



City of Banyule

Older Adults Strategic Plan

2017 – 2021



Banyule City Council would like to say thank you to the Banyule Age-friendly City Advisory Committee, Age-friendly Champions and the hundreds of residents that have contributed to the establishment of this Strategic Plan.

We look forward to continuing this journey with you.

Further information

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Executive Summary

Purpose

Banyule's Older Adults Strategic Plan 2017 – 2021 provides a roadmap for Council and others to follow to support the health and wellbeing of all residents, in particular older adults. Underpinned by our Older Adults Policy Statement the plan's goals provide Council clear areas of focus for the four-year period.

Policy Context

The policy context of Banyule's Older Adults Strategic Plan is influenced from International, National and State levels. In all these documents the importance of local government's role in supporting environmental, social and economic factors that influence the health and wellbeing of older adults is acknowledged.

Relationship with the City Plan

The Banyule Older Adults Strategic Plan supports all five objectives in the Banyule Council Plan 2017 - 2021, with the primary link to the objective on *People: strong, healthy and inclusive communities*.

About Banyule's Older Adults

In Banyule, the number of older adults aged 50+ years is 43,617, representing 36% of the total population. In comparison, the proportion of older adults in Greater Melbourne is lower at 31%. In Banyule the largest population of older adults reside in the suburbs of Greensborough, Ivanhoe and Bundoora.

The Banyule older adult population is forecast to increase by 9,857 persons, making up 37% of Banyule's total population by 2036. The suburb that will experience the largest increase in the number of older adults is Ivanhoe, followed by Heidelberg and Greensborough.

Why choose 50+ years?

Council has chosen the chronological age of 50+ years to define 'older'; however, there is no 'typical' older person. Banyule would like to focus on the abilities of older people to support them to navigate their changing world and to invent new, better and more opportunities to achieve the things that people value as they age.

Optimize Functional Ability

Creating an age-friendly environment needs to encompass the entire context in which we live. As identified by the World Health Organisation, a key component for this is to optimise functional ability. Five strong interconnected domains of functional ability are essential for enabling older adults to do things that they value. These are the abilities to:

- Meet their basic needs
- Learn, grow and make decisions
- Be mobile
- Build and maintain relationships
- Contribute¹.

Current Status

On 6 October 2014, Council adopted the motion to apply for membership to the World Health Organisation's Global Network of Age-friendly Cities. In November 2014, Banyule was accepted by the World Health Organisation. In joining the Global Network, Council made a commitment to a

¹ World Health Organisation, 2016, World Report on Ageing and Health, Summary P19.

cycle of continual improvement to influence positively the health and quality of life of older people. A core aspect to the Age-friendly City approach is to include older people as active participants throughout the process.

The Age-friendly Advisory Committee was established in December 2014. The Committee comprises of up to 15 members and two Councillors.

Following a high level of interest from residents, the Age-friendly Champion program was established in February 2015. This volunteer-based initiative is open to all residents. Age-friendly Champions are invited to be involved in projects that influence and shape our City to improve the quality of life of older people.

Council became a signatory to the Victorian Age-friendly Declaration in mid-2016 and adopted the Age-friendly Banyule Policy Direction in September 2016.

An Age-friendly Banyule enables people to actively participate in their community and treats everyone with respect, regardless of their age. Banyule is a place that enables and encourages older people to stay connected to their community. That is a community which helps people stay healthy and active at all ages and provides support and advocacy for those who require it. Integral to the process is the inclusion of older people as active participants in the process.

The policy statement has provided the vision for the development of Banyule's Older Adults Strategic Plan.

Goals (What we want to achieve)

Healthy Ageing: Older residents have opportunities to maintain and improve their health and wellbeing.

Social Participation: Older residents are encouraged to, and have opportunities to, participate in the community.

Community Support and Health Services: Older residents have community support and health services available to meet their needs.

Civic Participation and Employment: Older residents are actively involved in the community.

Ageism and Respectful Inclusion: Older residents are valued and the community benefits from their contribution.

Communication and information: Older residents are able to easily access information about their community and services.

Housing: Older residents have a range of housing options to meet their needs.

Transportation: Older residents are able to easily move about Banyule to participate in the community and have access to services.

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings: Older residents have access to pleasant, safe and healthy environments.

