***Question***

Cultural institutions as social prescribing venues to improve older people’s wellbeing in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic: What works, for whom, in what circumstances and why?

***Objectives***

1. To create a programme theory centred on optimising the use of the cultural sector for social prescribing for older people within the context of COVID-19;
2. To develop dimensions of the programme theory with national and international stakeholders;
3. To test and refine the programme theory in the real world by:
   1. Assessing what older people find helps or what hinders them from using the cultural sector for wellbeing, especially in the context of COVID-19;
   2. Evaluating what role link workers perceive for the cultural sector in terms of social prescribing in the context of COVID-19;
   3. Exploring challenges and potential solutions for cultural sector staff in providing social prescribing opportunities in the context of COVID-19.
4. To understand how the cultural sector can build on, refine and adapt what it has offered previously to older people (pre COVID-19) to support their wellbeing, so that going forward they can work with and help a diverse range of individuals with specific needs in the context of operating environments, new regulations and restrictions during the current pandemic and its subsequent recovery period.
5. To develop recommendations that can be applied to practice within the cultural sector.