

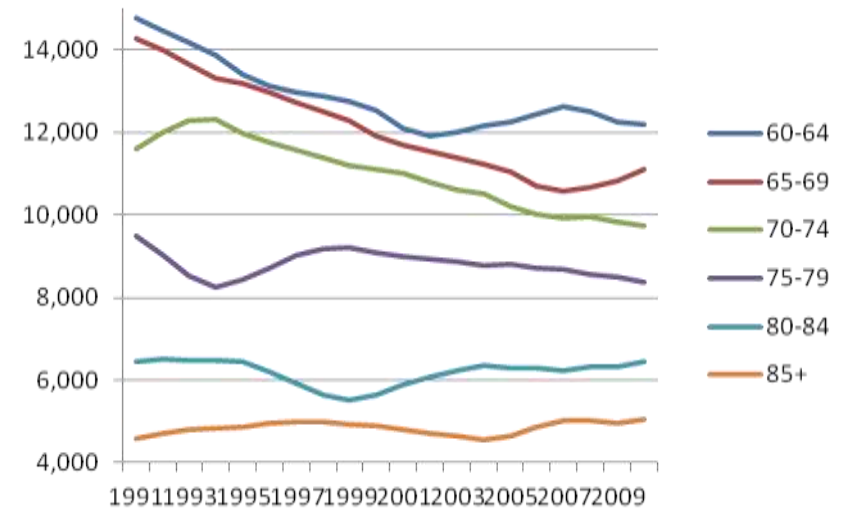
Councillor Bernie Kelly

Belfast City Council
Chair of the All Party Reference
Group on Older People

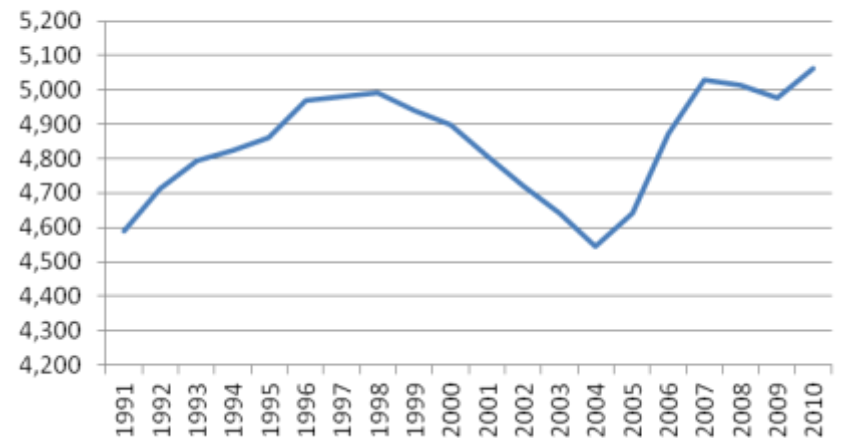


Belfast Profile

- The number of older people in Belfast is staying relatively stable
- The number of people aged 85+ is increasing
- Average life expectancy for men is 73.9 and for women it is 79.8- this is the lowest in NI and there are large inequalities across the city
- 34% of people aged 60+ claim pension credit in Belfast, compared to 27% aged 60+ in NI-more older people in Belfast have a limited income



Population of Belfast 85+



Belfast City Council Corporate Plan 2012 - 2015



Strategic Themes

The Council will take a lead role in improving the quality of life now and for future generations for the people of Belfast by making the city and its neighbourhoods better places to live in, work in, invest in and visit



All Party Reference Group on Older People

The Reference Group on Older People provides leadership for intersectoral action on older people's issues both in the short-term and, as part of the development of the City's planning process, and ensures that the Council adjusts and improves its services to meet older people's needs. (6 Councillors)

Older Peoples Officer group

This is a cross departmental officer group.