Action Plan

The Banyule Older Adults Action Plan will complement the delivery of this Strategy. The Action Plan will outline specific actions that will enable Council to achieve the Goals, along with identifying Council's role and partnerships.

The Action Plan will be considered on a regular basis as part of the Council's annual budget process. It will identify new and innovative actions happening across Council Departments. It will not list all actions Council does to support older adults.

The Banyule Age-friendly Cities Advisory Committee will oversee the implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan.

Conclusion

Council recognises its important role in enabling people to participate in their community and to treat everyone with respect, regardless of their age. Banyule should be seen as a community which helps people stay healthy and active at all ages and provides support and advocacy for those who require it. Through the adoption and delivery of the Banyule Older Adults Strategic Plan, we hope to support the health and wellbeing of all residents, in particular older adults. A key focus of this will be to engage with our older adults so that we can continue to improve.

Table of Contents

Further information	2
Executive Summary.....	3
Purpose	3
Policy Context	3
Relationship with the City Plan	3
About Banyule’s Older Adults	3
Why choose 50+ years?	3
Optimize Functional Ability.....	3
Current Status	3
Goals (What we want to achieve).....	4
Action Plan	5
Conclusion.....	5
Introduction	8
About Banyule.....	8
Current Status	8
Purpose of the Banyule Older Adults Strategic Plan.....	9
Policy Statement	9
Development.....	9
Strategic Context.....	10
Legislative and Policy Context.....	10
International Policy Context	10
Australian Government Context	10
Victorian Government Context	10
Age-friendly Victoria Declaration, April 2016	10
Human Rights Charter.....	11
Banyule City Council Context	11
Council Plan.....	11
Integrated planning process	12
Banyule’s Inclusion Access and Equity Framework	13
Older Adults Profile.....	14
Community Engagement with Older Adults	16
Policy Statement	18
Goals and Strategic Directions.....	18
1. Healthy Ageing.....	18
2. Social Participation.....	18

3. Community Support and Health Services	18
4. Civic Participation and Employment.....	19
5. Ageism and Respectful Inclusion	19
6. Communication and information.....	19
7. Housing	19
8. Transportation.....	20
9. Outdoor Spaces and Buildings	20
Action Plan	21
Evaluation and Review.....	21
Measure of Age-friendliness.....	22
Indicators for an Age-friendly City of Banyule	22
Conclusion.....	24

Introduction

About Banyule

Banyule is located between seven and 21 kilometres north-east of central Melbourne and comprises of 21 suburbs. The City covers an area of approximately 63 square kilometres. The Yarra River runs along the City's south border while the west is defined by Darebin Creek. Banyule is located on the lands of the Wurundjeri and Council recognises the Wurundjeri as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters upon which Banyule is located.

Banyule is renowned for its open spaces and plentiful parklands, especially along the Yarra and Plenty River valleys. There are 466 hectares of council-owned open space in Banyule, as well as substantial areas of parkland managed by Parks Victoria. These provide a wealth of recreational, environmental and tourism opportunities for the region. There are sites of botanical, zoological, habitat and heritage significance, including aboriginal archaeological sites and scar trees, and points of interest associated with the Heidelberg School of Artists.

Banyule is the active resident's dream place to live, with many excellent community leisure facilities, including indoor aquatics and fitness centres at Ivanhoe, West Heidelberg and Watsonia and the facility at Greensborough – WaterMarc. Greensborough also has a synthetic athletics track, while a hockey centre and indoor netball stadium can be found at Bellfield and Macleod respectively. There are other playing fields, tennis and bowling clubs throughout the municipality.

Cycling and walking through Banyule are popular pastimes, made enjoyable by the many kilometres of bicycle and pedestrian trails throughout the City, particularly along the Yarra and Plenty Rivers and the Darebin Creek.

The City is primarily a residential area and retaining the character of individual neighbourhoods is important to the local community. While separate houses dominate, increasing numbers of semi-detached houses, townhouses and units are being built.

Banyule has a number of commercial centres, the largest being the Greensborough Principal Activity Centre, with Heidelberg and Ivanhoe designated as Major Activity Centres. There are significant industrial areas in Heidelberg West, Greensborough, Briar Hill and Bundoora. The City is home to a number of large institutions such as the Austin Hospital, including the Olivia Newton John Cancer Centre, the Mercy Hospital for Women, the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital and the Simpson Army Barracks.

