## **Falls Prevention**

The Leeds Approach



Sharon Hughes
Falls Project Manager
Office of the Director of Public Health
Leeds City Council





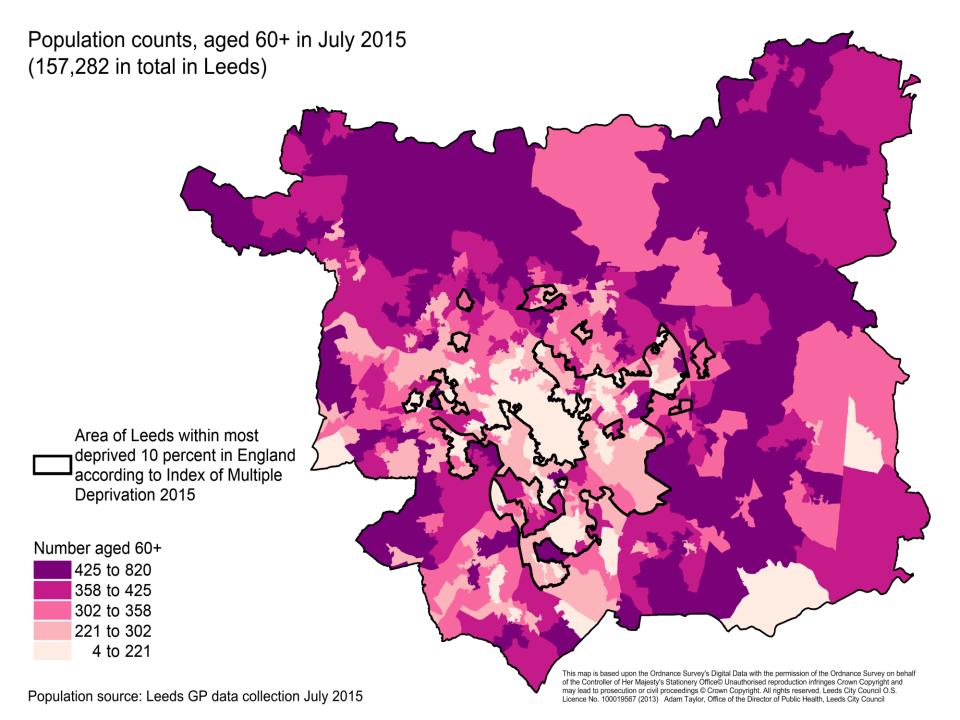
In Leeds, as we grow up and as we grow old, Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2021 12 City where people age well Indicators Priority A Child Friendly We have a bold ambition: areas City and 'Leeds will be the best city Infant mortality Good educational engaged and start for health and wellbeing'. attainment at 16 well-connected People earning a Living Wage communities Incidents of domestic violence And a clear vision: The best care, Incidents of hate crime 'Leeds will be a healthy and n the right place, People affording to heat at the right time and the their home caring city for all ages, Young people in employment, where people who are the education or training poorest improve their Adults in employment to be health health the fastest'. Physically active adults Children above a healthy weight In our city... Avoidable years of life lost Outcomes wellbeing starts Adults who smoke A valued, well A strong People supported to manage trained and We with people and economy with their health condition supported quality, local jobs do, Children's positive view workforce everything is People will live of their wellbeing longer and have the Early death for people with connected healthier lives a serious mental illness Employment of people with People will live a mental illness full, active and Unnecessary time patients Promote menta independent lives Get more spend in hospital Support self-care, with more people managing their own conditions

