Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Age Friendly Strategy 2021 – 2026

We are seeking the voices of Older People in the County as Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council are preparing a new Age Friendly Strategy that will take us from 2021 to 2026.

In June 2013, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council signed the Dublin Declaration on Age Friendly Cities and Communities in Europe. This means that Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is now committed to working towards becoming an Age Friendly County by creating an inclusive, equitable society in which older people can live full, active, valued and healthy lives. This local authority is affiliated to the WHO Global Network of Age Friendly Cities & Communities.

The publication of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Age Friendly Strategy 2016 – 2020 and the establishment of the Age Friendly Alliance were the first steps towards delivering on that commitment. The Alliance is made up of key agencies in the County who are tasked with overseeing and progressing the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Age Friendly Strategy 2016-2020. The ultimate goal of this strategy being ‘to make dlr a great place in which to grow old’.

One of the key areas identified within this strategy was the need to hear the voice of older members of our County more clearly. You can view the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Age Friendly Strategy 2016 – 2020 and our Winter 2020 Age Friendly Magazine at https://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/community/dlr-age-friendly-county

We would very much appreciate it if you could take the time to fill out our questionnaire to inform us of the areas which affect your life in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and what can be done to bring about positive changes for Older People in the County over the next 5 years.

The opening ‘Participant Profile’ part of the questionnaire is a required section and there are 12 other sections to the questionnaire. You do not have to answer all of the questions – only the questions that you feel comfortable with and are relevant to you.

Prize Draw: All submitted questionnaires will be entered into a draw for a €50 One4All Gift Card. You will need to provide your email address in the profile section if you would like to enter the prize draw.

If you choose to provide your email address, this will only be used for entry in the prize draw, and/or to acknowledge your submission.

All information supplied will be anonymised and will only be used for the purposes of preparing our new Age Friendly Strategy.

Call us on 01 205 4893 or email community@dlrcoco.ie if you need any help with filling out the Age Friendly Strategy 2021-2026 questionnaire and the questionnaire can also be completed online at www.dlrcoco.citizenspace.com
PARTICIPANT PROFILE (REQUIRED)

a. What gender are you?
   - Male
   - Female
   - Rather not say

b. Which age group do you belong to?
   - Under 55
   - 55 – 60
   - 61 – 69
   - 70–79
   - 80 – 90
   - Over 90
   - Rather not say

c. Do you currently live: (Please select only one item)
   - Alone
   - With Spouse / Partner/ family member
   - In a Nursing Home
   - Rather not say
   - Other (Please advise in box below)

d. Which Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Electoral Area do you currently live in?
   (Please select only one item)
   - Blackrock
   - Dún Laoghaire
   - Killiney / Shankill
   - Stillorgan
   - Glencullen / Sandyford
   - Dundrum
   - Do not wish to state

e. Please provide your email address in the box below if you want to be entered into a draw for a €50 One4All Gift Card. (Optional)

1. Social Participation

a. Do you take part in any of the below activities in your area? (Please select all that apply)
   - Social
   - Community
   - Church
   - Voluntary
   - None of these

b. Are you a leader in your community?
   - Yes
   - No
   - Rather not say

c. If you don’t already, would you be interested in participating in any of the groups below? (Please select all that apply)
   - Active Retirement group
   - Bridge Club
   - Day Care Centre
   - Gardening / Outdoor activities
   - Libraries / Book Club
   - Travel group
   - Support / Counselling group
   - Women’s group
   - Arts / Culture / Languages
   - Church / Religious group
   - Environmental activities / awareness
   - Leisure / Sports (swimming, golf, bowling etc.)
   - Men’s Shed / Men’s group
   - Rotary /Lions Club
   - Volunteering / local development
   - None of the above
   - Other (Please advise in box below)
d. What would be the main reasons for you not to be able / not interested in joining a group / activity in your area? (Please select all that apply)

- This question does not apply to me
- Anxious / afraid to join a new group
- Can’t afford to join
- Caring responsibilities
- Don’t have time
- Don’t know anyone
- Don’t like to socialise
- Unable due to health reasons
- Other reasons (Please advise in box opposite)

e. Are you aware of any of the following supports/services/events for older people supported by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council? (Please select all that apply)

- Bealtaine Festival
- dlr Age Friendly Alliance
- dlr Directory of Services & Activities for Older People
- dlr Festival of Inclusion
- dlr Older Peoples Council
- Garda Older Peoples Association
- Heritage events
- Libraries / Arts Programmes for older people
- Senior Alert Scheme
- Sports Partnership activities
- None of the above

2. Communication

a. Are you kept up to date about what’s happening in your area?