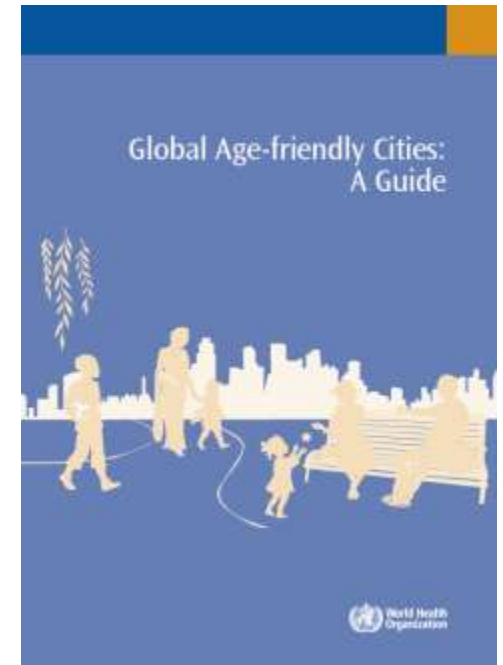
The Officer Group develops an Annual Cross Council Action Plan.

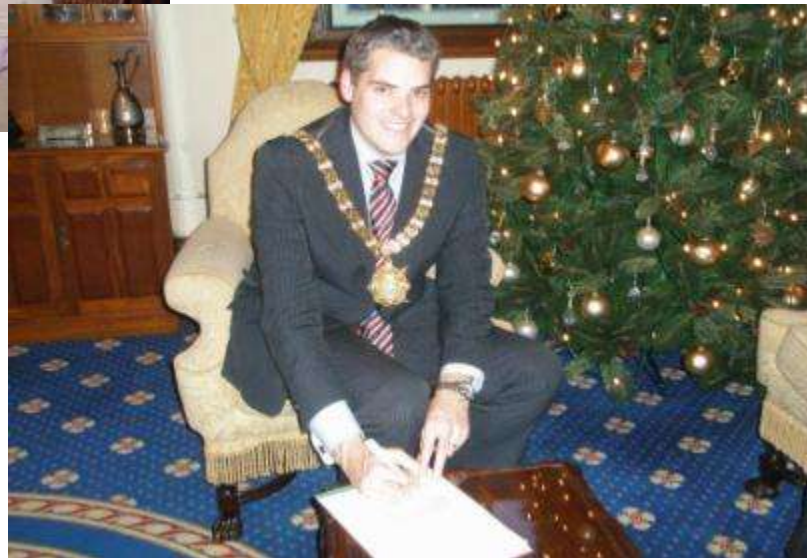
This stream of work sits under the umbrella of the Council's Healthier City Plan.