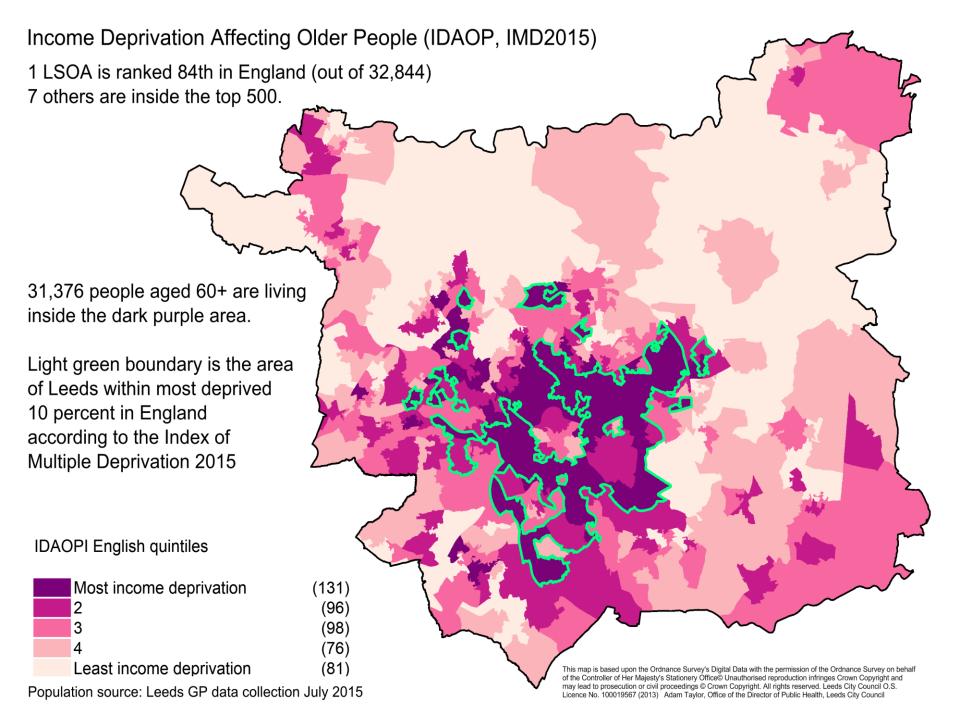
A stronger focus on prevention

This and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2021 Time older people spend People's quality of life will health equally physically in care homes be improved by access to Preventable hospital quality services admissions Repeat emergency visits People will be actively to hospital involved in their health Carers supported and their care People will live in healthy, safe and sustainable communities

Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2021

oods Health and Wellbeing Board

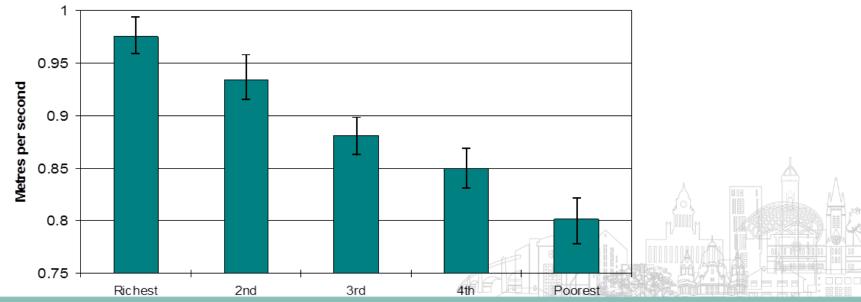




#### **Inequalities in Leeds**

Life expectancy - 10.8 years lower for men and 8.5 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Leeds than in the least deprived areas. (PHE 2015).

#### Mean walking speed and wealth, people aged 60+









#### The Falls Picture in Leeds

Age standardised rate of hospital admissions due to falls (aged over 65)

