

Developing the

# **Better Later Life**

He Oranga  
Kaumātua

## **2019 to 2034**

Strategy



Office for Seniors  
Te Tari Kaumātua

Administered by the Ministry of Social Development

New Zealand Government

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## The purpose of the document

Between January 2018 and November 2019, we, the Office for Seniors, led the development of a new strategy for New Zealand's ageing population. The new strategy, Better Later Life – He Oranga Kaumātua 2019 to 2034, replaces the Positive Ageing Strategy 2001.

This document outlines the key steps involved in developing the new strategy and acknowledges the people and organisations who contributed to it. The steps involved included:

- A research phase
- Two public and stakeholder consultation processes
- Expert Advisory Group advice
- Cross-agency collaboration
- A review against National and International frameworks

## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all the people who contributed to the development of the Better Later Life strategy. This includes:

- all the submitters, workshop, and hui attendees who provided input into the national conversation, as well as organisations who helped organise and host workshops and hui;
- all the submitters who provided feedback on the draft strategy;
- the Seniors Policy team and other colleagues at the Ministry of Social Development; and
- the Expert Advisory Group for their expert advice and support.

The Expert Advisory Group representatives are: Emeritus Professor Peter Oettli, President, Age Concern New Zealand; Kilian de Lacy, Grey Power; Professor Chris Cunningham, Research Centre for Maori Health and Development, Massey University; Dame Peggy Koopman-Boyden, University of Waikato; Associate Professor Debra Waters, Director of Gerontology Research, University of Otago; Dr Kay Saville-Smith (MNZM), Director, CRESA; Troy Churton, National Manager, Commission for Financial Capability; Malia Hamani (QSM & JP), Chief Executive Officer, TOA Pacific; Associate Professor Elsie Ho, University of Auckland; and Geoff Pearman, Managing Director, Partners in Change.

## Research

The research phase was important to the development of the Better Later Life – He Oranga Kaumātua 2019 to 2034 (the new strategy). It informed the content of the Discussion Document – He Pukapuka Matapaki which we used as a guide to facilitate a ‘national conversation’ about developing the new strategy to prepare for an ageing population. A copy of the Discussion Document is available at

<http://www.superseniors.msd.govt.nz/documents/ageing-population-consultation/ageing-population-discussion-document-web.pdf>.

Research also helped us to build an understanding of the strategic context, provide an evidence-based approach, and to learn from other countries’ experience. A full bibliography is available at

<http://www.superseniors.msd.govt.nz/documents/better-later-life/bibliography-of-better-later-life-he-oranga-kaumatua-2019-to-2034.pdf>.

## Public and stakeholder consultation

There were two phases of stakeholder consultation that helped shape the new strategy. The first was the national conversation on the opportunities and challenges facing New Zealand and our ageing population. This took place between June to August 2018.

There was a high level of public engagement. Approximately 1,000 people participated in workshops, hui and whānau conversations to discuss their vision for the new strategy. We received a total of 469 submissions. The summary of submissions is available at

<http://superseniors.msd.govt.nz/documents/ageing-population-consultation/summary-of-submissions-report.pdf>.

A new draft strategy was developed to reflect what people said was important. The second phase of consultation was to make sure that we had got it right. This consultation period was between April and June 2019.

We received 230 submissions and there was a high level of support for the draft strategy. A large proportion of these were received from organisations and community groups who were responding on behalf of their membership.

The summary of submissions about the draft strategy is available at: <http://superseniors.msd.govt.nz/documents/ageing-population-consultation/summary-of-submissions-final-report-august-2019.pdf>.

## **Expert Advisory Group**

An Expert Advisory Group was formed to provide guidance and support for the Office for Seniors with the development of the new strategy.

The Expert Advisory Group is made up of representatives who were able to contribute advice on a range of perspectives, including Māori, Pasifika, academia, health and seniors sector interests.

## **Cross-agency collaboration**

We worked closely with officials from many government agencies throughout the process of developing the new strategy. We valued their contributions and the perspectives that they brought.

We will continue working with government officials to develop the action plan and to implement the new strategy, to ensure cross-government action is taken, as well as support the governance arrangements for the new strategy.