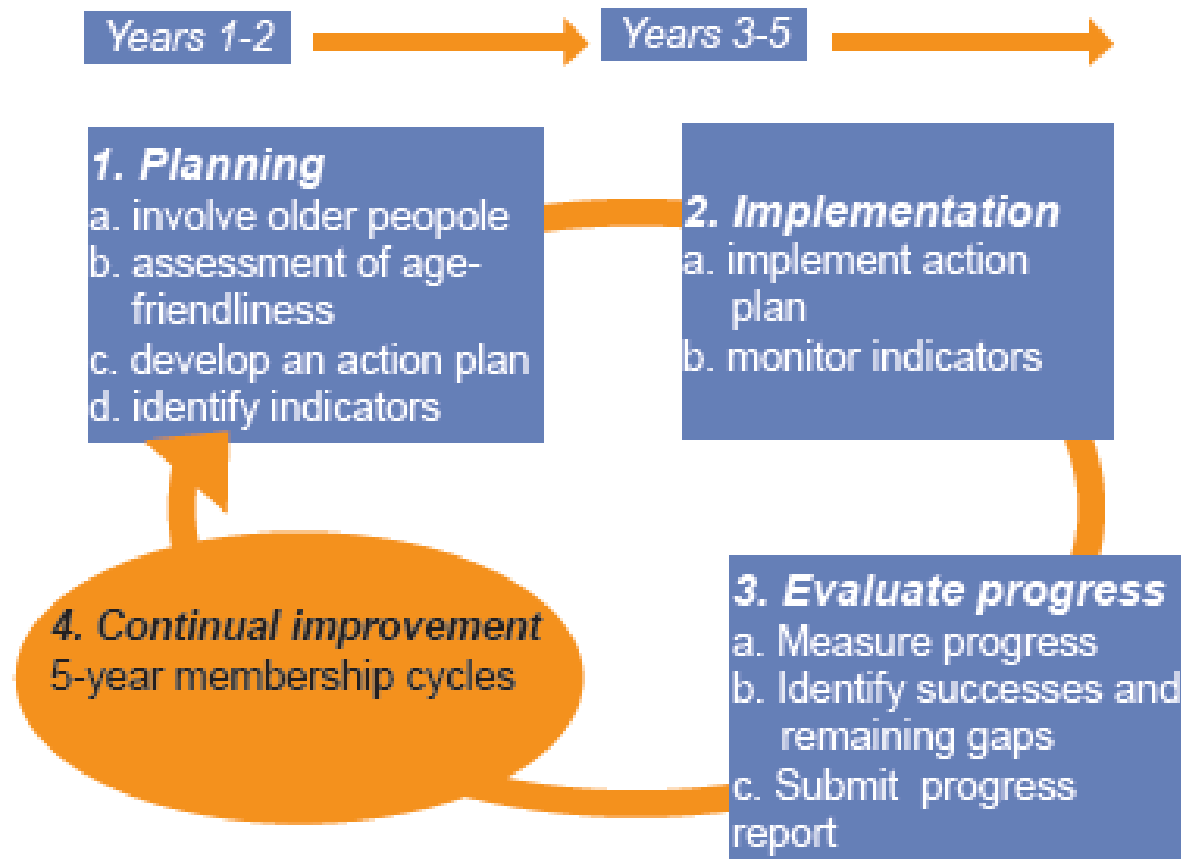
Age-friendly Belfast

An Age-friendly city is an inclusive and accessible urban environment that promotes active ageing





Cycle of WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities©



Age-friendly Belfast-what we know so far about Belfast as an age-friendly city

- Top 3 areas of importance were community and health services, transportation and housing
- Respect and social inclusion also scored quite highly
- Suggestions for AF developments included; services situated together and with good accessibility and development of an age-friendly charter mark

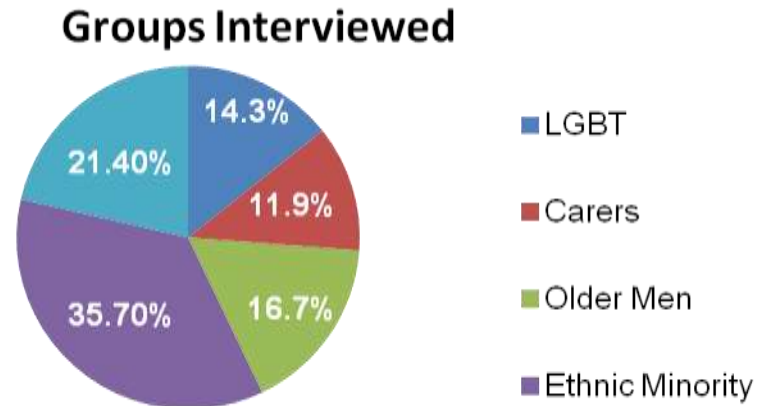


“Some parks are not safe for older people-older people sometimes go in groups but that lasts a couple of weeks and then we cant use the resource on our doorstep”

“Belfast does very well in terms of social activities. We are lucky, Belfast is better than some towns”

What we know so far from focus groups

- older men are most concerned about housing
- people living in sheltered housing are most concerned about transportation
- LGBT people are most concerned about community and health services
- ethnic minority groups are most concerned about community and health services



- 17.9% struggle to pay household bills and 82.1% feel they can manage to pay household bills
- suggestions for AF developments included more cultural events and getting the bus lanes and public transport sorted out

What we know so far from – a short survey in City Matters

- older respondents most concerned about respect and social inclusion
- Suggestions for AF developments included more seating in outdoor spaces and viewing older people as assets

An age-friendly city would :

“be a much safer place to live, you would be aware of what is happening, you would never feel left out or that you had ‘passed it’”

“prevent loneliness and allow the elderly to get out and about thus avoiding depression”

Next steps

- Get the views of as many older people as possible
- Have joint discussions with the Council Youth Forum and Greater Belfast Senior Citizens Forum
- Have stake holder engagement and input
- Get all the up-to-date statistics to have a full picture of ageing in Belfast by April 2013
- Host meetings to agree what improvements we can measure, and develop a 3-year action plan
- Submit the 3-year age-friendly action to WHO by Winter 2013



Working together we can create - Age Friendly Belfast