- England 2125
- Yorkshire & Humber 2041
- Leeds 2382

Source: Public Health Outcomes Framework October 2015

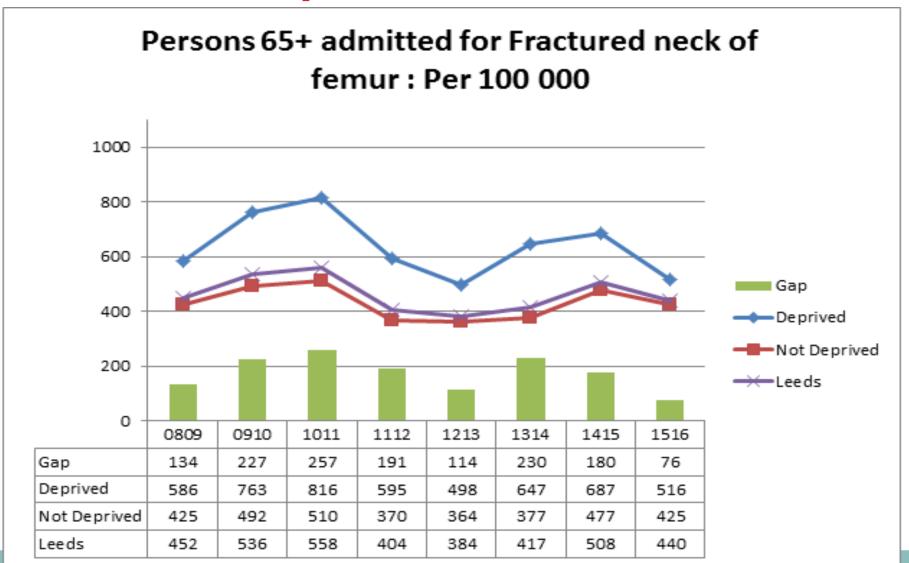


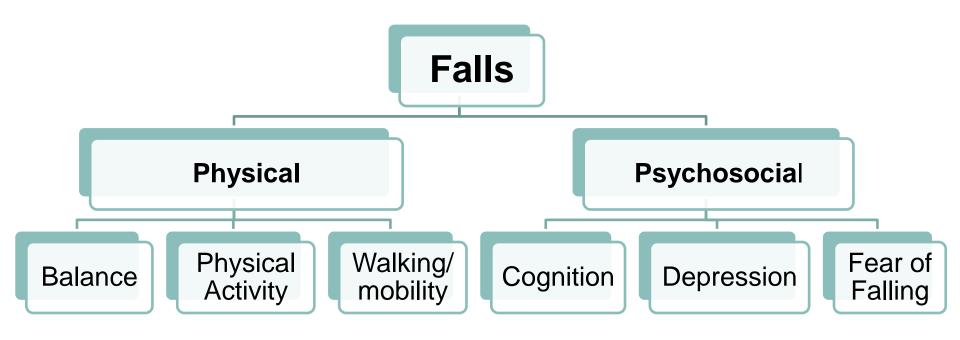






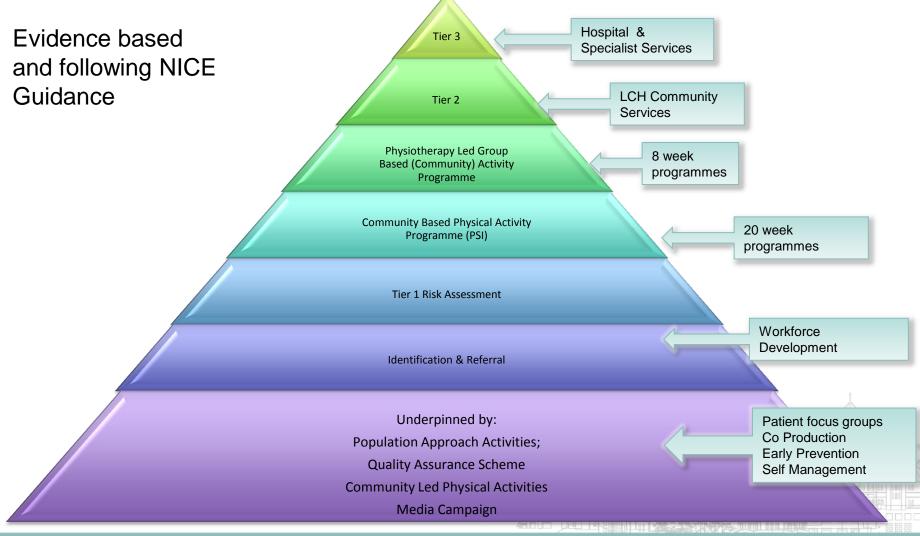
# **Hip Fracture Rates**





Falls are multifactorial in nature, however modifiable risk factors that predispose an individual to fall have been identified which present opportunities to implement interventions designed to reduce falls and improve successful aging (Rubenstein and Josephson, 2002).

