



20 May 2015

WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities
World Health Organisation
Avenue Appia 20
1211 Geneva 27
Switzerland

To whom it may concern

Re: Application for membership of the WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities

I write to confirm the commitment of Macedon Ranges Shire Council in Victoria, Australia to our application for membership of the Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities, and in particular the Network cycle of continuous improvement.

Council has committed to seeking membership of the Global Network as part of the 2013-17 Council Plan. This builds on previous work by Council in seeking to promote positive ageing opportunities and engage older people in decision-making about the matters that affect them.

Our population projections suggest that by 2026 the Macedon Ranges will be 'older' in comparison to the rest of Victoria and will have aged more rapidly. How we prepare for this will be integral to managing the perception and value of older people in the community.

An Age Friendly Communities Action Plan has been developed to meet the requirements of the World Health Organisation Global Network of Age-friendly Communities. Ongoing engagement of older people in planning, implementation, evaluation and review of the action plan is considered critical to achieving and maintaining membership of the Global Network.

In carrying out the actions in the plan, Council will utilise and apply various methods of engaging our community to ensure the needs and aspirations of older people are achieved. This work is guided by Council's Community Consultation Framework. Council also has a Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee which provides Council with a broad panel of community representatives that contribute their views on key projects across the shire.

On behalf of Council, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to be considered for membership to the Global Network and consider this a key step in achieving an age-friendly community.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Anderson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Cr Jennifer Anderson
Mayor**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Johnston', with a stylized, cursive style.

**Peter Johnston
Chief Executive Officer**