



City of
Melville

Age-Friendly Melville

Directions from Seniors
2010-2012

*An **age-friendly** environment **benefits all** of the community for current and future generations.*





Message from the Mayor

Guided by what you told us, the City of Melville is committed to delivering the Age-Friendly Melville Strategy, 'Directions from Seniors 2010 – 2012'. This builds on the foundation steps previously undertaken from 2007 – 2009. As part of the World Health Organisation's Age-Friendly Cities® project, the City of Melville's undertaking confirms a commitment to work towards further enhancing and developing the experiences and wellbeing of our seniors.

Progress towards an all-inclusive City that is well-prepared and positioned for the impact of an ageing population is an ongoing priority for the Council. Based on what you told us, we will continue to enhance opportunities for you by promoting active ageing and working to remove the barriers in services, structure and policies that seniors encounter as they grow older in our City.

Current research demonstrates a world-first phenomenon where people aged 55 years plus will be in numbers never before experienced. These changing demographics will mean increased requirements for a greater range of services, infrastructure changes and policies responsive to a greater than ever ageing population.

The City of Melville will continue to work with the State Government, through the Department for Communities, and with over 20 other local governments around Western Australia who are all working towards creating age-friendly communities. By working together we will ensure the concerns you have raised, common with seniors around Western Australia, are heard across all tiers of government.

Furthermore, the City of Melville will continue to participate at an international level through our inclusion in the World Health Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities®. This ensures participation and commitment to a cycle of continual assessment and improvement of our age-friendliness, along with other municipalities across the world.

We look forward to your ongoing feedback throughout the next two years and will encourage you to contribute to the City of Melville's next comprehensive consultation which will be undertaken in 2012 – 2013.

Russell Aubrey
Mayor
City of Melville

Fact: *In the City of Melville in 2031 it is forecast there will be a 42.6 per cent increase in the number of people aged over 85 years compared to 2006.*



Our Vision

A safe, attractive City where the consequences of our actions for future generations are taken into account, natural and built facilities are accessible to everyone and a sense of place and community spirit is generated with our voices heard through opportunities to participate in decisions that affect our lives.

'People, Places, Participation' a Community Plan for the City of Melville 2007 – 2017 identified several initial priorities to work towards fulfilling the community's aspirations.

Our vision for an age-friendly City is one that:

- Promotes 'active ageing' where seniors are able to live safely, enjoy good health and participate fully in their communities.
- Helps to remove the barriers people encounter as they grow older.
- Ensures policies, services and structures are designed to support and enable seniors to age actively.
- Creates an age-friendly environment that benefits all the community for current and future generations.

What Did We Do?

In 2007 – 2009, the City of Melville conducted focus groups of seniors that identified key domains which became priorities for future implementation. These key areas were:

- Communication between community support and health service providers.
- Communication with and information for seniors.
- Sustainable transport.
- Social participation, respect and inclusion.
- Sustainable housing options.

Many actions have been progressed and outcomes achieved during 2007 – 2009. If you would like a copy of the Action List for 'Directions for Seniors 2007 – 2009', please call the City of Melville's Customer Service Team on 1300 635 845 who will arrange for a copy to be posted to you. Alternatively, visit www.melvillecity.com.au/seniors.

Due to the extensive scope of the identified key areas in 2007 – 2009, we will continue to take action in these areas during 2010 – 2012.





