

Scaling the Peaks Research Study Information for providers

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Principle Investigator: Dr Fiona Marshall

What is this study about?

Dementia care for older rural people and their carers is an under researched issue in England. The majority of older people in the UK live in rural areas and so this study aims to explore the ways in which various services support their lives.

This study focuses on the everyday challenges of living with dementia and seeks to include organisations which whilst not dementia specific nonetheless play an important part in enhancing the wellbeing of older people and their carer.

The geographical boundary of the Peak District National Park has been selected as an area which is typically representative of rurality and rural ageing as it has a population which includes more older people and fewer younger working age residents. The terrain, climate and dispersed locations all demand particular ways of working which may be difficult for providers and users to manage. This has implications for designing and providing services which are dementia friendly, acceptable, affordable and effective.

As a provider of care and support, I am asking you and/or organisation to consider taking part in the study. The data collection period runs from September 2016 until January 2019.

How can we help?

There are several things which your organisation can do to support this study:

- Agree to take part in a semi-structured interview which explores the service and the specific ways in which it supports users who may have dementia and their carers.
- Allow a researcher to spend some time with your service users so that a sense of your work can be gained by "shadowing" a member of staff. This can be for one day or for a period of time up to 6 months maximum and is negotiable with you.
- Promote the study by agreeing to display the leaflets and contact forms about the study for users and other organisations.
- Allow access to any non-identifiable data which provides information about the numbers of users and the associated support provided.

All information will be treated as confidential.

The Research Team Members

All members of the research team have current Enhanced DBS certificates, Good clinical practice Certificates (GCP) and research passports. This means that the relevant study liability insurance is in place.

There are three members of the team:

Dr Fiona Marshall, Senior Research Fellow.

Fiona will be conducting the majority of the work and is responsible for all aspects of the study management and conduct of the work.

Fiona has a background in community healthcare as a general nurse and health visitor. She is particularly interested in older people and their care in community settings. Previous work has included people with dementia in end-of-life care, hospital discharge, dementia friendly GP practices, crisis care in dementia, people with dementia in acute hospital care, community in-reach services and compassion in nursing.

Mr Michele Giordano

Michele has a background in geo-spatial science and engineering. He has worked on large scale studies which have mapped communities in Italy and also the surface of the planet Mars. Michele has an interest in how people decide to travel and access services in remote locations.

Michele is undertaking doctoral level studies and will be working closely with service providers who can provide data to support his work on devising a visual map of the region which will help to inform the future design and delivery of services. This work is innovative as the visual map will be available for providers and users to access up to date information about the nearest services.

Mr Paul Miles

Paul is currently undertaking a Masters level degree in Public Health part-time. As part of his studies, Paul has to produce a thesis and has agreed to examine the journeys which people make and also the ways in which digital technologies, such as the internet, may help with care.

Paul will be undertaking his work primarily with providers associated with transport and technologies in the region. Paul has a background in public health with a particular interest in older people and communities.

Next Steps?

Please contact Fiona Marshall on fiona.marshall2@nottingham.ac.uk or phone the mobile on 07920813613 to discuss if you wish to take part.

A member of the team will visit to discuss the study and plan the next steps.

Thank you for considering taking part.