Current Status

On 6 October 2014, Council adopted the motion to apply for membership to the World Health Organisation's Global Network of Age-friendly Cities. In November 2014, Banyule was accepted by the World Health Organisation. In joining the Global Network, Council made a commitment to a cycle of continual improvement to influence positively the health and quality of life of older people. A core aspect to the Age-friendly City approach is to include older people as active participants throughout the process.

The Age-friendly Advisory Committee was established in December 2014. The Committee comprises of up to 15 members:

- Two representatives of the Banyule City Council.
- Five residents representing the community (individual members).
- Five representatives of community groups or local agencies.

- Five representatives of State and/or Federal government departments or state-wide organisations.

Following a high level of interest from residents the Age-friendly Champion program was established in February 2015. This volunteer-based initiative is open to all residents. Age-friendly Champions are invited to be involved in projects which influence and shape our City to improve the quality of life of older people. To become an Age-friendly Banyule Champion, the resident must undertake an induction session. Once a resident has completed the session they are eligible to participate in the Age-friendly Champion program of activities.

Council became a signatory to the Victorian Age-friendly Declaration in mid-2016 and adopted the Age-friendly Banyule Policy Direction in September 2016.

Purpose of the Banyule Older Adults Strategic Plan

The purpose of Banyule's Older Adults Strategic Plan 2017-2021 is to set the direction for Council over the next four years. It outlines priorities and helps guide the services that we provide to the community, and it sets the policy platform for Council. The Older Adults Strategic Plan is informed by and used by Councillors, Council staff, community members, State Government, local/ regional agencies and residents.

Many sources of information have helped shape the development of this Older Adults Strategic Plan. This includes information gathered through an extensive community engagement and planning process, research and data, and relevant legislation and policy context.

Our Older Adults Strategic Plan provides a roadmap for us to follow. Underpinned by our Older Adults Policy Statement, the plan's goals provide us clear areas of focus for the four-year period.

Policy Statement

In September 2016, Banyule Council adopted the following policy statement:

An Age-friendly Banyule enables people to actively participate in their community and treats everyone with respect, regardless of their age. Banyule is a place that enables and encourages older people to stay connected to their community. That is a community which helps people stay healthy and active at all ages and provides support and advocacy for those who require it. Integral to the process is the inclusion of older people as active participants in the process.

The policy statement has provided the vision for the development of Banyule's Older Adults Strategic Plan.

Development

The Banyule Older Adults Strategic Plan has been developed from the consideration and analysis of the following documents:

- Banyule's Measures of Age-friendliness (indicators)
- Banyule's Older Adults Demographic Profile
- Banyule's Community Engagement Analysis
- Review of relevant International, National, State and local policy and plans
- Review of key research reports from World Health Organisation and the State government.

Strategic Context

The population in Banyule is ageing, with older residents (aged 50 years and over) making up a relatively high proportion of the total population (35%). Older age is characterised by great diversity. “Some 80-year-olds have levels of physical and mental capacity that compare favourably with 20-year-olds. Others of the same age may require extensive care and support for basic activities like dressing and eating. Policy should be framed to improve the functional ability of all older people, whether they are robust, care dependent or in between”².

Legislative and Policy Context

“For the first time in history, most people can expect to live into their 60s and beyond. When combined with marked falls in fertility rates, these increases in life expectancy are leading to the rapid ageing of populations around the world”³. All levels of government have a responsibility to foster a person’s functional ability. Governments can also make appropriate adaptations and investments to capture the benefits of having a growing older adult population.

The following documents have been considered in the establishment of the Older Adults Strategic Plan.

International Policy Context

World Health Organisation Report on Ageing and Health, 2015.

Measuring the Age-friendliness of Cities, A Guide to Using Core Indicators, World Health Organisation, 2015.

World Health Organization Age-friendly Cities Guide, 2008.

Australian Government Context

The Living Longer Living Better (LLLb) reforms passed into legislation on 26 June 2013.

An Ageing Australia: preparing for the future, Productivity Commission, 2013.

Victorian Government Context

Commissioner’s report Ageing is everyone’s business, April 2016.

Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2015 – 2019, Department of Health & Human Services, 2015.

