

Institution: Manchester Metropolitan University		
Unit of Assessment: D32 Art and Design: History, Practice and Theory		
Title of case study: A Neighbourhood model for Age-Friendly Policy and Practice: Engaged design and research for urban ageing		
Period when the underpinning research was undertaken: 2003–2020		
Details of staff conducting the underpinning research from the submitting unit:		
Name(s):	Role(s) (e.g. job title):	Period(s) employed by submitting HEI:
Stefan White Mark Hammond	Professor of Architecture Senior Lecturer	2005–present 2016–present
Period when the claimed impact occurred: 2013–2020		
Is this case study continued from a case study submitted in 2014? No		
1. Summary of the impact <p>The global challenge of population ageing combined with increasing urbanisation demands innovative approaches to planning our cities in order to support people across the life-course. This research has developed community-engaged programmes across the scales of home, neighbourhood and city. It has established the <i>age-friendly neighbourhood approach</i> to engaged design-research with older people, improved quality of life for 19,854 older people across six communities in Manchester and shaped relevant policy and practice through KE partnerships with local government, including the Greater Manchester (GM) 'Ageing in Place' programme (over 12 districts and 151,000 older residents). It has also influenced global policy and practitioner discourse on developing age-friendly cities through our integral contribution to Manchester's status as the first UK World Health Organisation (WHO) Age Friendly City, GM as the first WHO Age-friendly City-region in Europe, and recognition of Manchester as a 4* Pilot site by the European Innovation Partnership for Active and Healthy Ageing.</p>		
2. Underpinning research <p>The Place Health: Architecture Space Environment (PHASE) research group, led by Professor Stefan <u>White</u> and based at Manchester School of Architecture, argues that the global challenge of urban ageing requires two simultaneous responses: a holistic, multi-determinate planning approach to well-being and full, active participation of citizens throughout their life course. The research investigates and acts on these principles through a series of engaged design-research projects developed in close co-creative collaboration with older people and public institutions. Through engaged design and research programmes, PHASE has developed the theoretical, practical and methodological conceptualisation of an 'Age-Friendly Neighbourhood' (AFN). Through a series of exploratory collaborations with local government, housing providers and international academics, the group developed the pioneering 'Age-Friendly Old Moat' (AFOM) project, which is now an internationally recognised best-practice case study [1]. It was the first project to demonstrate how the World Health Organisation's 'Age-Friendly Cities' policy and planning goals could be achieved through highly community-engaged research in specific neighbourhoods. <u>White</u> and <u>Hammond</u> defined the key principles of the 'Age-Friendly Neighbourhoods' model in a chapter included in a book edited by the ESRC International Network on Population Ageing and Urbanisation (INPAU), of which they were co-investigators [2]. Their contribution connects social science techniques to place-based design-research and direct community engagement methodologies.</p> <p>'Age-Friendly Old Moat' continues to have significant influence on policy and practice, notably as the template for the GBP10,200,000 Big Lottery-funded Ambition for Ageing (AfA) programme, which resulted in the development of 24 age-friendly neighbourhoods across Greater Manchester, led by voluntary sector groups including Age UK. Old Moat is also cited</p>		

internationally as a best-practice example of an age-friendly neighbourhood project, and is the basis of the current Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) Ageing in Place strategy. PHASE undertook additional design-research as local delivery leads for the Manchester Age-Friendly Neighbourhoods (MAFN) segment of the AfA programme, including a series of co-produced local planning and research projects in 5 electoral wards, investigating the potential of engaged research and creative methodologies to address issues of social isolation in excluded communities. Hammond is lead author of a chapter documenting this design research, written with White and Professor Christopher Phillipson of University of Manchester [3]. In theoretical terms, this work on age-friendly neighbourhoods has been consolidated by White in chapters related to disability scholarship [4] and touching on the broader ethical and architectural implications of a Deleuzian post-structuralist framing of difference [5].

Other components of the research have included: the development of a multi-award-winning community technology partnership – PlaceCal – to tackle poor access to local information amongst older people; refinement of our data analysis methodologies through collaborations with Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council and Southway Housing Trust, with both projects exploring how data synthesis can be a conduit for more creative and collaborative design processes; and, in collaboration with the Centre for Ageing Better, the development of place-based age-friendly housing strategies across three neighbourhoods in Greater Manchester [6]. Related design-research exploring the role of collective housing options for older people continues to support the construction of new models of older people's co-housing across multiple sites in south Manchester.

