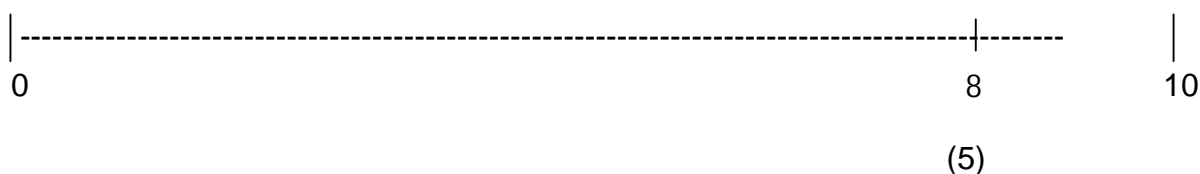


Older Adults Consultation

A focus group for Older Adults was held attracting 5 participants. When asked to rank the statement 'Waitakere is a great place to live' all 5 participants ranked it 8 indicating strong satisfaction with Waitakere City.

The key issue identified was that of mobility and transport within Waitakere City. It was essential for the well being of Older Adults that they had access to the services of the city. Therefore reliable, easily accessible transport is essential. This would ensure that people remained active and social and therefore had flow on benefits for their health and happiness. It is also noted that there was a preference for concessions over grants and funding, as the latter were perceived negatively as a form of handout.

Waitakere is a Great Place to Live



(Number in bracket indicates number of people who ranked the statement 8)

Positive things

- Feeling of the place
- Caring feeling
- Think Council is interested
- Care 'trust' approached proactively

Negative things/things need improving

Transport, roads

- Poor –if one bus an hour you would be very lucky. Improvement blocked by ACC.
- Bus shelter – Green Bay badly maintained
- Difficulty getting to hospital – no shuttle to Manukau super clinic
- Now need to pay carparking
- Need more safer crossing in busy areas (with barriers), covers all people - children, infirmed, elderly
- Sometimes too long a gap between crossings
- Pavements – problem with narrow, poor conditions – trees hanging – need to go out on road to pass. Wet day get soaking wet (47 Staines Road hole in pavement)

- Trouble getting to clubs --> transport for those who most need it have the most difficulty getting there. Government making driving license test strict for older drivers – if they are making more difficult then someone must help them get around – keeps them fit, healthy, social
- Immobility major issue – need for requirements of life – shopping, health, social, pay bills
- Traffic lights crossing and barriers good for safety - Blockhouse bay shopping and Edmonton Road and Royal Oak
- Senior citizens taxis – mobility taxis
- More road signs needed to warn pensioners villages
- More benches
- Ramps on buses – steps on buses difficult
- Big trucks not being maintained, roads not built for 80 tonne trucks, damaging the roads

Information requirements

- Volunteer co-ordinators – list of volunteers to senior citizens – CABs
- Information sent through would be good (volunteer co-ordination)
- Older Adult Committee formed - meets give views to Council
- Funding, grants available.
- Fact sheet for services available.

Other

- Prefer concessions takes away the feeling of a handout.
- Prefer not cap in hand for grants prefer concession on halls rents
- Putting pension under WINZ gives it a feeling of a handout rather than something they have earned.
- Kelston hall filthy after use in weekends – chairs stacked high
- Waitakere Ranges – Protect use to have birds etc – changed. Stop encroachment of buildings.
- Outreach – excellent services
- Few services at Waitakere Hospital- more depts needed in Waitakere Hospital.
- Australian pensioner are provided:
 - Half fare concession
 - 2 free trips on rail
 - Concession on rates
 - Concession on car registration
 - \$5/month – hospital buses

HOW ARE THE KEY ISSUES ALLOWED FOR IN THE COUNCIL'S DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN?

Transport and mobility

This general need is covered within the Transport and Communication platform. However, no provision is identified for those with specific access needs e.g. the elderly and disabled. It is recommended that a specific focus is placed within this platform to ensure their needs are considered