

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL TRUSTEE

My somewhat desperate efforts to fulfil my election pledges for my first 100 days in office were described in my last report.

The consultation programme with u3a members on the Fit for the Future proposals to change the governance of the Third Age Trust got underway on the 22nd January 2024 with the release of the materials for a UK-wide series of presentations on the proposals, and the first presentation in the East Midlands, and indeed in the whole UK, was delivered by Allan Walmsley, the National Vice-Chairman, in Nottinghamshire on the 24th January.

Since then, the presentation has been delivered, sometimes face to face and sometimes remotely, in the Lincoln, Leicestershire and Rutland, Northamptonshire, Derbyshire and East Lincolnshire areas, the last taking place on the 28th March.

I gained the overall impression from these meetings that the proposals were well received by the members attending, and that the many questions raised after the presentations were thought-provoking and constructive, so there is scope for optimism, in the East Midlands at least, that the proposals will attract the required level of support, though more work may need to be done on the practical aspects.

They say that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy - how true!

I did receive a very kind invitation to West Wolds u3a's 25th anniversary celebration at Market Rasen in March, only to have my hopes of cakes and bubbly dashed by an attack of Covid! Never mind, the next 12 months are going to be even more interesting!

John Lewis

East Midlands Regional Trustee