

FINANCE COMMITTEE

DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE AND AGEING POPULATION INQUIRY

SUBMISSION FROM SCOTTISH COLLABORATION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH AND POLICY

1. Although we see clearly the importance of the inquiry's focus, our public health focus in the Collaboration since its founding in 2008, with respect to looming policy challenges for health and social care in the elderly, has been rather different.
2. We have focused on summarizing the global scientific literature on the effectiveness of community-based programmes and policies that have been tried around the world, to reduce the development of disability in such a way as to maintain functional independence, and facilitate living at home as long as possible -- rather than projections of demographic trends or care costs per se.
3. Our comprehensive scientific review of this subject -- "Promoting Health & Wellbeing in Later Life: Interventions in Primary Care and Community Settings" -- is available for free download on our website:
www.scphrp.ac.uk/node/198.
4. We welcome dialogue with the Committee on the content of this review, and any related topics of interest to them.