# The Approach









# Campaign



www.leeds.gov.uk/fallproof









# **Quality Assurance Scheme** "Make It Fall Proof" Award

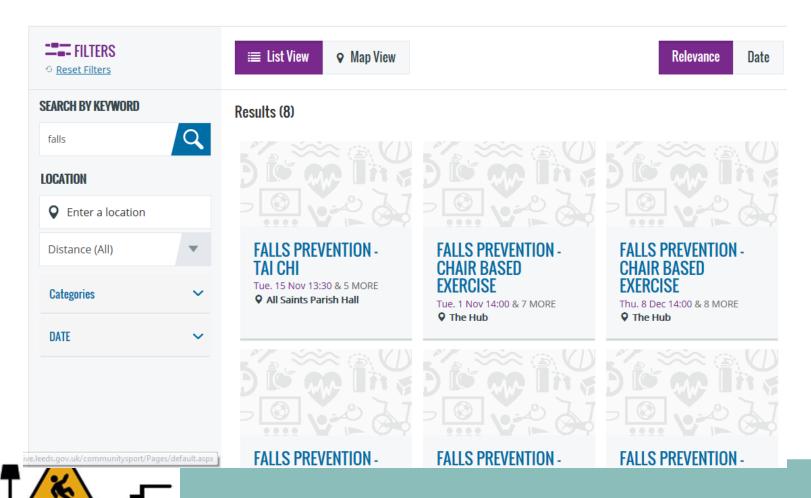
- Accreditation scheme to assess and maintain quality in community exercise programmes suitable for older people.
- Build capacity within communities for low level exercise provision suitable for people at risk of falls including - Tia Chi, Zumba Gold, chair based, Extend, Yoga
- Coordination of community exercise provision, information on one website.
- Benefits of accreditation
  - Mentoring by PS instructors
  - Apply for small grant funding
  - PS instructors to refer new clients
  - Accredited providers will be advertised on the website
  - Low cost training
  - Newsletter



### **Make It Fall Proof Award**

Home > Community Sport > Community Sessions and Events

#### **COMMUNITY SESSIONS AND EVENTS**



# **Postural Stability Classes**

- PSI classes deliver the FaME programme, a four point plan to:
  - Improve balance and co-ordination
  - Increase functional capacity
  - Increase bone and muscle mass,
  - Increase confidence 'reduce fear of falling'
  - Delivered by
  - A Postural Stability Instructor (PSI) Level 4 exercise qualification which included FaME and Atago.
  - FaME = Falls Management Exercise
  - Atago which is a falls exercise programme which originated in New Zealand.







## **PSI Classes**



#### **Current Referral Network**



- Improved TUG scores
- Improvements in FESi scores
- Clients Improved Confidence
- Ability to get back up from floor
- Reduction in walking aid use









# 8 Week Physiotherapy Led Programmes

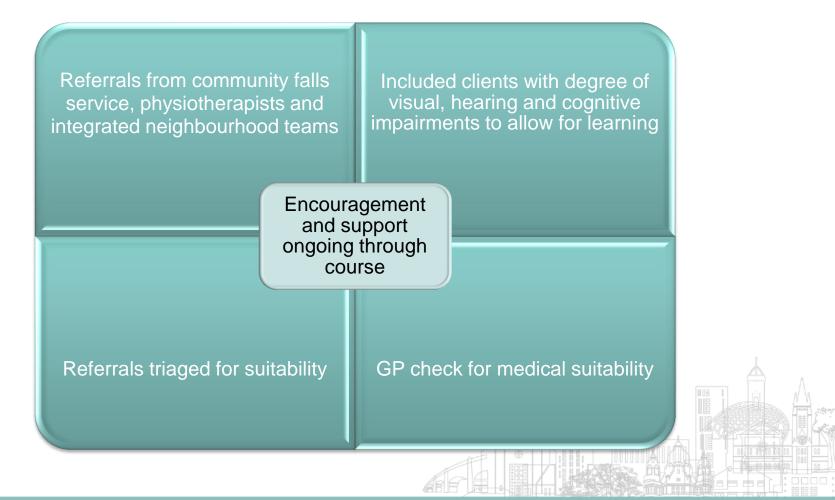
- Referrals through existing falls service
- De-escalate clients
- Creation of pathway for ongoing longer term support
- More patients, together at the same time in a group setting
- Falls prevention and management potentially more clinically efficient and productive
- Group programmes offer a progression from home-based exercise programmes
- Complement the falls prevention and management programmes provided by Falls Service.







