

The Strategy for Older People in Wales

The *Strategy for Older People in Wales*, the first ever in Wales, was published by the Welsh Assembly Government in January 2003. It built on the Advisory Group report *When I'm 64 ... and more* which was published in May 2002 and had over 1,000 contributions from people in Wales. £10m is available to support its implementation.

Five key aims:

1. Tackle discrimination, promote positive images, provide strong voice
2. Promote and develop capacity to work and active contribution
3. Promote health and well being through integrated responsive services
4. Provide high quality services and support for independent living
5. Provide funding as a catalyst for change, innovation and planning

Chapter	
• Background	• demographic changes will alter the balance of the population • strategy will provide high level framework for other policies • complements UK's <i>Better Government for Older People</i> • voluntary and independent sectors will be key partners • local authorities have a key role
People	• older people have a wealth of experience and knowledge • programme of citizenship • discrimination needs to be addressed • build older people perspective into all policy development • an effective voice for older people • benefits of involvement of older people in their communities • many older people have difficult economic circumstances • older people have concerns about personal & community safety
• Changing Society	• the demographic changes raise economic issues • increased employment/entrepreneurship activity is important • increased demand for health and social care workers • benefits of lifelong learning
• Living Longer and Healthier	• added years need to be accompanied by good health • services that older people use need to work together • housing is important • primary care has a key role in maintaining health • Welsh language needs have to be met
• Increasing Dependency	• older people want to maintain independence, mobility & health • older people want to stay in their own home as long as possible • housing, health and social care services are important • accepting long term care is a major lifestyle change
• Making It	

This aide memoiré has been produced by Healthcare Alliances and does not necessarily represent the policy of the Welsh Assembly Government. It is designed to be read in conjunction with the substantive document which can be downloaded from the web site of the Welsh Assembly Government:
<http://www.wales.gov.uk/subisocialpolicy/content/older/older-people-final-e.pdf>



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Action Plan

(Welsh Assembly Government action unless otherwise stated)

1. **Cabinet Sub-Committee for Older People:** by Summer 2003 to ensure co-ordinated and holistic approach
2. **National Partnership Forum for Older People:** by end 2003 to advise the Welsh Assembly Government
3. **Engagement:** statutory bodies to build engagement and participation of older people into planning and consultative systems by April 2004
4. **Post Offices:** establish fund to develop as community economic development centres in deprived and isolated areas
5. **Rural Access:** regeneration measures funded under the LEADER+ Programme including access to retail and other services
6. **Community Transport:** revenue funded under Rural Transport Grant Schemes
7. **Transport:** extension of free travel on local buses to men aged 60-64 from April 2003
- experiences and future needs
9. **Intergenerational Links:** plan of action by April 2004 for building community regeneration based on best practice
10. **Self Employment:** action research into barriers and business start-up support for people over the age of 50 and other under-represented groups
11. **Learning:** promotion of information and advice to widen participation: ELWa and Careers Wales
12. **Recruitment and Retention:** Age Positive Initiative and employment targets
13. **Health, Social Care and Well-being Strategies:** local authorities and local health boards to have in place by April 2005
14. **Health Promotion Action:** 3 year framework to reflect available resources
15. **National Service Framework (NSF) for Health and Social Care for Older People:** May 2003 - consultation on draft NSF, issued in Summer 2003
16. **Housing:** i) evidence base by late 2003 ii) private sector renewal system evaluated by 2004 iii) monitor handy-person services by 2004 iv) interim evaluation of Home Energy Efficiency System for Winter 2002/3 v) rural housing markets study
17. **Carers:** develop services, communicate best practice, develop support initiatives
18. **Promote Care Sector:** report of the Wales Care Strategy Group
19. **Care Standards Act:** strengthen regulation and inspection by introducing regulations and minimum standards; domiciliary care by January 2004; day centres by end 2004
20. **Intermediate Care Planning:** issue guidance to meet short and long term care needs
21. **Avoid Unnecessary Hospital Admissions & Prolonged Hospital Stays:** i) delayed transfers of care grant scheme ii) guidance for discharge processes iii) rapid response adaptations programme iv) "change agent" activity

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