

Living Longer Ageing well

By Layna Taws



Critically explore society's perceptions of ageing and older people

Aims

- To create a better understanding of our older population
- To find common ground
- A balanced view



Objectives



- News Articles
- Statistics
- Journals
- Looking at policy initiatives in Wales and England
- Looking at legislation
- Tv shows
- Legislation
- How to change attitudes about ageing

Statistics

- 15.5 million people aged 60 years or older making up 23% of the UK's population
- Individuals worldwide are living longer, according to age uk by 2030 1 in 5 people will be aged 65 or over
- The 85+ group is the fastest growing and is set to double to 3.2 Million by mid 2045

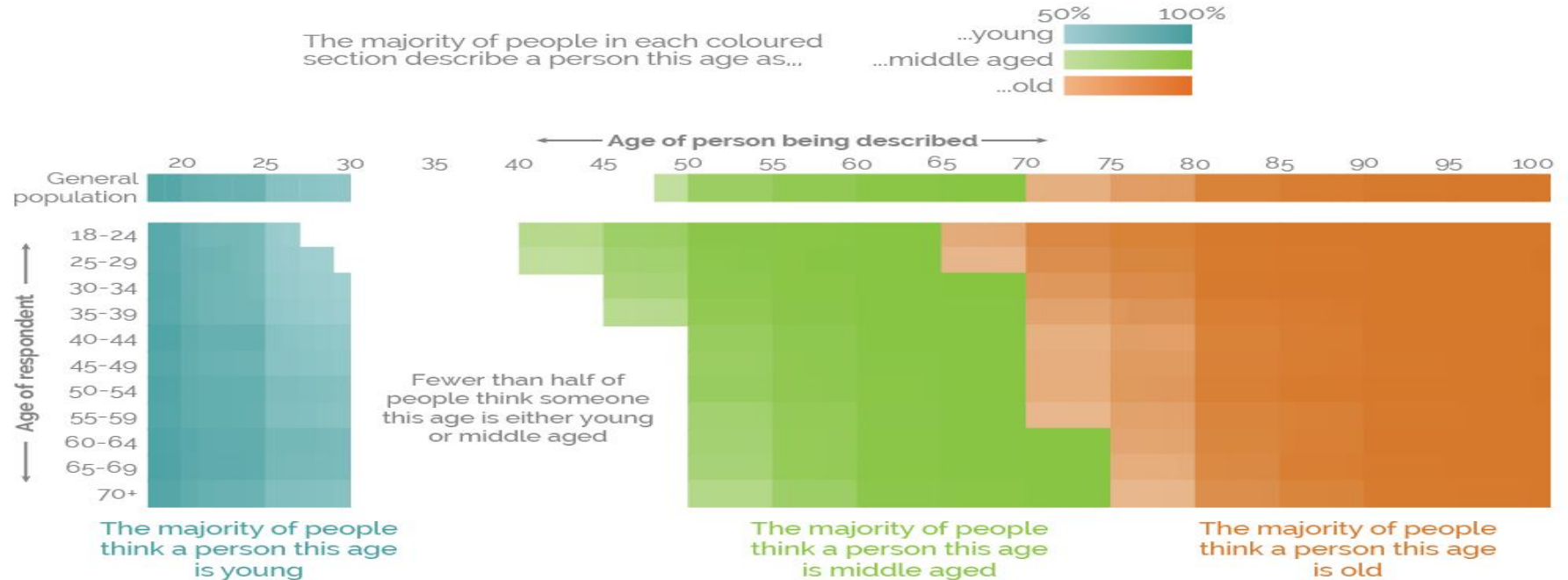
(Age UK, May 2019)
(MHA, May 2022)



What society believes to be young and old

How young are "young people"? Most Brits believe only those under 30 are young

Respondents were asked at what they would stop describing a person to be "young", and at what ages they would start describing them as "middle aged" and "old"





Why does everyone
think this of me?

Nosey

Cranky

Feeble

Burden

Wrinkly

Forgetful

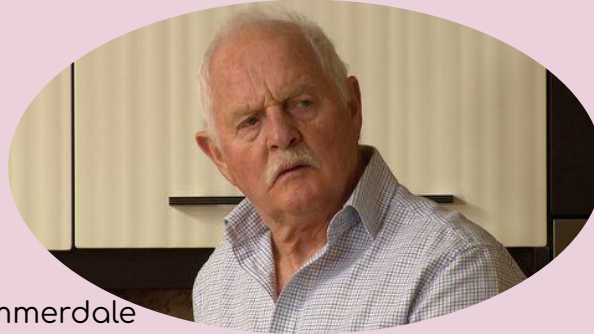
Fragile



TV Shows



Norris - Coronation street



Eric Collard - Emmerdale



Violet Crawley - Downton Abbey



Doris - Gavin and Stacey



Peggy Mitchell-Eastenders



Sister Monica Joan - Call the Midwife



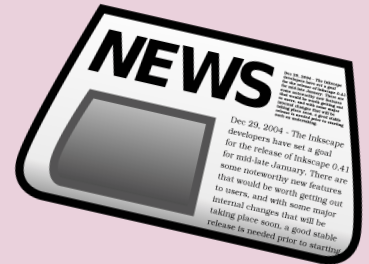
Abe Simpson - The Simpsons

News Reports

“Dementia crisis as £26bn ‘time bomb’ threatens to sink the NHS”.
(ExpressMail, July 2015)

