

## Meath Age Friendly Public Consultation

Age Friendly Meath is in the process of developing a new strategy (2022-26). As part of the process of developing a new strategy, we would like to hear the views of a wide range of older persons (aged 55 years or older) in Co. Meath. The Age Friendly Programme is about older persons and ensuring their communities are better places to grow old in. The Age Friendly Programme focuses on 8 main areas:

Outdoor Spaces & Buildings;	Social Participation;
Transport;	Communication & Information;
Housing;	Civic Participation & Employment;
Respect & Social Inclusion;	Community Support & Health Services

### Information on You

- What age group are you (years)?  
55-65    66-75    75-80    Over 80    Prefer not to say
- What gender are you?  
Male    Female    Prefer not to say
- Which of the following best describes how you live?  
Live alone    Live with spouse/partner    Live with other family members  
Live in residential care home/nursing home  
Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- In which Municipal District/Electoral Area do you live?  
Ashbourne    Kells    Laytown-Bettystown  
Navan    Rathoath    Trim    Uncertain
- In which of the following do you live?  
Town    Village    Rural area - relatively built up    Rural area - less built up

### Local Business, Services & Outdoor Areas

- In what ways could local shops and private/public service providers better assist older persons in accessing their services?  
Better signage    Improved staff awareness  
Better handrails/ramps    Improved car parking  
Better bathroom facilities    Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

7. How could general access to local shops and private/public service providers be improved for older persons in Meath?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. How could general outdoor facilities/public areas be improved to better meet the needs of older persons?

### **Independent Living and Housing**

9. Thinking about your own situation or that of your spouse/partner, what home supports/assistance do you consider need to be improved?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. Have you any suggestions for how housing for older persons could be improved?(think about new housing, upgrading of older homes, right sizing etc.)

### **Transport and Parking**

11. How could public transport be improved for older persons living in Meath?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
12. How could car parking be improved for older persons living in Meath?

### Social Participation and Community Engagement

13. How could older persons in Meath be encouraged to have more engagement/involvement in social activities and their local community?
14. Older persons engage in a wide range of voluntary activities in Meath, do you have any suggestions for how volunteering among older persons could be further encouraged?
15. Have you any suggestions for how the respect for older persons in Co. Meath could be enhanced?

### Communication and Information

16. Which of the following do you use to hear about what's happening in your area? Please select all that are relevant to you
- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| LM FM   | Other Local Radio Stations      |
| Meath Chronicle                                     | Local Parish/Church Newsletters |
| Local Notice Boards e.g., Doctors/Church/Shops etc. | Email                           |
| Text message/WhatsApp                               | Family/Friends/Neighbours       |
| Social Media - Facebook/Instagram/Twitter           |                                 |
| Other (please specify) _____                        |                                 |
17. How often do you use the internet (on your phone, laptop, computer etc.)? (Email, talking to family/friends online, zoom calls, looking up information, booking activities etc.)
- |         |                      |        |
|---------|----------------------|--------|
| Daily   | A few times per week | Weekly |
| Monthly | Rarely               | Never  |
18. Which of the following social media do you use (at least occasionally)?
- |                              |          |          |         |           |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|
| Email                        | Facebook | WhatsApp | Twitter | Instagram |
| Other (please specify) _____ |          |          |         |           |

19. How could communication and provision of information to older persons in Meath be improved?

**Community Support and Health Services**

20. Have you any suggestions for how health services (hospitals, doctors, public health nurses, out-patients) could be improved to better meet the needs of older persons?

21. Are there other aspects of community supports which could be improved to enhance the lives of older persons in Meath?

22. What are the main barriers to the more active involvement of older persons in your area?

Poor health

Anxiety/fear of getting involved

Lack of time

Lack of transport

Caring/Family responsibilities

Lack of opportunities to get involved

Lack of knowledge of those involved

Can't afford to get involved

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

23. Have you any further suggestions or comments on services/supports/issues which should be considered in the development of the Meath Age Friendly Strategy?

**Thank you for taking the time to share your views with us, it is much appreciated.**

**Please return to the Individual/Organisation who shared it with you or to: [community@meathcoco.ie](mailto:community@meathcoco.ie) Or to Meath Age Friendly Programme Manager, Community Section, Meath County Council, Buvinda House, Navan, Co. Meath**

**Final Date for Submission: 11<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021**