Age-friendly Victoria Declaration, April 2016

The Age-friendly Victoria Declaration was signed by the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) together with the Victorian Government in April 2016. It provides a commitment to working together on creating age-friendly communities by:

- promoting an age-friendly Victoria
- supporting state and local planning processes
- providing local government with access to advice, expertise and support
- empowering and encouraging seniors' involvement
- addressing issues listed in the World Health Organization Age Friendly Cities Guide 2008
- valuing stakeholder engagement and collaboration

² World Health Organisation (2012) Fighting Stereotypes World Health Day 2012.

³ World Health Organisation (2016) World Report on Ageing and Health, Executive Summary. P5

The MAV is encouraging all local governments to become signatories of the Age-friendly Victoria Declaration. The Declaration supports Banyule commitments with the Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and the Banyule Council Plan. Banyule City Council moved the motion to become a signatory of Age-friendly Victoria Declaration at its meeting on 25 July 2016.

Human Rights Charter

In Victoria, all public authorities, including local councils, must comply with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities. The Charter does not over-ride existing Local Laws or Policies. However, Council must still make decisions and undertake actions in compliance with the Charter. The Charter sets out 20 basic human rights that are protected under the Act, these relate to Freedom, Respect, Equality and Dignity. The Charter also requires that all statutory provisions be interpreted so far as is possible in a way that is compatible with human rights.

Banyule City Council Context

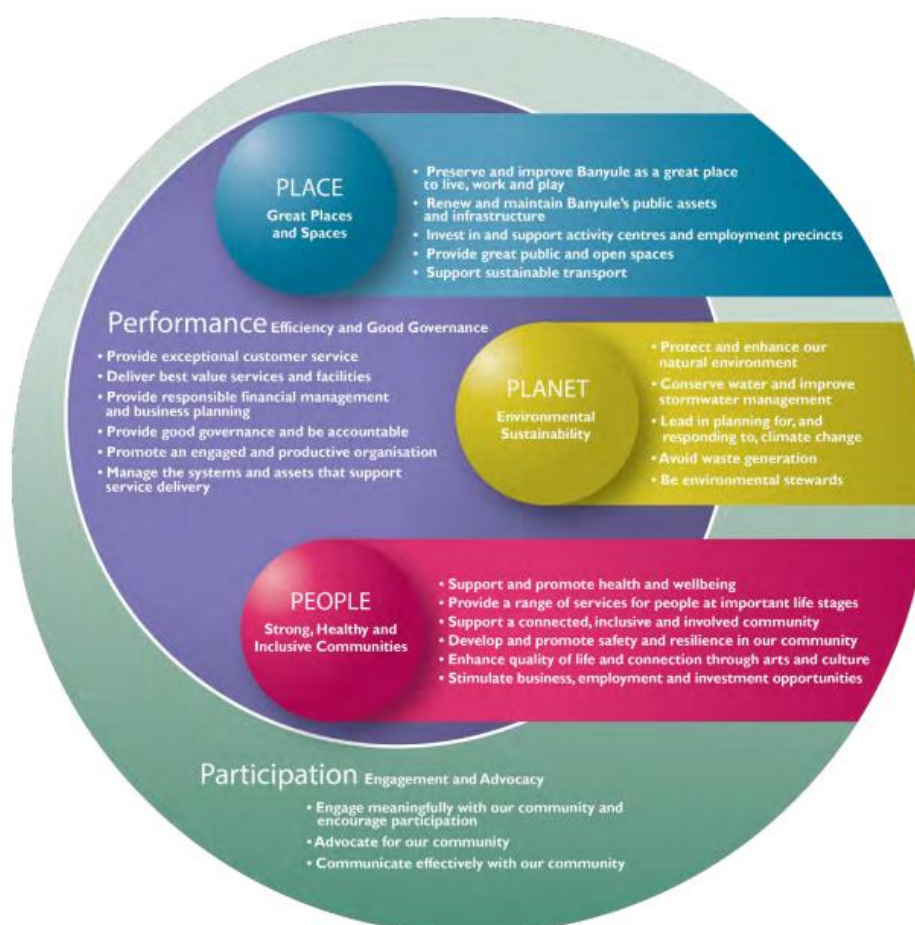
Council Plan

It is important to classify the relationship the Older Adults Strategic Plan has within the greater Council Plan and also ensure that the directions in this plan aligns with other key policies, strategies and plans within Council.