3. References to the research

1. **White, S., Phillipson, C., Hammond, M.**, 'Old Moat in an Age Friendly Manchester' (report) 2012. <https://hummedia.manchester.ac.uk/institutes/micra/OLDMOATREPORT110413.pdf>
2. **White, S., and Hammond, M.**, 'From representation to active ageing in a Manchester neighbourhood: Designing the Age Friendly City'. In 'Age-friendly cities and communities: A global perspective' Buffel, T., Phillipson, C., Handler, S. (eds). Policy Press 2018. DOI: 10.1332/policypress/9781447331315.001.0001
3. **Hammond, M., Phillipson, C. White, S.**, 'From precarity to interdependence: the role of age-friendly communities in promoting wellbeing in excluded communities'. In 'Designing Future Cities for Wellbeing'. Boyko, C., Cooper, R., Dunn, N. (eds). Routledge. 2020. ISBN 9781138600782
4. **White, S.**, 'Including Architecture: What can a body do?'. In 'Disability, Space, Architecture: A Reader'. Boys, J. (eds). Routledge. 2017. ISBN 9781138676435
5. **White, S.**, 'The Greater Part: How intuition forms better worlds'. In 'Spinoza's Philosophy of Ratio'. Lord, B., Rawes, P. (eds.) Edinburgh University Press. 2017. ISBN 9781474420433
6. **Hammond, M., Walsh, S., White, S.**, 'Rightsizing: Reframing the Housing Offer for Older People' (report) 2018. https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/media/1168/rightsizing_msa_final3.pdf

Funding and Indicators of Research Quality:

- G1.** Ambition for Ageing, Big Lottery Fund, GBP840,000
- G2.** Innovate UK Healthy Ageing Trailblazers: Stage 1 GBP64,282
- G3.** Southway commissions GBP63,865
- G4.** Centre for Better Ageing (GMCA) commissions GBP144,000
- G5.** GMCA secondment agreement GBP96,000
- I1.** 2018 EU Smart Ageing Prize (Second Place) – PlaceCal

4. Details of the impact

Establishment of the 'neighbourhood approach'

Using innovative participative design-research, PHASE has introduced and defined the concept of an 'Age-Friendly Neighbourhood' (AFN), which translates the WHO Age-Friendly City principles into a place-based, research-led model for local change. This conceptual definition has been produced through creation of methodologies for, and delivery of, a series of age-friendly programmes at a neighbourhood level, notably in the Age-Friendly Old Moat (AFOM) and Manchester Age-Friendly Neighbourhood (MAFN) projects. The 'age-friendly neighbourhood' approach has been a key factor in Greater Manchester being awarded Age-Friendly status in 2017, with 'age-friendly neighbourhoods' a central pillar of their delivery plan [A], as further demonstrated through the use of the AFOM pilot as the template for a five-year GBP10,200,000 programme (Ambition for Ageing - AfA) across 24 neighbourhoods in the city-region. Manchester School of Architecture led five of these areas directly and provided training on participatory action planning methodologies for the seven other local delivery partners. Over 20,000 older people have contributed to the AfA programme since 2016, which has led to over 1,413 local projects (total value GBP2,100,000) being funded [B].

Improved quality of life for older residents

The AFN projects have demonstrated improvements in older residents' well-being and increased levels of social and civic participation. Since completion of the AFOM research, project partner Southway Housing Trust invested GBP730,000 on delivering the age-friendly action plan co-created with local residents alongside related responses such as 277 property refurbishments and 54 new build age-friendly houses. The number of residents who consider their neighbourhood to be age-friendly has increased from 55% to 80% while the number of older people who report feeling lonely or socially isolated has decreased from 21% to 10% as a result of AFOM [C]. MAFN expanded the co-production methodologies pioneered by PHASE across five wards in Manchester. Between 2016-2019, PHASE led over 200 design-research activities with 1,200 individuals and over 6,000 instances of resident participation. MAFN supported each neighbourhood to develop a self-sustaining, independent resident-led multi-stakeholder partnership involving community groups, councillors, council, health and social care services, statutory authorities and the voluntary sector [C]. Each of these co-produced a local neighbourhood action plan and altogether the neighbourhoods co-designed over 150 small projects that address social isolation amongst older people, distributing over GBP356,000 of funding to local initiatives led by older residents.

Local, regional and national policy and practice

Age-Friendly Old Moat is an inspirational case study for the Mayoral Challenge on Age-Friendly Neighbourhoods, launched in 2019 by Greater Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham 'to identify best practice work on ageing within the city-region'. The 2017 GMCA report 'The Future of Ageing in Greater Manchester' sets out the city-region's ambitions for anchoring age-friendliness as a core principle in the region's policies, citing the AFOM project as a model that should be replicated. This policy position was subsequently integrated into the Greater Manchester Strategy [D], adopted by the ten local authorities of Greater Manchester. The policy's delivery mechanism, the 'Ageing in Place Programme', which was launched in 2019, looks to establish age-friendly neighbourhoods across 12 districts within the city-region, with a total older population of 151,000 residents. White and Hammond sit on the academic advisory group for the 'Ageing in Place Programme'. The collaboration with Age-Friendly Manchester (Manchester City Council) and the GM Ageing Hub (Greater Manchester Combined Authority) has significantly shaped strategy, policy and public services within Greater Manchester. This has included two secondments to the GM Ageing Hub at GMCA to develop research-led policy documents, notably supplementary guidance on ageing as part of the forthcoming GM Spatial Framework, which is the 20-year development plan for the city region. These secondments were enabled by White being awarded the Manchester Met 'Metropolis' Chancellor's fellowship. There are 907,000 people aged over 50 in Greater Manchester directly affected by the GM Ageing Hub, regarded by WHO as a best-practice example for ageing policy and practice.

