



SOUTH EAST AREA
Age Friendly Cities
Report 2018

South East Area (SEA) is a signed member of the City Age Friendly Alliance with an SEA area alliance chosen and an Older Persons' Council formed.

The South East Area Older Persons' Committee met four times during 2018 and a full plan for SEA Age Friendly Strategy is in place.

SEA Alliance members

Name	Title	Organisation
Brian Hanney (Chair)	Senior Executive Officer SEA	Dublin City Council
Rose Kenny	Executive Manager SEA	Dublin City Council
Beatrice Casserly	Age Friendly Dublin Coordinator	Dublin City Council
Declan Hayden	Community Development SEA	Dublin City Council
Catherine Dempsey	General manager for Older Persons	HSE
Gerard Farrell	Operations Manager, Dublin Town	Dublin City BID
Insp. Martin Mooney	Inspector	Garda Síochána
Stephen Beasley	Services team Leader	ALONE
Esther McGrath/Joan McArthur / Tommy Curtis		Older Persons' Council Reps.

Older Persons' Council:

Joan McArthur	Fintan Molloy	Mary Gallagher
Esther McGrath	Anne Deane	Maureen Flavin
Tommy Curtis	Eileen O Leary	Aideen Ryan
Marie O'Reilly	Fred Arntz	Wendy Whelan
	Ann Moriarity	

The strategy, in line with the national plan, focuses on the following themes:

OUTDOOR SPACES AND BUILDINGS

A series of 'walk ability' studies of built environment were undertaken in the area in spring coinciding with annual community audits and with the Older Persons' Council to identify hazards and issues in area to include cross over with cyclists and walkers. We liaise very closely with Public Works and Public Domain to ensure consultation with older persons is included.

Let's Walk & Talk. We run weekly monthly and annual walks across the SEA which are particularly attractive to older people and we have a large older population on all walks.

Keeping fit, meeting people & learning a little something about our Fair City

Tuesdays - Meet outside the Barge Pub
Wednesdays - Meet at Kildare Place (in Spanish)
Thursdays - Meet at Sandymount Green
Fridays - Meet at Meeting House Square (in Irish)
Fridays - Meet at Kildare Place (in French)
Saturday - Along the Dropping Well Car Park
Three new map & guides were launched in SEA:

Portobello Walking Trail & Map: Launched October 2018

We focus on events within the SEA to combat littering, dog fouling and general waste management problems.

We held four dog shows in Belgrave Square, Bushy Park, Mountpleasant Square and Sandymount Green which build on litter and dog fouling abatement projects in SEA.

We are build stronger communication with Gardaí and Inspector Mooney on addressing and reporting anti-social behaviour.

TRANSPORT

We are engaging with transport partners on improving interagency approach to transport provision. In 2019 we aim to engage more with transport information, official city transport, community based transport and further consultation and links with bus / luas drivers etc.

HOME AND COMMUNITY

The 'stay at home' emphasis is important in the overall strategy and our staff help in this through weekly meetings, support groups and building on initiatives such as 'Meals on wheels, plate pals, message in a bottle, home help service, care & repair, personal alarms, Good Neighbours' etc.

We promote 'the 'Message in a bottle' campaign in conjunction with Dublin Fire Brigade that runs throughout the SEA.

We are consulting with SEA business forums on meetings needs of older people: accessibility, home delivery, portion size, trusted tradespersons etc.

We are encouraging more engagement with older people in good community clubs, organisations. One core pilot project is the 'Evergreen Project' in Terenure which is very active and an excellent good practice example.

INFORMATION

In regular communications with all our Older Persons' Groups we promote and highlight all community events, city initiatives, information evenings etc.

DCC helps map local computer courses which meet the needs of older people and encourage training programmes for other devices linked with social media. Liaising with sections in DIT and DCC.

We held a special Older Persons' Council meeting inviting all councillors in summer and there was a positive and active discussion allowing all to share and raise concerns with councillors in local area.

SAFETY

Examining Safety forums in area and engage with all service providers.

Working closely with Gardaí on initiatives.

Safety, personal security and fire safety are key themes that we have run lectures on with the Gardaí and Fire Services throughout the year.

We aim to have the Older Persons' Council to engage, inform and support the Community Gardaí and support reinstatement of Community Gardaí in SEA. Esther McGrath is our nominated representative from the Older Persons' Council who attends the Local Policing Forum throughout the year.

LEARN, DEVELOP AND WORK

SEA Community Section, as a core part of our ethos, encourages older people to engage more in activities available and ongoing in SEA. We are building on successful courses; classes etc. and encourage older people to attend. 27 Educational Grants were awarded a total of €17,115. Many older persons' groups also apply for our main community grants which allows them do a wide range of activities each year.

Men's Shed Initiative: A new project is beginning in Ringsend / Irishtown and in Donnybrook.

SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL LIFE

Support groups and clubs to encourage participation of older people through initiatives such as 'Open Days' and 'Bring a Friend Day'. At each older person event we aim to increase new membership and encourage members to bring a friend and assist new community residents.

HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIVING

Engaging and liaising with HSE on developing and improving an 'Age Friendly Charter' for all medical institutions.

VALUE AND RESPECT

Provide opportunities for the positive interaction of all demographics and organisations which encourages mutual respect and improved valuing of older persons and their knowledge.

Overall Events and Projects:

Across the South East Area we have ongoing weekly meeting and classes (such as knitting) with senior citizen complexes and regular liaison with a number of services, liaison officers and departments looking after older persons in DCC.

We are also liaising with the new partnerships on age friendly issues.

Special Events:

Ballroom of Romance at the Royal College of Surgeons

Beech Hill Weekly Afternoon Tea

Carmelite Over 55s Fair

Golden Oldies Sing-along

Neighbours' Day at St. Patricks CYMS

Ringsend Fun Bingo & Quiz

Terenure Tea Dances

Eastwell Ladies Home: A new brochure and flyer was arranged for this service

Bealtaine Festival, Coisceim runs regular dance course for older persons in the Evergreen Club Terenure

A special Older Persons and Social Inclusion Art Exhibition took place as part of DCC Social Inclusion Week in 2018. The art exhibition was opened by the Lord Mayor, Cllr. Nial Ring on Tuesday 25th September in the Civic Office's Atrium, and ran from the 25th to the 29th September.

Five Groups participated in the event:

- Verschoyle Court Senior Citizen's Art Group
- Maxwell Court Senior Citizen's Art Group
- Terenure Older People's Art Group
- Smock Alley Court Art Group
- The Mendicity Homeless Men's Arts & Craft Group

We ran the annual Cold Weather Strategy for Winter launched by the Lord Mayor, Cllr. Nial Ring, in conjunction with ALONE and sponsors; Butlers Chocolates on Dec 5th 2018. Easter, Summer, Halloween and Christmas Parties and older persons' garden parties are developed in all senior citizen's complexes and reaching wider older communities.

