Flipchart Notes- End of Life Care

Issues:

Stigma attached to end of life - "waiting for God"

Feelings of immobility

Feel a burden to the family

When one partner dies this can lead to a decline in health and increased isolation for the surviving partner

Media scare stories

Need to talk more about end of life and death in a humorous/creative way

End of life education needed earlier

Emotional trauma of death of loved ones

End of life information is out there but people are not signposted to it well enough eg Power of Attorney

Young people do not plan early enough for their old age

The costs of funeralcare have doubled

Lack of information on burial options, "green funerals" and costs

Some over 50s leave work due to ill health and do not have the financial means to support themselves in later life

More affordable housing for seniors is needed

Lack of signposting and knowledge of care options and affordability

People in care can end up far away from families unless they are self-funded

People are living longer, there are waiting lists for care homes

Visits of health care workers to care home residents are time restricted

Care workers are poorly trained and poorly paid

Should have the option and help to live at home

Priorities for action:

1. An "Age Friendly Roadshow" to provide information and financial advice to allow early end of life and estate planning

2. A "Social Tax" of 40p to reduce the social care burden on local authorities - National Insurance ringfenced funds could ensure guaranteed payment for services in later life

3. A national plan for care home building, properly funded, like in Switzerland and Germany

4. A programme of fun and creative education as a way to discuss end of life issues without the stigma

5. Grants available to adapt homes