

## O OIFIG AN MHÉARA CONTAÉ CHORCAÍ FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF THE COUNTY OF CORK



Dr. John Beard, Director, Department of Ageing and Life Course Office 5030. WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, 20, AVENUE APPIA, CH-1211 GENEVA 27, Switzerland.

11<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

Dear Dr. Beard,

On behalf of Cork County Council I wish to apply to the World Health Organisation for membership to your Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

Under the auspices of Ireland's National Age Friendly Programme, I can confirm that the Cork Age Friendly Programme has been working towards becoming Age Friendly for 4 years and has achieved the following objectives in order to establish our county as Age Friendly:-

- A multi-sectoral Age Friendly Alliance has been established, chaired by Local Authority Director of Service, comprising the most senior decision makers from the key public, private and not-for-profit agencies responsible for service provision to older people including the Local Authority, Health Service Executive. An Garda Siochana, Academia, Business Community and the Community & Voluntary sector.
- We have established an Older Persons Council and Network to listen to the issues that really matter and the things they would like to see change in their county, making it a better place to grow old in. This also includes holding annual celebratory events.
- We have developed our Age Friendly County Strategy. This document contains specific commitments by agencies, service providers and older people's organisations to implement agreed changes. It reflects the priorities expressed by older people in the consultation process and the co-designed solutions that alliance members and other key stakeholders have committed
- We now have four Age Friendly Towns in the County supported by the Local Authority in their first two years; Cobh, Mitchelstown, Bandon and Kinsale.



• With these solid foundations for the programme now in place, we actively promote and publicise to let the people of County Cork know that we are committed to delivering on the strategy and making our County a sustainable place that will be future proofed for the increasing ageing population that we anticipate.

I trust that this application is in order and look forward to hearing from you in the near future with confirmation of our membership.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr. Declan Hurley,

Mayor of the County of Cork