#### **Structure and Content**

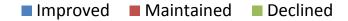


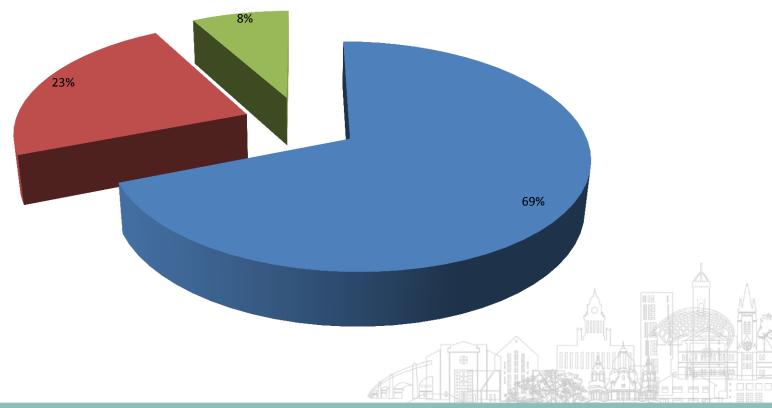






#### **Short FESi Scores**



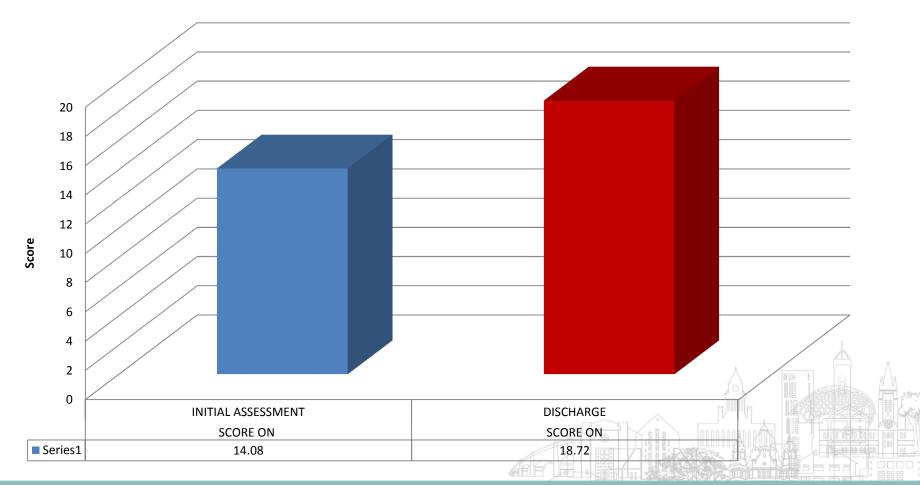








#### **Tinetti Score**

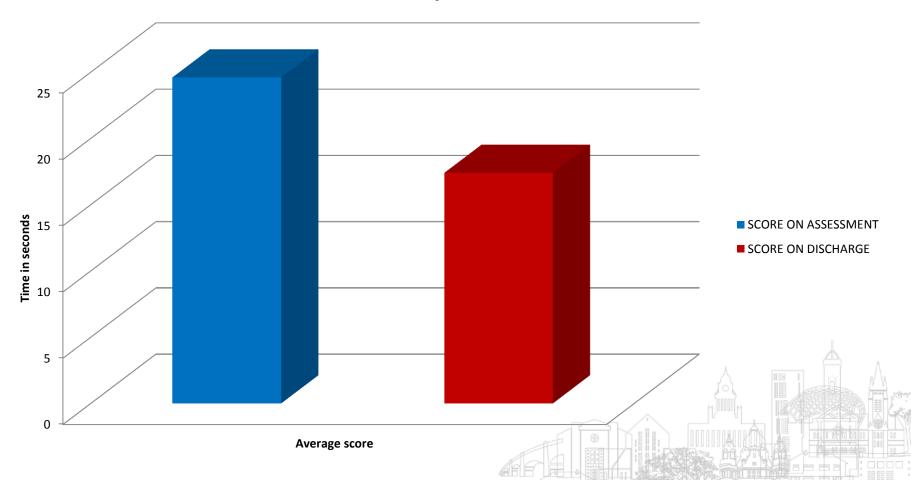








#### **Timed Up And Go**









## **Dancing in Time**

Feasibility and acceptability of a contemporary dance programme to modify risk factors of falling in community dwelling older adults.





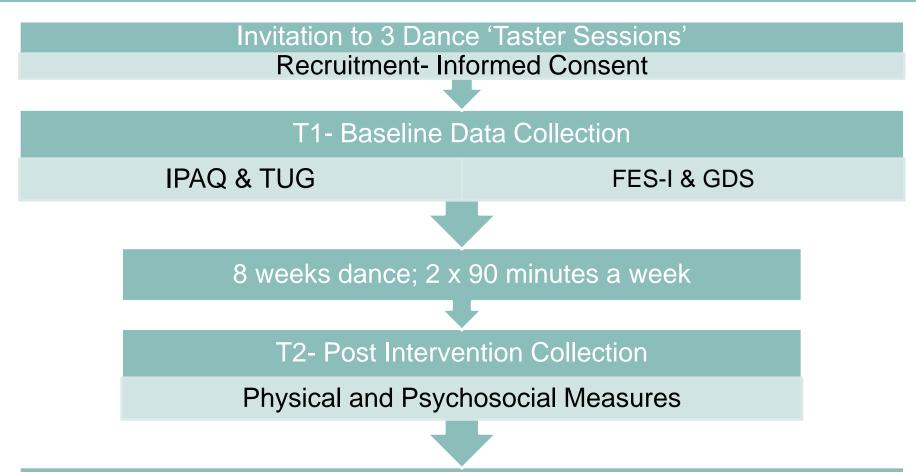
Low impact, open to all regardless of physical condition.