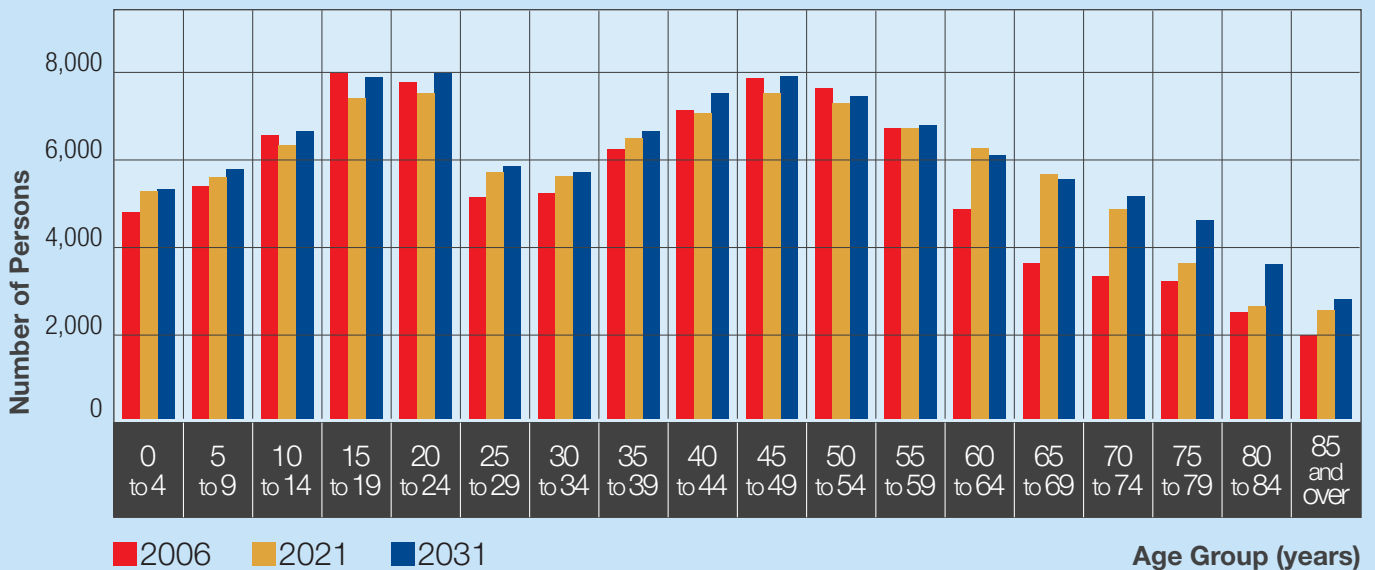
Demographic Facts

In working towards an age-friendly City, population changes have been considered to enable us to plan for the future.

The following graph shows projected population changes that will impact on your requirements over the next 20 years.

Fact: 25.5 per cent of our population will be aged over 60 by 2031. Our infrastructure, services and policies will need to reflect this significant change.

Forecast Age Structure for the City of Melville, 2006 – 2031.



All facts are sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), 2006 Census of Population and Housing Forecast or forecast.id®



What Did You Tell Us?

At the completion of the Age-Friendly Melville Strategy, 'Directions for Seniors 2007 – 2009', the City of Melville invited a focus group of senior participants to provide feedback regarding their perceptions of improvements to the City of Melville's age-friendliness.

Some of the things you told us include:

Community Support and Health Services

- The City of Melville has excellent home care services provided by many local providers.
- Council supports and includes seniors.
- Council should continue to expand the focus on seniors as a priority, given the changing demographics.
- A lot more needs to be done to enhance seniors' wellbeing.
- There are many smaller issues, including the suitability and provision of footpaths and the necessity for seats in major walking thoroughfares.
- One of the bigger issues relates to accessing local neighbourhood doctors.

Fact: In 2009 ABS estimates indicated the City of Melville's population reached 101,052 residents.

Communication and Information

- Council has provided more information in local papers of recent times regarding events, activities and developments.
- You value the Seniors Services Directory.
- Council is listening to you, as evidenced in the City's responses to issues you raised in 2007.
- Many of you have no desire to access information electronically and prefer to receive information in the mail.
- Some of you didn't notice any changes in information delivery and communication.
- Some of you miss out on the local paper delivery containing information on activities and events within the City of Melville.

Transport

- Some of you experience unclean bus shelters and have safety concerns with public transport.
- Bus services are easy to access east to west across the City of Melville but are difficult to access from south to north, for some of you.
- You would like a CAT bus service, like Fremantle, enabling you to be car-free.
- The park 'n' ride at Bull Creek is inadequate after 7.30am.
- You are concerned for your safety on trains at night.
- Shopping centre car parks are a 'nightmare' and you would like designated parking places for seniors, as well as disabled parking at all shopping centres.