The GM Ageing Hub's 2018 strategy acknowledges Manchester Met as a key partner, and Paul McGarry, Assistant Director at GMCA, explains how working with PHASE '... led us to adopt a focus on creating 'age-friendly neighbourhoods'... [as] a core feature of the Greater Manchester Ageing Strategy, and has been pivotal in a series of delivery programme such as Ambition for

Ageing, the GM Mayoral Challenge on Age-Friendly Neighbourhoods and the Ageing in Place Programme'. He adds that 'Working with PHASE has allowed us to rethink our approach to ageing and the built environment, and the role GMCA has in shaping it... showing how local government, commercial and academic collaboration can take a lead in shaping the market around issues of ageing and inclusion.' [E]. The Rightsizing and Rightplace projects developed to address specific knowledge gaps related to planning for older people around place as identified by the ageing, housing and research teams at GMCA. Both were funded by The Centre for Ageing Better, which has a memorandum of understanding with GMCA to support policy-engaged research. In the foreword to the Rightsizing report, GM Mayor Andy Burnham explicitly recognises that the GMCA's partnership with PHASE 'has helped position Greater Manchester as world-leaders when it comes to research on ageing [urging] policymakers across the UK to capitalise on this expertise we have available'. Findings of this research have subsequently been integrated into GM Housing Strategy and GM Spatial Framework [F] and nationally promoted by the Centre for Ageing Better. Hammond and White's age-friendly housing research has been cited by the International Longevity Centre as a key strength of GM's ageing approach, highlighting the economic opportunities for GM from better responding to the housing needs of older people [G]. Their age-friendly neighbourhood projects are also cited in a report from the Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POSTNote) about 'Creating Age-Friendly Cities'. The All-Party Parliamentary Group in Social Inclusion report 'Healing the Generational Divide' highlighted the integration of research and teaching within Manchester School of Architecture as best practice for exploring issues of ageing and inclusion. The report recommends: "All schools of architecture and architectural practices throughout the UK should be encouraged and supported to explore how living spaces can be designed to promote intergenerational connection." [H]. More recently PHASE is working alongside Design Council, Microsoft, Cisco, Pozzoni Architects, Health Innovation Manchester and GMCA to create a commercial age-friendly design agency, funded by the UKRI Healthy Ageing Trailblazer programme. The aim of this programme is to scale up innovation enabled by PHASE's age-friendly research and apply it to a range of live development projects in 2021-2025.

Global policy and practitioner influence

The strength of Greater Manchester's academic-policy integration on ageing, housing and neighbourhoods is internationally recognised. It contributed to Greater Manchester's age-friendly programme being awarded the maximum 4* status from the EU-led European Innovation Partnership on Active and Health Ageing and was cited as best practice by the Finnish government who recommended adopting the same approach in its national policy [I]. In their 10-year review the World Health Organisation notes in relation to Manchester's ageing programme that 'through partnerships with a local university older people in Manchester have also played an active role as co-researchers investigating and improving the "age- friendliness" of their communities'. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) includes Age Friendly Old Moat as part of an international review of ageing and urbanism [J]. White and Hammond have shared their approach with international delegations from USA, Japan, Portugal, Sweden, Norway, Czech Republic, Netherlands, Belgium and Germany. White provided the keynote address at the launch of Age-Friendly Gothenburg in 2017. White and Hammond have joined Foreign Office policy and research delegations to Wuhan, China, and Montpellier, France. PHASE research is included as a case study in the internationally recognised industry-focused reports series 'Cities Alive' by Arup and in various RIBA publications, including 'The Alternative Age-Friendly Handbook', 'Age-Friendly Housing: Future design for older people' and 'A Home for the Ages' [K].

5. Sources to corroborate the impact

- A. GM Age-Friendly Strategy 2018
- B. Ambition for Ageing: Programme Evaluation Report 2020
- C. Southway Age-Friendly Strategy; additional corroboration available from contact in submission system (Chief Executive, Southway Housing Trust)
- D. The Future of Ageing in Greater Manchester.

- E.** Testimonial, Paul McGarry, Head of the GM Ageing Hub, GMCA. Corroborating PHASE originating input on Greater Manchester policy change.
- F.** GMCA Strategies: Greater Manchester Strategy: Our People, Our Place; GM Housing Strategy; additional corroboration available from contact in submission system (Senior Programme Manager for Homes, Centre For Ageing Better).
- G.** Advantage GM: unlocking the longevity economy for Greater Manchester.
- H.** Parliamentary reports: Healing the Generational Divide; Creating Age-Friendly Cities.
- I.** European policy recognition: Greater Manchester's application for European Innovation Partnership on Active and Health Ageing reference site candidature; Housing for the elderly – anticipation and preparedness in municipalities (Finnish Government).
- J.** International NGO publication: The Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities: Looking back over the last decade, looking forward to the next.
- K.** Industry aligned publications: Arup; RIBA. Corroborating impact of atelier on industry practice.