The Older Adults Strategic Plan supports Banyule’s Vision:

Banyule, a green, sustainable and vibrant place for a healthy, connected and inclusive community.

The following diagram gives an overview of Council’s objectives and key directions.



The Banyule Older Adults Strategic Plan supports all five objectives in the Banyule Council Plan 2017 - 2021, in particular: People: strong, healthy and inclusive communities.

The Council Plan includes nearly 50 actions that have a link to the continual improvement cycle to make sure Banyule is an age-friendly community, with the main focus area being 1.2 *provide a range of services for people at important life stages*.

Integrated Planning Process

In addition to the primary key direction within the People objective, the Older Adults Strategic Plan has close links with other objectives in the Council Plan including:

Council Plan Objective	Primary Key Direction	Older Adults Connection
People: strong, healthy and inclusive communities	1.1 Support and promote health and wellbeing 1.2 Provide a range of services for people at important life stages 1.3 Support a connected, inclusive and involved community 1.4 Develop and promote safety and resilience in our community 1.6 Stimulate business, employment and investment opportunities	This is the main focus area for older adults within the Council Plan. Areas linked to the Older Adults Strategic Plan include: social participation, respect and social inclusion, civic participation and employment, community support and health services and ageism and respectful inclusion.
Place: Great places and spaces	3.1 Preserve and improve Banyule as a great place to live, work and play 3.4 Provide great public and open spaces	Areas linked to the Older Adults Strategic Plan include: Create Age-friendly places and spaces that encourage people for all ages to stay connected to their community. Ensure that planning and development of Banyule's public and open spaces is informed by the principles of Age-friendly Banyule.
Performance: Efficiency and good governance	5.2 Deliver best value services and facilities	Areas linked to the Older Adults Strategic Plan include: Undertake innovative projects to inform and improve the delivery of efficient, effective and accessible services for older people (eg. Community Based Meals & Respite, and Support for carers program).
Participation: Engagement and advocacy	4.1 Engage meaningfully with our community and encourage participation 4.2 Advocate for our community 4.3 Communicate effectively with our community	Areas linked to the Older Adults Strategic Plan include: Civic participation through the Age-friendly City Advisory Committee, effective communication and delivery of information.

These Primary Key Directions listed in the above table and the associated annual actions (refer to Council Plan 2017 – 2021) will be integrated in to the Older Adults Strategic Plan and Action Plan.

Banyule's Inclusion Access and Equity Framework

Banyule is a diverse community, made up of people from many different cultures, beliefs, abilities and identities. Banyule City Council has a commitment to its diverse communities which is guided using the Inclusion, Access and Equity Framework.

The Framework strengthens Council's efforts to include the participation and needs of the following groups which have been identified as communities at risk of exclusion:

- People with a disability and their families
- People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Communities
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities; and
- People from the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender & Intersex (LGBTI) community.

These populations groups and any other emerging groups will be considered as part of the Older Adults Action Plan.

Older Adults Profile

In Banyule, the number of older adults aged 50+ years is 43,617, representing 36% of the total population. In comparison, the proportion of older adults in Greater Melbourne is lower at 31%. In Banyule the largest population of older adults reside in the suburbs of Greensborough, Ivanhoe and Bundoora.

The Banyule older adult population is forecast to increase by 9,857 persons, making up 37% of Banyule's total population by 2036. The suburb that will experience the largest increase in the number of older adults is Ivanhoe, followed by Heidelberg and Greensborough.

The proportion of unpaid carers is slightly higher in Banyule than in Greater Melbourne. In an ageing population, there can be an increased demand on carers. Older adult women are more likely to provide unpaid care than men, but also more likely to require care. Two out of every three elderly residents (aged 85+ years) are women. Due to the longer life expectancy of women, older adult women are more likely to live alone than men. Therefore, assisting and providing support for women to remain healthy and live independently will be important for Banyule.

The cultural and linguistic diversity of Banyule is changing. The number of people born in European countries is declining and residents born in China, India and other Asian countries will move into the older adult age groups. Thus services will need to support a growing diversity across the older adult population.

Around one in five older adults in Banyule volunteer, with the proportion of older adults volunteering in Banyule higher than in Greater Melbourne. The proportion of older adults in the workforce has increased; so too has the proportion of older adults in employment and older adults working part-time.

