



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Development Department
Older People's Unit

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13 March 2006

Dear colleague,

Age and Experience: Consultation on the Strategy for a Scotland with an Ageing Population

The Scottish Executive is developing a strategy for a Scotland with an ageing population, and we are writing to invite you to contribute your comments and opinions by 5th June 2006. Please can you send your response to:

Nicole Ronald,
Scottish Executive
Area 2G(S)
Victoria Quay
Leith
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ
Email: Nicole.ronald@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

If you have any queries contact Jess Barrow on 0131 244 0718.

We are seeking comments from a wide range of sectors, from individuals and from organisations. The responses to this consultation will inform the Strategy, which is due to be published by the end of 2006.



We would like to hear your thoughts and views about the issues that should be covered in the Strategy, and any examples of existing good practice in relation to meeting the challenges and opportunities of an ageing population. We would like to hear from individuals and groups, and organisations large or small.

Enclosed with this letter are the following two papers:

1. Age and Experience – What do you think?

Framed around the themes of the Strategy, this consultation questionnaire is designed to facilitate group discussion, and is a quick and easy response method. It can also be used to circulate to other interest groups or community groups, who may wish to make their own response.

We welcome fuller written responses, but would ask where possible you refer to the questions in the consultation paper, as this will help our analysis of the responses. It is essential that you complete the **Respondent Information Form (RIF)** which is included at the end of questionnaire as this will let us know how to deal with your response.

2. Age and Experience – Setting the Scene

This paper provides more background information on the issues behind the strategy, including information about demographic change. You do not need to read this paper to submit a response, but some people may find it useful.

This consultation, and all other Scottish Executive consultation exercises, can be viewed online on the consultation web pages of the Scottish Executive website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/consultations>. You can telephone Freephone 0800 77 1234 to find out where your nearest public internet access point is.

The Scottish Executive now has an email alert system for consultations <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Consultations/seConsult>. This system allows stakeholders, individuals and organisations to register and receive a weekly email containing details of all new consultations (including web links).

SEconsult complements, but in no way replaces SE distribution lists, and is designed to allow stakeholders, individuals and organisations to keep up to date with all SE consultation activity, and therefore be alerted at the earliest opportunity to those of most interest. We would encourage you to register.

Handling your response

We need to know how you wish your response to be handled and, in particular, whether you are happy for your response to be made public. Please complete and return the **Respondent Information Form** which forms part of the consultation questionnaire as this will ensure that we treat your response appropriately. If you ask for your response not to be published we will regard it as confidential, and we will treat it accordingly.

All respondents should be aware that the Scottish Executive are subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and would therefore have to consider any request made to it under the Act for information relating to responses made to this consultation exercise.

Next steps in the process

Where respondents have given permission for their response to be made public (see the attached Respondent Information Form), these will be made available to the public in the Scottish Executive Library and on the [Scottish Executive consultation](#) web pages by 3rd July 2006. We will check all responses where agreement to publish has been given for any potentially defamatory material before logging them in the library or placing them on the website. You can make arrangements to view responses by contacting the SE Library on 0131 244 4565. Responses can be copied and sent to you, but a charge may be made for this service.

What happens next ?

Following the closing date, all responses will be analysed and considered along with any other available evidence to help us develop the Strategy for a Scotland with an Ageing Population. We will be collecting evidence from a range of sources, including reviewing existing research, holding a series of focus groups, and holding a series of subject-specific seminars. We are also launching a dedicated website: www.infoscotland.com/experience, which will contain information about the development of the Strategy.

We aim to issue the Strategy by the end of 2006.

Comments and complaints

If you have any comments about how this consultation exercise has been conducted, please send them to:

Name: Fiona Hird
Address: Scottish Executive
Area 2F(S)
Victoria Quay
Leith
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

E-mail: Fiona.hird@scotland.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,



Jess Barrow
Older People's Unit

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Consultees include:

LA Chief Executives
LA Directors of Housing
Community Councils
NDPBs
Older people's organisations
Transport organisations
Community Planning Partnerships

LA Directors of Social Work
NHS Boards
Housing Associations
Relevant voluntary organisations
Rural organisations
Equality organisations
Social Inclusion Partnerships