## **National and international frameworks**

The draft strategy was assessed against a range of frameworks, including the New Zealand Treasury's Living Standards Framework, the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, the World Health Organization's Priorities for a Decade of Action on Healthy Ageing, and the McGuinness Institute's Government Development Strategy Index. These frameworks contributed to the development of the new strategy, and its alignment to national and international priorities.

### **The Treasury's Living Standards Framework**

The Living Standards Framework (LSF) was developed by the New Zealand Treasury in 2011 to encourage government agencies to think about the wellbeing of New Zealanders when developing policies, strategies and services. The LSF has 12 Domains and four Capitals.

The 12 Domains represent the current wellbeing, and the four Capitals represent the sustainability of future wellbeing.

The LSF helped the Office for Seniors to consider the current and future wellbeing of older people when developing the new strategy. The new strategy aims to improve the current and future wellbeing of older people. The vision, principles, and key areas for action of the new strategy are linked to the 12 Domains and four Capitals of the LSF. The 12 Domains are:

- Income and consumption
- Jobs
- Health
- Housing
- Knowledge and skills
- Environment
- Cultural identity
- Safety and security
- Leisure
- Civic engagement and governance
- Social connections
- Subjective wellbeing

The four Capitals are:

- Human Capital
- Financial/Physical Capital
- Social Capital
- Natural Capital

It is noted that the Treasury is not measuring three (out of 12) Domains as data is not available for consistent comparison across population groups. The three Domains not currently being measured are: leisure, environment, and jobs.

For more information about the LSF, please visit the Treasury website at <https://treasury.govt.nz/information-and-services/nz-economy/living-standards/our-living-standards-framework>.

## **The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals**

In 2015, 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the United Nations members to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all by 2030. These goals have a broad focus and are based on the understanding that sustainable development will not be achieved without the contributions of developed and developing countries, civil society and non-government organisations, the private sector, communities, families and individuals.

As a member of the United Nations, it is important for New Zealand to consider aligning its strategies and policies with the SDGs. The SDGs were considered in the development of the new strategy. The goals that align with the vision, principles, and key areas for action of the new strategy are:

- Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation
- Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries
- Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

For more information about the SDGs, please visit the United Nations website at <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>.

## **The World Health Organization's 10 Priorities for a Decade of Action on Healthy Ageing**

The World Health Organization (WHO) announced that 2020 to 2030 will be the Decade of Healthy Ageing. To prepare for this the WHO released 10 priorities towards a decade of action on healthy ageing, which need to be addressed so the decade will be a success.

The 10 Priorities for a Decade of Action on Healthy Ageing were considered in the development of the new strategy. The 10 Priorities are primarily focused on healthy ageing. Not all are relevant to the new

strategy. The Priorities that align with and referenced in the new strategy are:

- Priority 5: Align health systems to the needs of older people
- Priority 8: Undertake a global campaign to combat ageism
- Priority 9: Make the economic case for investment in Healthy Ageing
- Priority 10: Develop the Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities

Others are more relevant to the New Zealand Ministry of Health's Healthy Ageing Strategy 2016. The new strategy has links to, and complements the Healthy Ageing Strategy 2016.

For more information about the 10 Priorities for a Decade of Action on Healthy Ageing, please visit the WHO website at <https://www.who.int/ageing/10-priorities/en/>.

### **The Government Department Strategy Index**

The Government Department Strategy (GDS) Index was developed by the McGuinness Institute in 2014 to provide guidance to government agencies on the development of strategies. The McGuinness Institute has developed a scorecard to provide government agencies with a framework to assess the adequacy of the content of a strategy based on the provision of essential information under six elements. The six elements are:

- Opportunities and Threats
- Capabilities and Resources
- Vision and Benefits
- Approach and Focus
- Implementation and Accountability
- Alignment and Authority.

The Office for Seniors used the scorecard as a 'best practice' framework in the development of the new strategy. The overriding aim is to develop a strategy that will drive actions to ensure all New Zealanders recognise older people's potential and to achieve the vision that "older New Zealanders lead valued, connected and fulfilling lives".

For more information about the GDS Index, please visit the McGuinness Institute website at <http://gdsindexnz.org/>.