A lower proportion of Banyule residents receive the Australian Age Pension than in Greater Melbourne. Banyule is generally considered a relatively affluent municipality; however, there are pockets of high disadvantage. As older adults move out of the workforce, income also reduces. A lower income has implications for health and wellbeing: for example, the ability to purchase fresh local produce or the ability to participate in leisure and recreational activities diminishes.

Older adults in Banyule engage in a variety of recreational activities. Internet usage of older adults differs from that of the younger population. Older adults are less likely to use the internet for more than one hour per day and are more likely to access the internet using a personal computer rather than a smart phone or iPad.

Personal mobility can be a barrier to social and community participation and can lead to isolation or affect a person's wellbeing. The number of older adults living alone is expected to grow, thus increasing the number of those at risk of isolation. The demand for smaller, more suitable and accessible housing may be likely. The challenge for Banyule and for the rest of Australia is to help individuals improve their wellbeing by maintaining a healthy and active lifestyle. This in turn may help reduce demands on the nation's health care system.

The proportion of people aged 55+ years that experienced transport limitations was lower in Banyule than in Greater Melbourne. Providing accessible public transport and transport stops is essential for Banyule as it seeks to improve its status as an age-friendly city. Data suggests that as residents age, they are less likely to use public transport.

As Banyule's older adult population increases, the provision of adequate health, accessible transport, aged care and community services to support the ageing and diverse population, will continue to be of great importance.

For more information, see Banyule's demographic profiles at www.banyule.vic.gov.au/stats.

Community Engagement with Older Adults

An analysis was undertaken of community engagement information collected from older adults over the past two years. This information was then validated at a community Think Tank held on 22 April 2017.

Overwhelmingly, people look forward to maintaining and growing their social connections as they age. They described this engagement with phrases such as: being a member, being involved, going out, doing activities, outings, meeting people, new friendships, new networks, contributing to community.

Isolation was an issue of concern raised by some residents. They perceived that an age-friendly community would be “where older members in the community are not left isolated at home when they can no longer drive to community activities”.

The need for appropriate meeting spaces for Clubs was an area where people felt Council could provide support. It was identified that Council can have a role in providing low cost (affordable) activities and learning opportunities.

Staying healthy in particular, remaining mobile and having mental wellbeing, were concerns to many residents. Areas of concern about growing older were most regularly raised by people who were a Carer or people classified as elderly (over 85 years).

Being able to die with dignity, feeling respected and being included in decision-making were other areas of concern raised by older people. Residents “did not want [their] opportunities limited just because they were old”. They want to learn about technology and remain active in the community.

Having the opportunity to continue to age in place (stay in their neighbourhood) was important. Many of the examples provided by participants linked to physical mobility: “Losing physical control and being unable to do the things I had done in the past, for example gardening, simple house-keeping” and “being able to access public transport as I become less mobile”. Some residents demonstrated concern about being moved into aged care facilities.

Transportation and appropriate parking were identified as a key factors influencing active ageing: in particular, its impact on being able to participate (social, civic, family inclusion) and attend shopping precincts and health and community services.

The outdoor environments and access to community facilities impact on the independence and quality of life of older people and affects their ability to “age in place”. Footpaths need to be smooth and connected and obstacle free. People appreciated the shopping facilities throughout Banyule; however, a number of ideas were provided on how to make shops more age-friendly – remove clutter in aisles, room for handbag in front of register, more bus services to the shops.

Council needs to be proactive in stopping ageism – “use positive language when talking about older people”. People like to go to Council to access information. Some people acknowledged that they may not need information on services yet, but would like to know that Council has the information when they require it.

People also identified the need for information to assist in the transition to different stages of ageing. People identified that Council has a role in helping to prevent older people becoming lonely and/ or disconnected as they transition and face new challenges: one example “the Council website needs a section on – now I am retired”.

Residents (older people) would like to be invited to be part of the conversations that impact them – “Listen to older people and to provide ways for different age groups to interact with each other to build a cohesive community”.

Residents would like Council to acknowledge the rapid growth in the older adult population and to be prepared. As articulated by one resident, “Being aware of this phenomenon. Planning action to assist the Aged in their concerns. Seriously and actively commit with achievable targets "milestones" and reports. Communicating with and on behalf of the Aged”.