“Old people are an increasing burden but must our young be the ones to shoulder it?”
(TheGuardian, April 2019)

“NHS faces staggering increase in cost of elderly care”.
(TheGuardian, May 2017)



It's not all bad news

**“I don’t fall, I slide”
Older people rebel to
keep sense of control.**

(TheGuardian, December 2022)



**“94-year-old care
home resident fulfils
lifelong dream of
flying a plane.**

(Independent, December 2022)



**“Aging joyfully, Meet
the older people defying
senior stereotypes”**

(PositiveNews, October 2017)

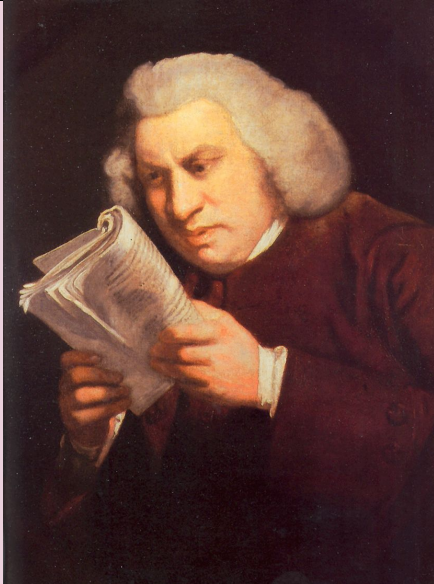


Legislation



- Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
- Well-being of future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011
- Equality Act 2010
- Human Rights Act 1998
- United Nations Principles for Older Persons 1991

Does the legislation work?



- Not enough funding for services
- Going to court is a long and expensive process
- Individuals do not know their rights due to lack of information provided
- Information that is provided is often confusing and not straight forward
- Not enough independent advocates
- Assessments often have waiting lists
- Human Rights Act only applied to local authorities not private sector



Young or old, is there a difference other than age?

Young



Elderly

- To feel like they belong
- To have a sense of purpose in the world
- To have their voices heard
- To have friends
- Find companionship
- To be independent
- To have equal rights and opportunities
- To leave their mark on the world
- To have good health

(Youth Census, 2022)



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(Census, 2021)

How can we change societies perception of aging and older people?

- Education
- Interaction
- Positive experiences
- Making conversations about ageing normal



Benefits of positive attitudes

- Lowers risk of social isolation
- Lowers risk of depression
- Has physical health benefits
- More support
- Keep individuals active in their communities

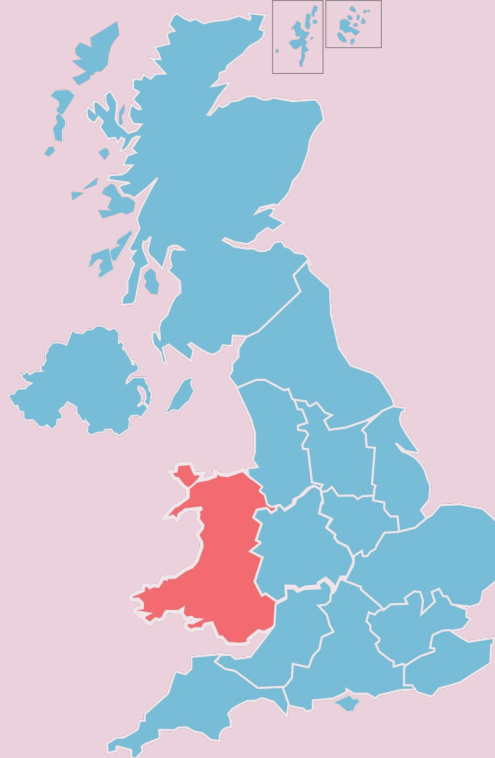
Policy initiatives for including ageing population in society

Wales

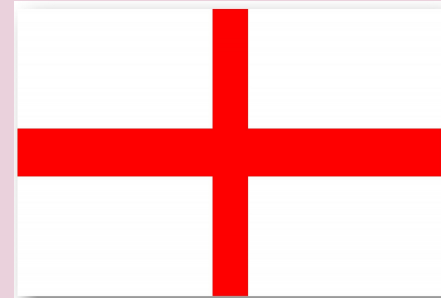


- Strategy for older people (2003- 2013, phase 1&2)
- Strategy for older people in wales (2013-2023 phase 3)
- Age friendly Wales
- Disability: The right to independent living

(Welsh Government, 2021)



England



- Fuller working lives 2014
- A new vision for older workers 2015
- DWP's Digital strategy

(Gov.Uk, 2015)

Conclusion



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