



SASCI

Supporting Adult Social Care Innovation

Shaping the future of social care: Empowering innovation and innovators

Findings from the Supporting Adult Social Care Innovation (SASCI) project funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

Date: Wed 2 Oct 2024

Time: 10.00am – 17.00pm

Place: Coin Street, London



Partners in practice:



Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)



Economic and Social Research Council

Programme

10:00 – 10:30 **Registration and refreshments** (Tea/ coffee and a selection of pastries)

10:30 – 10:45 **Welcome**
Dez Holmes and Sir David Behan CBE

Opening address by Dez Holmes

10:45 – 11:30 **Perspectives on innovation in adult social care**
Chair: Dez Holmes
Panellists: Dr Malte Gerhold Adam Lent, Jennifer Pearl
Discussion / Q&A session

11:30 – 11:45 **Coffee/ Tea and biscuit break**

11:45 – 12:30 **Supporting innovation in the adult social care context: research insights**
Speaker: Dr Juliette Malley
Discussion / Q&A session

12:30 – 13:30 **Lunch**

13:30 – 14:30 **Round table session 1**

14:40 – 15:40 **Round table session 2**

1. To shape or be shaped? How can innovation transform adult social care?
 2. Given the challenging context for adult social care organisations, how can they sustain a focus on innovating?
 3. How is research evidence used to support the process of innovation in adult social care and how can this be improved?
 4. What might a research and innovation improvement network look like?
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15:40 – 16:00 **Coffee/ Tea and biscuit break**

16:00 – 16:45 **How can innovation further the goals of social care?**
Chair: Sir David Behan CBE
Panellists: Alfonso Lara-Montero, Jenny Pitts, Professor Vic Rayner OBE, Dr Anna Severwright OBE
Discussion / Q&A session

16:45 – 17:00 **Closing address by Sir David Behan CBE**

Round table break out sessions

1. To shape or be shaped? How can innovation transform adult social care?

Confirmed Contributors: Emma Back, Professor Catherine Needham

Transforming adult social care is seen as essential by government, sector leaders and civil society groups and innovation is a key lever for achieving this vision. This session will share our findings about the innovation journeys of people and organisations who set out to transform social care. We will discuss the many anticipated and unanticipated challenges they face, and the strategies they use to be able to respond to an uncertain journey, develop and sustain exemplar innovations and, often with less success, shape processes, rules and regulations so conditions support wider adoption and spread. Together with the panellists and audience, we will explore what might be necessary to shift the balance of probability in favour of transformational change. Additionally, the session will offer valuable insights for policymakers, regulators, sector leaders, providers, community and civil society groups on the actions that might be necessary to for transformational change to become a reality.

2. Given the challenging context for adult social care organisations, how can they sustain a focus on innovating?

Confirmed Contributors: Ceri Armstrong and Les Billingham, Jo Cheshire, Sarah Paskett, Rob Martin

Adult social care operates in a highly regulated, resource-limited, and complex environment that is constantly evolving. Despite these challenges, some organisations consistently manage to innovate. This session will share key findings on the capacities and characteristics that enable continuous innovation in such organisations. Together with the panellists and audience, we will explore how these innovation capabilities can be nurtured and sustained across different types of organisations—varying by size or service type. Additionally, the session will offer valuable insights for policymakers, regulators, and sector leaders on how to support organisations in building and maintaining a culture of ongoing innovation.

3. How is research evidence used to support the process of innovation in adult social care and how can this be improved?

Confirmed Contributors: Ewan King, Victoria Odude, Professor Karen Spilsbury

We often hear calls for innovations in adult social care to be 'evidence informed', but how can we make this happen? Building on the findings of the SASCI project this session will ask invited speakers and conference delegates to share their thoughts on the role of research in the adult social care innovation process. The session will consider what other sources of knowledge and intelligence are used to inform this process and how researchers, practitioners and people with lived experience can work together to inform the research process and build capacity for producing research that is useful to innovation and making better use of evidence to support innovation.

4. Developing an innovation and improvement community

Confirmed Contributors: Jessica Kyriacou and Dr Juliette Malley

We learnt through our research there is a wealth of knowledge and experience within the adult social care community about how to empower innovation. As experienced innovators know, being able to tap into and draw on the resources, knowledge, and energy of others is critical to making innovation happen. Lots of people have expressed an interest in developing an innovation community to share and swap ideas and brainstorm new solutions to common problems. If this sounds like a community you would be interested in shaping and being part of then come to the workshop to have a say in how it should be designed. We will discuss the purpose of the community, core activities we might do together, when and how we will collaborate and meet and how it might be sustained over time.

Our research shows how many different skills, knowledge bases and types of organisations are needed to empower innovation, so don't feel you need to have first-hand experience of leading innovation to be a member of this community.

If you have any questions about the event, please drop us a line at SASCI (Cpec-Sasci@lse.ac.uk) and we will be happy to help.