Policy Statement

In September 2016, Banyule Council adopted the following position statement:

An Age-friendly Banyule enables people to actively participate in their community and treats everyone with respect, regardless of their age. Banyule is a place that enables and encourages older people to stay connected to their community. That is a community which helps people stay healthy and active at all ages and provides support and advocacy for those who require it. Integral to the process is the inclusion of older people as active participants in the process.

Goals and Strategic Directions

1. Healthy Ageing

Goal: Older residents have opportunities to maintain and improve their health and wellbeing.

Strategic Directions:

- 1.1 Provide opportunities for older residents to participate in exercise.
- 1.2 Encourage older residents to improve their nutrition.
- 1.3 Raise awareness of mental health, and support activities that will assist older residents who may be experiencing depressed mood and stress.
- 1.4 Raise awareness and support activities that will prevent violence and injury to older residents.

2. Social Participation

Goal: Older residents are encouraged to, and have opportunities to, participate in the community.

Strategic Directions:

- 2.1 Build the capacity of older adults during times of life transition to navigate their changing world.
- 2.2 Provide opportunities for social participation and for meaningful social roles.
- 2.3 Provide leadership and support to clubs and activities for older adults.
- 2.4 Reduce barriers that can lead to social isolation.

3. Community Support and Health Services

Goal: Older residents have community support and health services available to meet their needs.

Strategic Directions:

- 3.1 Ensure older residents have access to local services that are older adult centred and provide integrated care.
- 3.2 Raise awareness and support activities which will assist unpaid carers within the Banyule community.

4. Civic Participation and Employment

Goal: Older residents are actively involved in the community.

Strategic Directions:

- 4.1 Seek the contribution of older residents through Council's community engagement.
- 4.2 Advocate for the generation of employment opportunities that include older residents.
- 4.3 Assist older residents to participate in volunteer activities.
- 4.4 Encourage opportunities for lifelong learning including understanding of technology.

5. Ageism and Respectful Inclusion

Goal: Older residents are valued and the community benefits from their contribution.

Strategic Directions:

- 5.1 Lead respectful inclusion of older residents in matters that are of value to them.
- 5.2 Ensure that Council staff are provided with training on ageing issues.
- 5.3 Combat ageism through a contemporary understanding of ageing in the community.
- 5.4 Raise community awareness on issues of ageism and the need for respectful inclusion.

6. Communication and information

Goal: Older residents are able to easily access information about their community and services.

Strategic Directions:

- 6.1 Remove barriers in Council's communication technologies that impact on older residents' access.
- 6.2 Make information available in formats which are accessible and understandable by older residents.

7 Housing

Goal: Older residents have a range of housing options to meet their needs.

Strategic Directions:

- 7.1 Encourage initiatives which provide older adults with a range of housing options in their local area.
- 7.2 Support older adults to remain independent through encouraging appropriate housing design, home modifications and maintenance.

8. Transportation

Goal: Older residents are able to easily move about Banyule to participate in the community and have access to services.

Strategic Directions:

- 8.1 Advocate for transport infrastructure to support older residents' connections to their local community.
- 8.2 Encourage older residents to use a range of transport options including walking, cycling and public transport.

9. Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Goal: Older residents have access to pleasant, safe and healthy environments.

Strategic Directions:

- 9.1 Provide outdoor infrastructure to support older residents' connections to their local community.
- 9.2 Maintain open spaces that support older residents' connections to their local community.
- 9.3 Provide community facilities to support older residents' connections to their local community.
- 9.4 Encourage local retailers to develop age-friendly shopping environments.

Action Plan

The Banyule Older Adults Action Plan will complement the delivery of this Strategy. The Action Plan outlines specific tasks that will enable Council to achieve the Goals, along with identifying Council’s role and partnerships.

The Action Plan will be considered on a regular basis as part of the Council’s annual budget process. It will identify new and innovative actions happening across Council Departments. It will not list all the actions Council does to support older adults.

The Banyule Age-friendly Cities Advisory Committee will oversee the implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan. The details of the Banyule Older Adults Action Plan 2017 – 2019 are attached or can be located on Council website www.banyule.vic.gov.au

Evaluation and Review

Within Council, the strategy’s implementation will be the primary responsibility of the Health, Aged and Community Planning Department. The Banyule Age-friendly City Advisory Committee will assist by providing advice regarding the implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan.

