



November 2024

East Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership, with the support of East Lothian's communities are Planning Older People's Services (POPS).

This November community update includes:

- **POPs public engagement and consultation activities**
- **Recap of engagement and consultation aims**
- **Feedback to date**
- **How you can help spread the word**



eastlothian.gov.uk/pops-consultation

Public engagement and consultation activities

We are currently progressing through our 12-week engagement and consultation programme. This started on Monday 16 September and will continue until Sunday 8 December 2024.

To date, our engagement programme has incorporated:

- A face-to-face event programme held at 7 venues across East Lothian.
- Dedicated focus group sessions with the Independent Community Panel and staff representatives from across East Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership.
- Updated briefings to the Integration Joint Board.
- Online e-consultation platform, providing opportunities to add comments directly onto the engagement and consultation document, as well as responding to direct questions.
- Paper questionnaire, which has been distributed at community engagement events.
- Social media interactions with community group platforms raising awareness of the events and opportunities to feedback on the priorities.
- Internal staff communication briefings on the POPS programme and engagement opportunities.
- E-newsletter updates to our extensive stakeholder engagement database.
- Press release distributed to local news and media outlets.

Recap of engagement and consultation aims

Having engaged with local communities and stakeholders over the past 12 months, the aim of this final stage in the development process, is to gain feedback from the public on the identified priorities which could support the delivery of older people's services for generations to come.

To recap, the four identified priorities include:



1. Palliative and end of life care

To review palliative and end of life care services throughout East Lothian including the development of an end-of-life care sheet. (Option 11 and 14)

Palliative care is defined as an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families who are facing problems associated with life-limiting illness, usually progressive.



2. Polypharmacy

Introduction of wider scale polypharmacy reviews (not exclusive to care home settings) to ensure patients are taking the medicines they need. (Option 95)

In its simplest form the term polypharmacy means “many medications”.



3. Intermediate Care

Investment in existing intermediate care services, including step-down, and development of new care approaches to support independent living at home. (Option 77, 79 and 80)

Intermediate care services are provided to patients, usually older people, after leaving hospital or when they are at risk of being sent to hospital.



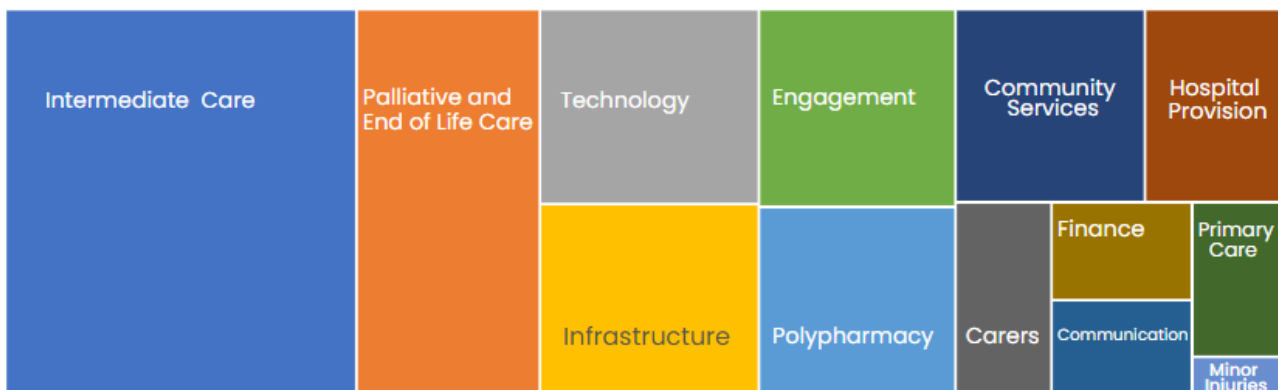
4. Use of technology

To explore better use of technology and associated services to allow people to remain independent and within their own homes for longer. (Option 85)

Feedback to date

So far, our engagement activities have generated over 390 comments. Most of the comments, 66%, have been directly related to the four priorities and the engagement process. The remainder have focused on other aspects of health and social care services, and general comments about infrastructure, housing, policy, transport, and staff provision. The current financial position has also been a recurring theme, along with community services, access to hospitals beds and primary care services.

Engagement % by theme

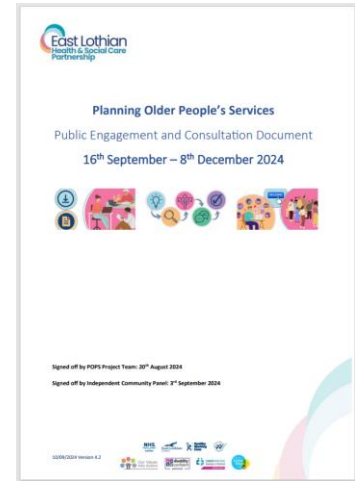


How you can help spread the word

There is still plenty time to get involved. You can share the [Engagement and Consultation Document](#) with your networks, service users and colleagues, and ask them to get in touch.

You could also:

- Add the POPS engagement and consultation programme as an agenda item at your next meeting.
- Share this email with your contacts / distribution lists.
- Share our social media posts on your own platforms.
- Talk to colleagues, friends, neighbours, customers, contacts about this project.



Feedback can be provided via:



The online survey

Where you can review the POPS Project in its entirety and complete the online feedback questions: www.eastlothian.gov.uk/pops-consultation



Sending an e-mail

You can share your feedback with directly via the POPS engagement team via email: engagement-hscp@eastlothian.gov.uk



Through social media

You can engage with us through social media:
[Facebook: @elhscp](#) [X: @elhscp](#)



Visiting the website

We have created a dedicated website www.eastlothian.gov.uk/elhscp/pops which provides full details of the engagement opportunities available.

We very much appreciate your support throughout this project and look forward to hearing from you in this final stage of public engagement.



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