance Bill is a step towards delivering that fairness. People across Northern Ireland should have the same opportunities and we must act now to make that a reality. – Sinead McLaughlin MLA in Derry online

Our policy ideas are being adopted

There has been a positive response to many of the solution ideas in the draft GM NTE report and we know that the GMCA are considering several of these.

We should seek to patent David's idea for the "Too Good to Miss" app:

I think this is a brilliant idea - we'd need private sector involvement to fund and operationalise, but it could appeal to all ages, not just older communities, and make a huge difference. – Joe Heys, GM NTE Strategy lead

For more on our 2025 impact see our [ILC-UK wrapped - some top highlights of 2025](#) blog on the ILC Global Alliance website.