The Strategy and Action Plan will be reviewed annually as part of a process evaluation approach. Other evaluation will be conducted throughout the life of the Strategic Plan, with some goals and strategies to be evaluated using the following techniques.

Goal	is measured by	Outcome evaluation
Strategy	is measured by	Impact evaluation
Actions	is measured by	Process evaluation ⁴

⁴Round, R, Marshall, B & Horton, K, 2005, Planning for effective health promotion evaluation, Victorian Government Department of Human Services, Melbourne.

Measure of Age-friendliness

In 2015, Banyule City Council was Australia's only pilot site to work with the World Health Organisation on the establishment of age-friendly indicators. Twelve locations from around the world used the same methodology to collect data on our local communities. Our involvement in this project has allowed Banyule to have a set of age-friendly measures which will assist Council in identifying priority areas requiring change and monitoring the impact of those over time.

Indicators for an Age-friendly City of Banyule

Adopted from the World Health Organization Measuring the age-friendliness of cities: A guide to using core indicators.

Indicator	Measure	Collection year	
		2015	2018

Accessibility

Neighbourhood walkability	Proportion of streets in the neighbourhood that have pedestrian paths that meet locally accepted standards.	Park paths 81.6%	
		Other paths 98.7%	
Public spaces & buildings	Proportion of older people who live in a household where one or more persons use a mobility aid and have difficulty accessing public spaces and buildings.	17.1%	
	The number of Council owned buildings that are yet to be audited for their accessibility.	279	
Public transport stops	Proportion of housing within walking distance (500 m) to a public transport stop.	55.1%	
	Proportion of older people who are discouraged from using public transport more frequently due to the distance from home.	8.2%	

Affordability, employment & education

Housing affordability	Proportion of older people who live in a household that spends less than 30% of their equalised disposable income on housing.	Not collected in 2015	
	Proportion of older people living in housing that is fully owned or being purchased.	78.2%	
Paid employment	Proportion of older people (aged 60+ years) who are unemployed (based on those in the labour force).	2.2%	
	Proportion of older people who report having opportunities for paid employment.	Not currently available	
Economic security	Proportion of older people with a weekly income above the lower income range (i.e. above AUD \$399).	49.0%	

Indicator	Measure	Collection year	
		2015	2018
	Proportion of older people who report having had enough income to meet their basic needs over the previous 12 months without public or private assistance.	Not currently available	

Information, health & wellbeing

Availability of information	[Indicator not yet determined]		
Social & health services	Proportion of older people receiving Government funded home based services (i.e. CHSP – formerly HACC).	20.1%	
	Proportion of older people who report having their personal care or assistance needs met through the use of Government-funded or private services.	Not currently available	
Quality of life	Proportion of older people who rate their general health level as 'Excellent' or 'Very good'.	44.8%	
Positive social attitude towards older people	Number of reported crimes against older people aged 65+ years (as a proportion of the total number of older people).	1.9%	
	Proportion of older people who report feeling respected and socially included in their community.	Not currently available	

Engagement & participation

Volunteering	Proportion of older people who report undertaking voluntary work through an organisation or group in the last 12 months.	17.9%	
Arts & cultural activities	Proportion of older adults (aged 55+ years) who among all adults (aged 18+ years) reported participating in arts and related activities in the last 3 months.	30.3%	
	The proportion of older people (aged 60+ years) who participate in community groups (e.g. church/religious, arts & cultural / nationality groups).	26.4%	
Local decision making	Proportion of eligible voters aged 70+ years who voted in the most recent local Government election.	48.0%	
	Proportion of people aged 55+ years who participated in citizen engagement activities in the last 12 months.	42.9%	

For more information, see Banyule's demographic profiles at www.banyule.vic.gov.au/stats.

Conclusion

Council recognises its important role in enabling people to participate in their community and to treat everyone with respect, regardless of their age. Banyule should be seen as a community that helps people stay healthy and active at all ages and provides support and advocacy for those who require it. Through the adoption and delivery of the Banyule Older Adults Strategic Plan, we hope to support the health and wellbeing of all residents, in particular older adults. A key focus of this Strategic Plan will be to engage with our older adults so that we can continue to improve.