# Include Age Inclusion of diverse older people in community and public places and virtual spaces

# Working with older people with learning disabilities:

**Encouraging and supporting their active involvement in research** 

12th March, 2024

Heather Blair, Expert by experience





#### The IncludeAge Team

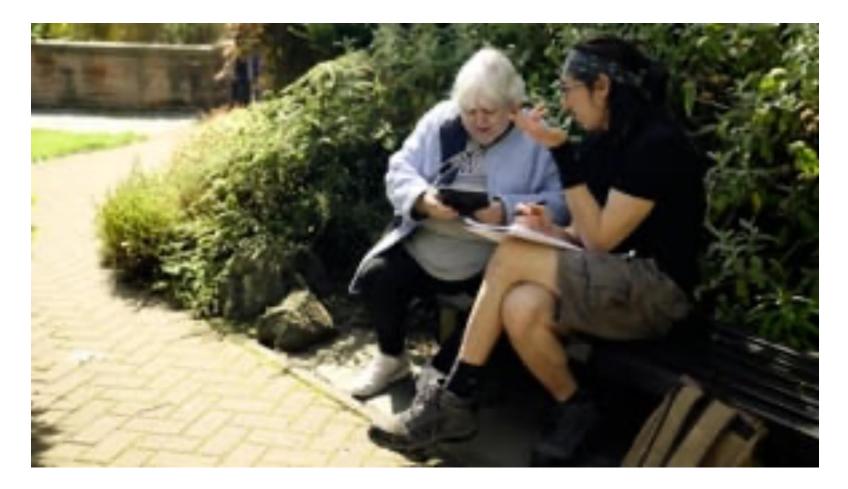
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- Anna Marriott, Co-I, National Development Team for Inclusion
- Pat Scrutton, Co-I, Intergenerational National Network
- Ruth Callander, Co-I, Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities
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- Tracey Dixon, School of Art and Design, University of Dundee
- Benjamin Thomas, Co-I, Opening Doors
- Marianne Cranwell, Project Co-Ordinator, Health Sciences, Unive Dundee
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- Dr Hannah Loret, Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Health Sciences, Unive
- Dr Joe Tai, Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Health Sciences, University of Dundee



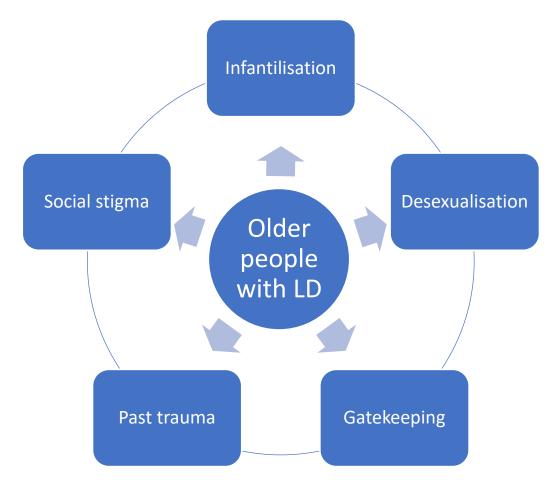


# The IncludeAge Project





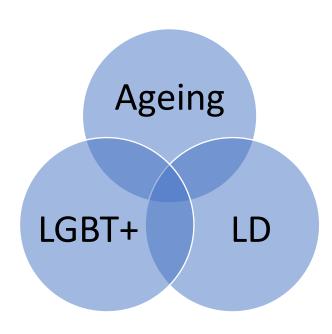
# The problem of intersectional discrimination:





## What is IncludeAge?

- Exploring the challenges of community inclusion of older people who
  - Are LGBT+
  - Have a Learning Disability (LD)
- What does community inclusion mean to them?
- Experiences of online and physical places and spaces
- How have their life courses affected their understanding of their present?
- Exploration of intersectionality
  - Recognition of heterogeneity amongst diverse groups





#### **Inclusive processes**

Application

- Advisory group feedback on project
- Consulted on funding submission

Advisory

- Data generation instrument design
- Recruiting participants
- Feedback on work undertaken

Research

- Training & workshops for co-researchers
- Co-generating and analysing data
- Recruiting participants

### Inclusive practice: What have we done?

- Accessible formats:
  - Newsletters
  - Website
  - Volunteer agreements (co-researchers)
- Safe and accessible meeting:
  - Always hybridised where possible
- Balancing:
  - Formal and informal
  - Taking time and meeting targets
  - Keeping thing simple and capturing nuance



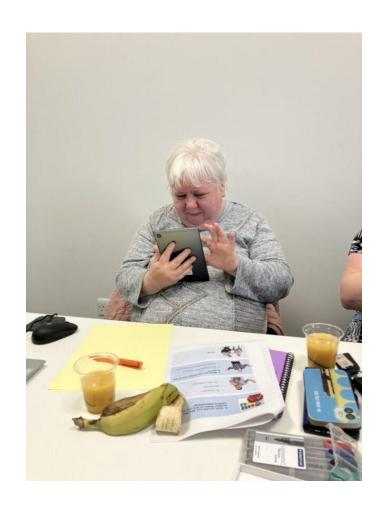
# Inclusive practice: Working with co-researchers

- Experiential training:
  - Co-researchers = lived experience
  - Exchange of skills and experiences
- Regular supervisions:
  - Trauma-informed
  - Interviews can be distressing
  - Sharing
    - Difficulties
    - Reflections
    - New approaches



# Getting things right takes time

- Delays in:
  - Website launch
  - First data generation stage
- LGBT+ aspect faster-paced than LD:
  - 20 vs 8 interviews
  - Interviews, informed consent
  - Co-researcher training
- Vetting documents and materials:
  - Updates, interview topic guides, software
  - Producing in accessible format





# **Moving forward**

- Bringing together LD and LGBT+
  - Advisory groups
  - Co-researchers
  - 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> May
- Co-analysis workshops
- Knowledge Cafes
- Website hard launch 14<sup>th</sup> March









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