Improve or interpret music at a person centred level
Includes balance, flexibility, aerobic exercise and low level resistance

## **Dancing In Time**

- The aim: examine the effect of an 8 week CD programme on both physical and psychosocial risk factor for falls (Lamb et al., 2005).
- Intervention acceptability and feasibility addressed by documenting:
- Attrition and adherence rates,
- Changes in physical and psychosocial risk factor for falls.
- Focus groups to document participants' views of the intervention and affect.

## Methodology



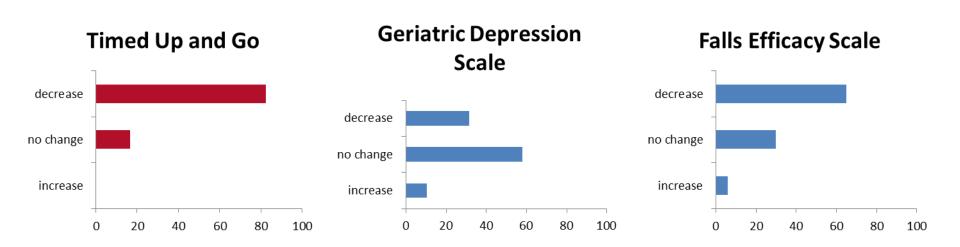
#### Focus Group

(1) experiences of the dances programme (2) perceptions of how the dance had affected them (3) facilitators and barriers to participation in dance programme.

## Behavioural Responses TUG, GDS, FES-I

Behavioural Responses	T1	T2
Timed Up and Go (seconds)	10.1 (4.2)	7.7 (2.8)**
Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS)	3.2 (3.3)	2.1 (2.8)**
Falls Efficacy Scale (FES)	27.6 (9.9)	23.7 (8.6)**

<sup>\*\*</sup> Indicates a significantly different mean score at T2 compared to T1.



# The dance programme as a means of being active

- The need to be active
- A new way of exercising, different to current opportunities
- Exercising in a group supports attendance and enjoyment



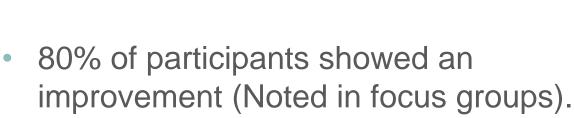


# **Main Findings**

- The attrition rate was 15%.
- There was an overall adherence rate of ~72% for all attendees.
- Increase in moderate and vigorous PA patterns.
- Decreases in the time taken to complete the TUG, fear of falling and depression.
- Dance Programme regarded the dance favourably, noting gains to overall health and well-being.

# Positive effects on 'Physical' risk factors- Balance and Mobility

 The mean TUG score at T2, comparable to the lower end of the range for 60 to 69 year olds (Bohannon, 2006).



 TUG data suggest that CD could help improve balance, either direct or indirectly





## Positive effects on 'Psychosocial' risk factors-Depression and Fear of Falling'

- Even with low baseline score, still significant improvement in mood, suggesting CD can also improve mental health. This was also noted in the focus groups.
- Fear of falling scores decreased by ~4 points, 65% of participants scored less T2 compared to T1.
- Additional physical activity or effects of dance on balance and muscle strength could have driven the significant decrease in fear of falling.
- Ways of reducing fear of falling is vital to not only prevent falls, but to also prevent frailty.

#### What Next?

- Testing using strength & balance in alternative activities
- Securing funding to extend provision
- Technological Developments
- Sustainability









# **Summary**

- High % adherence
- Decreases in time spent sitting in the week
- Increase in moderate and vigorous physical activity patterns during the week
- Statistical significance in time taken to complete Time Up and Go
- Decreases in fear of falling
- Increases in confidence
- Increases in functional markers
- Reported improvements in mental wellbeing
- Increased levels of happiness
- Enjoyed the group nature

#### **Thank You & Questions**

Sharon Hughes
Falls Project Manager
Sharon.hughes@leeds.gov.uk

Office of the Director of Public Health Leeds City Council







