

30 July 2018

To whom it may concern

The Illawarra Shoalhaven Joint Organisation (ISJO) endorses the application by the Age Friendly Illawarra Alliance to the World Health Organisation's Global Network of Age Friendly Communities. ISJO will continue to support a cycle of continual improvement towards the development of an age-friendly region.

As a member of the Age Friendly Illawarra Alliance, ISJO has assisted consultation with older people to develop a baseline assessment of the age friendliness of the region. The findings, summarised in the Age Friendly Illawarra Consultation Report, have informed the development of the Age Friendly Illawarra Implementation Plan 2018-2021, which includes the indicators to be used to measure the success of the initiative.

ISJO will continue to promote an age-friendly region through continued membership in the Age Friendly Illawarra Alliance and to support delivery of the activities identified in the 3 Year Implementation Plan. Specifically, ISJO will assist to:

- Support state and local planning processes to create age-friendly communities using the knowledge, information and tools available through the World Health Organisation's Global Network of Age-friendly Communities.
- Provide local councils with leading advice, expertise, access to networks, policy information and other support to encourage local age-friendly initiatives.
- Empower seniors' involvement in local age-friendly initiatives by assisting with active engagement structures and models of localised seniors community input.
- Addressing the built environment, transport, housing, social participation and employment, communication, and community support and health services for age-friendly communities.
- Valuing stakeholder engagement and working together to promote and strengthen partnerships with peak bodies, community organisations, businesses, retailers and council-run facilities.

The Illawarra Shoalhaven Joint Organisation consists of four member councils of Kiama Municipal, Shoalhaven, Shellharbour and Wollongong Cities.

The councils have a combined area of some 5,800 square kms and a population of approximately 400,000 people. ISJO's vision for the region is a confidence, vibrant, safe and productive region that optimises the potential of its people and environment now and into the future. ISJO will lead, advocate, collaborate and deliver outcomes that service the interests of the region's diverse communities.

It is in this capacity that the Illawarra Shoalhaven Joint Organisation supports the application to the World Health Organisation's Global Network of Age Friendly Cities.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon Bradbery', written in a cursive style.

Clr Gordon Bradbery AM
Chair