Warm Homes Oldham Evaluation

Year three, 2015/2016
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1 Summary of previous evaluations

Evaluation of the previous two years of the programme have supported the programme aims of improving health and life satisfaction for individuals involved in the scheme. Both previous evaluations highlighted the improvements individuals reported in their health and wellbeing. This is further supported with the qualitative analysis conducted in year two, with individuals highlighting improvements in their general health, management of conditions and general wellbeing.

The evaluation for year two also highlighted the possible impact on service demand as a result of this improvement, with a possible link identified to reducing the volume of demand against Adult Social Care and a reduction in the social worker time with Children’s Social Care.

1.1 Year one (2013-2014) highlights

- 60 per cent of respondents with a physical health problem felt that the initiative had a positive impact on their health
- Four-fifths reported that the project had a positive impact on their general health and wellbeing
- Almost all of those who self-reported as 'high risk' of mental illness moved to 'low risk' following the initiative
- Improvement in health questionnaire scores
- Improvement in life satisfaction

1.2 Year two (2014-2015) highlights

- Overall, there were significant improvements in subjective health, life satisfaction and how people rated their health condition
- Almost two thirds of respondents stated they felt better or their health condition had improved
- One fifth of participants had indicated that they no longer had the ailment they had reported at the initial point of contact with the scheme
- Approximately 40 per cent reported an improvement in their health
- Approximately 60 per cent reported an improvement in life satisfaction improved
- No link with Children’s Social Care demand
- Weak link with decreasing Children’s Social Care social worker time
- Weak link with decreasing Adult Social Care demand
2 Response overview

2.1 Household

In total 610 properties were involved in year three of the project, with 472 completing the pre-intervention questionnaire and 251 completing the post-intervention questionnaire. However, only 245 complete both questionnaires. This equates to 40 per cent of households involved in the project.

Number of questionnaires completed by household

![Bar chart showing the number of questionnaires completed by household.]

In total 464 households met the required improvements in level of fuel poverty to attract the Payment by Results payment, with 87.5 per cent if these households completing at least one questionnaire and 45 per cent completing both.

Number of households hitting screening criteria

![Bar chart showing the number of households hitting screening criteria.]

Over 50
Physical Illness
Under 16
Physical Disability
Frail
Anxiety
Depression
Pregnancy

342
284
191
99
99
62
48
2
The most prominent screening criterion was over 50’s with 342 households involved in the project meeting this. It was possible that households could have met several different elements of the criteria.

### 2.2 Individual

**Number of questionnaires completed by individuals (16+)**

![Bar chart showing the number of questionnaires completed by individuals.](chart.png)

Overall there were 1448 occupants across all the households in the scheme with 1222 within households that attracted the Payment by Results payment.

In total there were 435 under 16 year olds involved in the scheme. The pre and post questionnaires would not have been completed for these. Of the remaining 1013 individuals over the age of 16, 266 completed both the pre and post questionnaire. This equates to 26 per cent of those eligible.
3 Analysis findings

3.1 Reported health conditions

For the purposes of the evaluation, only responses where both the pre-intervention and the post-intervention have been completed will be used to create the evaluation cohort.

Health conditions overview

![Health conditions bar chart]

When considering the reported health conditions by individuals completing a questionnaire, it is clear that the evaluation cohort is generally representative of the overall cohort, with a maximum of only three percentile points difference in any condition.

3.2 Subjective health change

At both the pre-intervention and post-intervention questionnaire, individuals were asked to categorise their overall health with the question:

“Would you say on the whole your health has been…?”

With the following options available:

- Excellent
- Very Good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

This provides us the opportunity to measure any difference in their opinion of their health between the pre-intervention and the post-intervention questionnaire.
Percentage or respondents by health category before and after intervention

There is a clear increase in all categories with the exception of ‘Poor’ suggesting that some movement in health category has been experienced.

The below table looks closer at this, showing that 20 per cent of the respondents reported an improved health category following the intervention. However, over 70 per cent showed no change in health category. This is significantly higher than previous years.

Precentage of respondents and subjective health change

Further supporting the above, respondents were also asked if they still suffered from the illness or ailment reported in the pre-intervention questionnaire, one per cent of respondents reported that they no longer suffered from the illness or ailment. Of the 85 per cent who confirmed they still suffered, 50 per cent stated they felt the condition, although still prevalent had improved as a result of their involvement in the project.
3.3 Life satisfaction

At both the pre-intervention and post-intervention questionnaire, individuals were asked to categorise their life satisfaction with the question:

“All things considered how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your life on the whole nowadays…?”

With the following options available:

- Vert satisfied
- Fairly satisfied
- Neither satisfied or dissatisfied
- Fairly dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

Percentage of respondents by life satisfaction category

![Graph showing percentage of respondents by life satisfaction category]

There is a clear decrease in the percentage of individuals who categorise themselves as ‘Neither satisfied not dissatisfied’, ‘Fairly dissatisfied’ or ‘Very dissatisfied’ with over half of those who fell into these categories before the intervention now describing themselves as ‘Fairly satisfied’ or ‘Very satisfied’.

Overall the percentage of respondents who described themselves as satisfied rose to 77 per cent following the intervention compared to 45 per cent before.
This movement is clearly demonstrated when looking at differences between life satisfaction categories, with 41 per cent of respondents showing an improvement in life satisfaction following the intervention.

When linking this to the subjective impact on health, 33 per cent of those who showed no change or a decrease in the subjective health reported an improvement in their life satisfaction. The link between health and life satisfaction is also evident as those who met the criterion of ‘Physical Illness’, 51 per cent of respondents showed an improvement in life satisfaction.

When looking at the illnesses reported, those who have suffered from a heart attack showed the largest improvement in life satisfaction with 53 per cent showing an improvement. However, only 20 per cent of those suffered from a stroke showed any improvement in life satisfaction.
3.4 Health condition

As part of the post-intervention questionnaire, individuals were asked if they still have the ailment reported in the pre-intervention questionnaire. Only one per cent of individuals reported they no longer have the ailment.

Individuals were further asked if they feel their conditions had improved as a result of their involvement in the project.

Percentage of respondents who still have health condition and if feel improved

The key health conditions that were reported to have improved were arthritis and asthma with 45 per cent of respondents stating there had been an improvement in this ailment. Depression, anxiety and stress were also reported as being greatly improved with 22 per cent of respondents stating this had improved as a result of the intervention.