



Older Persons Living Forum

28/06/2023

Agenda Items – Meeting 4

Item	Description
1	Welcome/Introductions
2	How can we listen to you better survey update
3	Carbon Neutral Team Presentation
4	Pensions and Care and Income Support presentation
5	Any other business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="376 1114 1570 1161">• Landlords discrimination against renting to pensioners<li data-bbox="376 1198 1178 1246">• Update from meeting with Ministers

Item	Discussion & Agreement
1	<p>Welcome/Introductions</p> <p>The Chair ensured that all attendees were satisfied with their preferred method of receiving meetings notes and other correspondence, whether it be through email or post. Following this, each attendee introduced themselves and the meeting commenced.</p>
2	<p>How can we listen to you better survey update</p> <p>The Policy Officer provided an update on the progress of the "How Can We Listen to You Better" survey. She acknowledged the valuable feedback received from the forum members. She highlighted that the feedback has helped in developing guidance on how to effectively engage with older people. The guidance includes considerations such as venue accessibility and technology to ensure inclusivity. Additionally, the forum was informed about the upcoming launch in September of online training for government employees to make sure they engage in an inclusive way based on the guidance.</p>
3	<p>Carbon Neutral Team Presentation</p> <p>A Senior Policy Officer delivered a comprehensive presentation on the climate change policy and the incentives designed to support the carbon neutral roadmap. The carbon neutral roadmap primarily focuses on reducing the use of fossil fuels in cars and boilers. The Policy Officer highlighted the low carbon heating incentive, which has recently launched and aims to transition oil and gas heating systems to electric alternatives. The incentive offers financial support of up to £5000, or</p>

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	<p data-bbox="333 292 2114 379">£10,000 for low-income individuals, to facilitate the switch to electric heating. Additionally, energy-efficient upgrades such as double glazing or loft insulation are also eligible for consideration.</p> <p data-bbox="333 411 1861 448">For further information on the low carbon heating incentive please visit: www.gov.je/lowcarbonheat</p> <p data-bbox="333 483 2168 1209">The Policy Officer informed the team that an electric vehicle incentive is currently in development and will be launched soon. This incentive aims to encourage the switch to electric vehicles. Concerns were raised regarding the audibility of electric vehicles for sight-impaired individuals, as well as the cost and environmental impact of battery replacements and safe disposal. It was explained that electric vehicles are now made audible and as Jersey is smaller, the battery life of electric vehicles is expected to be longer. It was also mentioned that ongoing research and development are focused on addressing these concerns. The forum discussed the availability of public charging points and it was explained that while the number of public charging points may be limited initially, this is due to the ongoing advancements in charging technology. The intention is to avoid installing a large number of charging points at first, as they would require costly upgrades in the future. An electric vehicle charger incentive is also available, but it is focused on people who have means on their own property. A concern was raised about the weight of electric vehicles in comparison to traditional vehicles in car parks. It was clarified that the weight of a small electric car is comparable to that of a large SUV. Concerns were raised about the source of electricity, as Jersey imports electricity from France. The forum was assured that France is willing to supply as much electricity as needed, and efforts are being made to explore options for generating electricity locally. There is currently no set end date for the incentives, but funding is limited. The forum were encouraged to provide feedback and suggestions on how to effectively promote the incentives to older individuals.</p> <p data-bbox="333 1246 573 1283">Contact details:</p> <p data-bbox="333 1318 748 1355">Telephone – 01534 441680</p>

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	<p>Email – ClimateEmergency@gov.je</p> <p>Climate Emergency 19-21 Broad Street St Helier JE2 3RR</p> <p>www.gov.je/Environment/ClimateEmergency</p>
4	<p>Any other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landlords discrimination against renting to pensioners <p>A member of the forum shared her recent experience of attempting to rent a flat, where the landlord denied her application based on her employment status.</p> <p>The Forum member expressed that they felt this action was unfair, discriminatory, and possibly in violation of the law. She emphasized that while she may be retired and receiving a pension, others who are currently employed may face the risk of job loss. The forum agreed this was discriminatory. To Action: Chair to send a letter to the Citizens Advice Bureau to seek guidance and clarification on the matter and also raise this issue with the Housing Minister.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update from forum member on meeting with Ministers <p>A member of the forum raised a concern regarding the lack of courtesy shown by students on buses, as they often do not give up their seats for elderly or disabled individuals. The member of the forum informed the team that he met with Ina</p>

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	<p>Gardener, the Education Minister, to discuss this issue when the Ministers visited the Parish Hall. The Education Minister expressed her commitment to addressing this matter and mentioned her plan to talk to schools to emphasize the importance of giving up seats to those in need.</p> <p>The group discussed the need for a dedicated Minister for elderly and disabled individuals, as well as a ministerial representative for carers. It was mentioned that there have been discussions about the possibility of creating such positions, but no concrete plans have been established yet. A member of the forum informed the team that she is still awaiting a response to her letter inquiring about the absence of a Minister for carers and the progress of Carers Legislation. She also shared her experience for the pitch regarding the three-sectioned hospital. She raised the question of free parking and was informed that it could potentially be abused. She suggested implementing a code system similar to what hotels use to regulate parking. She questioned why hospitals couldn't adopt a similar approach.</p> <p>A member of the forum raised concerns about the misuse and abuse of blue badges, noting that there appears to be a lack of management or enforcement in place. She emphasized the need for more designated parking spots closer to shops to accommodate individuals with disabilities or older people. She also highlighted the importance of increased policing, particularly after 5 PM, to ensure that these parking spots are not occupied by unauthorized vehicles.</p> <p>A member of the forum raised concerns about the lack of convenient public transport access to the new outpatient department at Les Quennevais. It was noted that the closest bus stop is a lengthy walk, making it difficult for older individuals or those with disabilities to reach. To Action: Chair will discuss this issue with Health and Community planning.</p>

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	<p>A suggestion was made by a forum member regarding pre-discussing and deciding questions for speakers in advance. This would ensure that speakers are aware of the forum's specific areas of interest. To Action: Chair to discuss this with speakers.</p> <p>The Chair emphasized the need for the forum to develop a long-term plan outlining desired outcomes and identifying key speakers to invite. To facilitate this process, the Chair distributed a survey listing potential speakers, asking members to prioritize their importance. The Chair will consider the responses when determining future speakers for the forum.</p>
8	<p>Next meeting date</p> <p>2:00pm on Wednesday 30th of August 2023</p>