

# Better Later Life He Oranga Kaumātua 2019 to 2034

A SUMMARY OF THE DRAFT STRATEGY

**Making the future better for  
New Zealanders as we age**  
Kia Oranga Kaumātua  
ō Rā ki te Ao

APRIL 2019



# Wawata Mātāmua

## Vision

Kia noho ora tonu ngā kaumātua  
**Older New Zealanders lead valued,  
connected and fulfilling lives.**



# Ngā Mātāpono

## Guiding principles

Te whakaaro nui ki te tangata i ō rātou rā ki te ao  
**Valuing people as they age**

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Te noho haumaruru  
**Keeping people safe**

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Te aronui ki te āhua ake o ia tangata

**Recognising diversity and that everyone is unique**

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Te whakarangatira i te kaumātuatanga mā ngā  
tikanga whānau

**Taking a whole-of-life and whānau-centred  
approach to ageing**

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Te mahitahi ki te whakamahere i ōna rā ki te ao

**Taking collective responsibility to plan and act  
for later life**

# Summary of key areas for action and possible initial priorities

## Preparing for **financial and economic security**

- All older people should have sufficient income, assets and other support to enjoy a good standard of living.
- Older people can work if they wish, want or need to. Those who can't work up to the age of NZ Superannuation entitlement are supported. Older workers should be treated fairly, and their skills and experience recognised.

### **Possible initial priorities**

- Encouraging employment of those aged 50+.
- The State sector to role model good practice in the employment and support of an ageing workforce.
- Identify opportunities to further enhance SuperGold Card.



## Improving access to **health and social services**

- People enter their later years as fit and healthy as possible and can access the health and social services they need.
- Services designed to support older people take both a person-centred and a whānau-centred approach.

### **Possible initial priorities**

- Implement the Healthy Ageing Strategy 2016 and the New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016.
- Improve access and coordinate assistance to vulnerable older people.



## Providing **housing choices** and options so people can age in the community

- People can age in a place they call home, safely and where possible independently.

### **Possible initial priorities**

- Reform the Residential Tenancies Act 1986.
- Increase supply of public housing.
- Strengthen Housing New Zealand's focus on tenants' needs.
- Reduce homelessness.
- Identify and progress opportunities to improve housing options for older people.



## Enhancing opportunities for **social connection and participation**

- Loneliness is reduced, older people are socially connected and contribute and participate in their communities.
- Recognise older people are diverse – they age differently, with different aspirations and needs. They have the right to make choices and decisions about their lives as they age.
- The prevalence of elder abuse is reduced and older people feel and are safe.
- Older people use technology to help give them a better life and those who do not use technology can still access the services they need.
- All older people are respected and valued.

### **Possible initial priorities**

- Combat elder abuse.
- Improve digital skills and inclusion.
- Encourage positive attitudes to older people and raise awareness of age discrimination.
- Improve access and coordinate assistance to socially isolated and other vulnerable people.



**He taonga nui te aroha ki te tangata.**

*Goodwill towards others is a precious treasure.*



## Providing **accessible built environments** so people can participate in their community

- New Zealand communities, places and spaces and community facilities are age-friendly and accessible.

### **Possible initial priorities**

- Encourage local authorities to plan for, and take action to respond to, an ageing population.
- Continue to encourage the development of the Age-friendly Cities and Communities programme.

A copy of the draft strategy  
**‘Better Later Life – He Oranga  
Kaumātua 2019 to 2034’** is available  
on the SuperSeniors website at  
[www.superseniors.msd.govt.nz](http://www.superseniors.msd.govt.nz)

# Have your say

We would value your feedback on the draft strategy. For more details on how to participate go to the SuperSeniors website at [www.superseniors.msd.govt.nz](http://www.superseniors.msd.govt.nz)

The closing date for submissions is **3 June 2019.**