- Yes
- No

b. If you needed to find out information related to ageing (either for yourself or a family member), please select 3 options from the list below of the sources of information that you would most likely use:

- Active Retirement groups
- Age Friendly Ireland
- An Garda Síochána, Community Policing Unit
- Church / Religious groups
- DLR Times
- Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
- Family / friends
- Healthcare Providers (Health Centre, GP’s, Hospital etc.)
- Internet
3. Access to Outdoor Spaces & Public Buildings

a. How would you rate the opportunities to access outdoor spaces and public buildings in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown? (Please select only one item)
   - Excellent
   - Very Good
   - Good
   - Fair
   - Poor

b. What actions could Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council take in order to improve the opportunities for older people to enjoy our public spaces?
   Please enter your response in the below box:

4. Transport and Mobility

a. Do you think that it is easy for older people to get around the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown area?
   - Yes
   - No

b. How would you rate your access to public transport in your area?
   (Please select only one item)
   - Excellent
   - Very Good
   - Good
   - Fair
   - Poor

c. What (if anything) would help to improve your access to public areas and services in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown? Please select your top 3 from the list below:
   - Improved public transport to services in DLR
   - Improved pavements and walking routes
   - More free bicycles / tricycles available for the public
   - Improved cycling routes
   - Designated Age Friendly Parking
   - More designated parking for disabled drivers
   - None of the above
   - Other (Please specify in box below)
5. Housing

a. What would be the most important factors for you in considering rightsizing (moving to an appropriately sized house)? Please select from options below:
   - Same location / neighbourhood
   - Near services / shops etc.
   - Near public transport
   - Near to community amenities
   - Living closer to family members
   - Not applicable, I do not intend on rightsizing my home
   - Other (Please advise in box below)

b. Do you feel that there is enough information available to you about rightsizing your home and the grants that are available?
   - Yes
   - No

6. Civic Engagement and Discrimination

a. Have you ever suffered discrimination in the county on the grounds of age?
   - Yes
   - No

b. Are you aware of the Irish Senior Citizens Parliament?
   - Yes
   - No

7. Covid-19

a. How have you been coping with the restrictions associated with the Covid 19 pandemic? (Please select only one item)
   - Very well
   - Well
   - Fairly well
   - Poorly
   - Not coping well

b. What supports and services would help you to cope better with living with Covid 19? Please enter your response in the below box:

8. Business and Employment

a. How would you rate the overall “age-friendliness” of local businesses in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown? (Please select only one item)
   - Excellent
   - Very Good
   - Good
   - Fair
   - Poor

b. How would you rate access to employment opportunities for older people in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown? (Please select only one item)
   - Excellent
   - Very Good
   - Good
   - Fair
   - Poor

9. Digital Access and Technology

a. Do you have access to the internet in your home?
   - Yes
   - No
b. Please advise from the below list what reason (if any) you do not use technology or/and do not have access to the internet? (Please select all that apply)

- Not applicable to me
- Can’t afford internet access
- No equipment – smartphone / laptop etc.
- Can’t afford to buy technology
- No interest in accessing / using technology
- Don’t know how to use / access it
- Have a smartphone / tablet, but don’t know how to use it

c. How and where do you mostly access the internet? Please select the device(s) and location(s) where you mostly access the internet below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Device(s)</th>
<th>Do not use</th>
<th>At home</th>
<th>Local Library</th>
<th>Local Community Centre</th>
<th>Free WiFi points</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Smart phone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tablet/i pad</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laptop/ Computer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

d. Would you like to take part in training on accessing the internet and using digital technology?
- Yes
- No

10. Community Support and Health Services

a. Did you feel lonely or isolated before Covid-19 arrived?
- Yes
- No

b. What services and supports would help you when feeling lonely and isolated?
Please enter your response in the below box:


c. Do you know who to contact should you need to avail of local health services in your area, e.g. Home Support, Meals on Wheels, Day Centres etc.
- Yes
- No

d. Are you aware of other HSE funded services in your area such as befriending or advocacy services?
- Yes
- No

11. Safety and Security

a. Do you feel safe in your own home?
- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable

b. Are you aware of the over 65’s Senior Alarm System in operation in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown?
- Yes
- No

General Feedback & Comments Box

What do you think will be the main issues impacting on the lives of older people in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown over the next 5 years? Please enter your response in the below box: