

*Showing the way: developing an evaluation framework for signage
for people living with dementia*

Information for potential participants

Showing the Way is a collaborative research development project, led jointly by the School of Health in Social Science at the University of Edinburgh and Hammond Care Australia. The project is funded by the Dementia Collaborative Research Centre in Australia. Our collaboration brings together social science researchers, design academics, people who are experiencing dementia, the design industry and researchers in dementia care.

The long-term goal of our collaboration is to develop fresh approaches to signage in dementia environments that help people with dementia find their way around.

Showing the Way will run from February 2015 to October 2015. By the end of this phase of our work, we will have established a method that will help us design a robust framework for evaluating signage in dementia settings.

Showing the way will involve people with a comprehensive range of expertise, to answer three key *research questions*:

- 1. What is our shared understanding of the key terms to be used in evaluating signage for people living with dementia?*
- 2. What measures should we use when evaluating signage for people living with dementia?*
- 3. Based on the above, what methods should be used in evaluative framework?*

Summary

***Showing the Way* is a collaborative research development project which is seeking to develop a fresh approach to designing and evaluating signage for dementia environments.**

The project will involve researchers, designers, people with direct experience of dementia and people who care for them. The project is jointly led by the University of Edinburgh and HammondCare (Australia).

By the end of the project, we will have worked together to create a way to evaluate signage in dementia settings

We want to prioritise involvement of people with dementia throughout this work.

How you can be involved

We are looking for a range of views, experiences and perspectives, both theoretical and practical, in order to answer these questions.

This means we want to include:

- People with dementia
- Immediate carers of people with dementia
- Academics from: social sciences, design, social geography and other relevant disciplines.
- The design industry
- People who work with people with dementia
- Others who identify themselves as having expertise or interest

There are two ways in which you can be involved:

- (1) Participating in the *Showing the Way* Workshops, which will be held in Scotland and Australia in April 2015.
- (2) Being part of the *Showing the Way* Delphi panel.

There are two main ways you can be involved:

1. Coming along to a *Showing the Way* Workshop in April 2015. At this workshop we will work together to decide the terms and methods that are going to be explored through the project

2. Being part of a panel of experts called a Delphi panel who will work together to arrive at shared definitions for the terms and methods that were decided on at the workshop

Showing the Way workshops

The workshop will bring together an initial group of people with a range of interest and expertise.

The workshop in Edinburgh will take place on Thursday 23rd April 2015 from 12pm to 3pm at Room 1.19, Paterson's Land, Moray House School of Education, University of Edinburgh, Holyrood Road, EH8 8AQ.

The workshop will be interactive, using a "World Café" style format: participants will rotate round a series of activities, leaving a trail of responses for other participants to add to.

Discussion areas will include:

1. The essential elements required in designing signage for dementia environments.
2. The limitations of signage currently used in dementia environments.
3. Measures to be considered when evaluating signage in dementia environments.
4. Possible approaches to evaluating dementia signage features
5. Limitations of current approaches to evaluating dementia signage features.

Emerging from the workshops, therefore, will be (1) the list of terms to be defined through the Delphi process and (2) the questions and approach taken in the Delphi study

Showing the Way Delphi panel

A Delphi process is a series of questionnaires (known as rounds) that aim to achieve consensus. It will be informed by the outputs of the workshop. There will be three rounds to the Delphi: May, June and July 2015.

Participation in the Delphi will be remote

They will establish the range of views within the group on definitions of a) the essential elements and b) measures to be considered that were

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The Delphi panel will be facilitated remotely, with participants taking part via e-mail or letter.

identified at the workshops. They will try to gain consensus of importance definitions and measures within the group. All participants will be expected to take part in all three rounds. Participation will be through documents circulated to the panel, with face-to-face support offered for people with dementia and carers.

Interested in taking part?

If you would like to take part in this work, please complete the *Showing the Way* response slip (which you should have received with this information sheet), indicating how you wish to be involved and your areas of interest and expertise.

“By design, we can create environments that will enable rather than disable people with dementia. Indeed, environments that work for people with dementia work for all of us...” (Pollock and Fuggle 2013).

If you are interested in taking part, please complete a response slip, or contact.....

Liz Taylor

***btaylor2@exseed
.ed.ac.uk***

If you know of someone else who may be interested in this work, please do pass details on.

Showing the Way: response slip

Thanks for taking some time to consider taking part in *Showing the Way*.

If you are interested in taking part in the workshop or the Delphi panel please return this form to Liz Taylor [**btaylor2@exseed.ed.ac.uk**](mailto:btaylor2@exseed.ed.ac.uk)

By 13 April 2015

One of the team will then be in touch with you to finalise plans for the workshops and/or Delphi study, including any support you may need to take part.

Section one: getting involved

Please indicate below how you would like to be involved:

I have read the *Showing the Way* briefing document and would like to find out more about taking part in:

The Workshop: Yes/No

The Delphi group : Yes/No

Section two: my interests and expertise

Please indicate your area of interest by ticking/ adding details as appropriate. This is so that we can make sure that we have a range of people with a range of interests involved. If we receive responses from more people than our resources will support to take part, we will select participants based on the spread of views and expertise covered.

I am a person with a diagnosis of dementia

I am an immediate carer of a person with a diagnosis of dementia

I am a researcher in the field of..... and would contribute my interest into the development of an evaluative framework for signage in dementia settings.

I work in the design industry and have a specific interest in.....

.....

I work with people with dementia in the role of.....and
would contribute my interest in.....to the
development of an evaluative framework for signage in dementia settings.

I have expertise/ interest in.....
(not listed above).

Name:

Best means of contact [please provide a telephone number, e-mail or postal
address where we can contact you to discuss involvement]

Please complete this response slip and return to Liz Taylor
btaylor2@exseed.ed.ac.uk by 13 April 2015