

Whānau and family discussions

Preparing for an Ageing Population

July 2018



New Zealand Government



Office for Seniors
Te Tari Kaumātua

Administered by the Ministry of Social Development

Having a conversation

We want thoughts and ideas from your whānau and family on how New Zealand should plan for an ageing population.

The New Zealand Positive Ageing Strategy was developed in 2001. Its purpose was to promote and improve outcomes for older people. There have been many changes since then. By 2038 there will be 1.3 million New Zealanders aged 65+.

Between 29 June and 24 August 2018, the government is consulting throughout New Zealand, to understand expectations and priorities for older people.

The consultation will seek the views of today's older people and the next generation (people in their 40s and 50s now).

This guide offers suggestions on what you might talk about with your whānau and family, and make a submission.

If you have any questions email us at ageing_population@msd.govt.nz

Getting started

A good starting point for a conversation is our *Discussion document*: He Pukapuka Matapaki [Preparing for an Ageing Population](#) before holding your kōrero.

This outlines some of the challenges and opportunities New Zealanders must prepare for in the next 20 years.

There are also shorter, supplements available on topics like health, transport and retirement. You can choose the ones you as a whānau or family are most interested in talking about.

You can download or order copies from www.SuperSeniors.msd.govt.nz/ageingpopulation

Other points of view

We've asked some experts to tell us what they think the future looks like. We're publishing these on the SuperSeniors website over the coming weeks.

The following are available now:

- [Becoming an Age-friendly business](#) (Geoff Pearman)
- [Population ageing and its regional opportunities](#) (Dr Natalie Jackson)
- [Technology](#) (Peter Griffin)
- [The end of retirement](#) (Geoff Pearman)
- [Where the heart is](#) (Key Saville-Smith and Bev James)
- [Getting Around in the 2040s](#) (Helen Fitt and Angela Curl)
- [Making it good for older people](#) (Charles Waldegrave)

For more, visit:

www.SuperSeniors.msd.govt.nz/ageingpopulation

Conversation starter

The purpose is to talk with whānau, family and friends about how Aotearoa/New Zealand can best prepare for an ageing population.

Just make sure that everyone is comfortable taking part, and let them know that you want to discuss things as part of making a submission. Allow 1-1.5 hours.

Thinking about the future

Imagine the year 2038. If we had prepared well for an ageing population, in terms of your whānau, family, friends, what would be:

- better,
- different,
- as good as now?

Are there common themes for a vision for the future?

Some questions you may want to discuss

While we have identified key topics with some questions we would like information on, what you discuss is up to you.

- How can we make sure people continue to feel valued as they age?
- How can we ensure all older people are respected and receive the support they need?
- How can we better support older people to remain in work?
- What are your expectations and aspirations for life in retirement?
- What changes could employers make to help older people stay employed or gain employment?

- What helps older people stay connected to their community?
- How can we help older people to access new technologies?
- What could strengthen older people's ability to adapt to life changes and unexpected shocks?
- How can older people be supported to continue to make their own decisions and prepare for the future?
- What can we do to enable older New Zealanders to be more secure and healthy in their homes and communities?

When you end the conversation, outline your main points, making sure everyone is happy with your summary.

Send us your summary

Let us know what the main themes, issues and suggestions were from the discussion. You can use the template that we have provided in this guide, or do your own summary.

Include a few details about you and your whānau.

Email your summary to:

ageing_population@msd.govt.nz

Or send it to us at:

Strategy for an Ageing Population
Office for Seniors
PO Box 1556
Wellington 6140

We will publish details of submissions online, unless requested not to. After consultation closes we'll draft a proposed strategy and action plan. We'll consult on this in early 2019.

Summary of your kōrero

Thinking about the future

What could be better?

What could be different?

What should be as good as now?

What were the common themes for a vision of 2038, if New Zealand prepares well for our ageing population?

What are the issues and what we should do about them?

Summarise what your whānau or family talked about and any insights that emerged

Wrap up

Was anything missing from the discussion document?

What are the top 2 or 3 issues for your group?

Details about your discussion

Name of organiser/group

Email address

Contact phone

Where did you hold your conversation? (nearest town)

How many whānau, family friends participated in the discussion?