Fact: *The City of Melville is forecast to experience an average annual percentage population change of 0.44 per cent per annum between 2006 and 2031.*

Housing

- You want to remain in your own home in a familiar community.
- Existing support programs, to enable seniors to stay in their own home, should be extended as current services are already stretched, particularly for gardening maintenance.
- You would like to downsize your existing home but believe there to be a lack of suitable smaller detached homes or units in the City of Melville.
- There is an experience of inflexibility in planning to modify existing properties.
- There is a need for more local high care facilities.
- Some of you feel that the City of Melville has a wide variety of housing options available.

Respect, Inclusion and Social Participation

- You believe the Council shows an interest in providing services for seniors and that this aspect has improved.
- You would like smaller ethnic social groups across the City of Melville.
- You would like an activity centre for all the community where all seniors could meet and be involved in a variety of activities, events and information provision.
- There are many recreation and exercise facilities in the City of Melville, some that offer discounts to pensioners, yet the cost is still prohibitive for seniors on limited incomes.

What Will We Do From 2010 – 2012?

Considering the changing demographics and your feedback, some of the responses and actions to be initiated include:

Communication and Information; Community Support and Health Services

Strategy

Facilitate and advocate for improved communication between seniors and community support and health service providers. Ensure information provided is up-to-date, easily accessible and understood.

Actions

- Continue the emphasis on Library Services, noting their key role in information provision.
- Facilitate a strategic planning forum for local service providers and businesses to share our strategy and framework.
- Provide quarterly updates via the community newspaper as to actions and developments undertaken progressing towards an age-friendly City.
- Plan for a major consultation in 2012 to include a broader demographic of seniors, carers, service providers and businesses based on projected population increases.

Fact: *65-69 year olds are predicted to have the largest proportional increase, relative to population size, of 55.8 per cent by 2021, representing 18.6 per cent of the population.*



Transport

Strategy

Facilitate sustainable transport options to consider different forms of movement networks, including buses, cycling and pedestrian routes to connect the community.

Actions

- Participate with the Department for Communities and other local governments who are pursuing an Age-Friendly City strategy and advocate for improvements to transport.
- Review the City of Melville's community bus service to ensure it is providing a sustainable transport option for the community.

Housing

Strategy

Facilitate suitable affordable housing options to allow seniors to remain in contact with their social networks.

Actions

- Provide an opportunity for seniors to be informed of the Local Planning Strategy and the options this presents in regards to ageing in place and retaining community connections.
- Provide a seniors forum to promote awareness and information regarding housing options to assist seniors to make informed decisions.

Respect, Inclusion and Social Participation

Strategy

Create opportunities that enhance social participation in both built and natural environments with a focus on frail aged, culturally and linguistically diverse and socially isolated seniors.

Actions

- Provide opportunities that enhance social participation for seniors including isolated seniors, those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, those with varying abilities and older men.
- Improve seating on identified pedestrian walkways.
- Promote opportunities for outdoor activities for seniors in neighbourhood settings.
- Promote awareness of the Melville Volunteer Resource Centre (MVRC) and the volunteering opportunities available for seniors.

Fact: *In 2021 the majority of seniors in the City of Melville will live in Applecross, Bicton, Booragoon and Bull Creek.*



Where to Beyond 2012?

At the completion of this strategy in mid-2012, the City of Melville will speak further with senior residents over 55 years, carers, service providers and local businesses catering to our older population. We will then develop a new five year strategy as a result of your input and ask you to assist us in the evaluation of the outcomes in the previous five years from 2007 – 2012.

The City of Melville will also continue to work with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Department for Communities to ensure we remain abreast of international, national and state trends.

The following related documents can be downloaded from www.melvillecity.com.au or can be posted to you upon request:

- Age-Friendly Melville, Directions from Seniors 2010 – 2012
- Action List for Directions for Seniors 2007 – 2009
- Melville Age-Friendly Strategy, Directions for Seniors 2007 - 2009
 - City of Melville Seniors Asset Map
- World Health Organisation (WHO) Global Age-Friendly Cities® Guide and Checklist
 - WHO Age-Friendly Cities® Project (City of Melville Summary)

For further information, or to get involved in Directions from Seniors, please contact the City of Melville's Community Development Officers on 1300 635 845.



Fact: Lone person households are forecast to comprise 26.6 per cent of all households in the City of Melville by 2021.

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www relayservice.com.au

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Please call 1300 635 845 and quote the publication name.