Your Ref Our Ref

Date

29 May 2019

Email

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Brendan Hegarty Chief Executive

World Health Organization WHO Headquarters Avenue Appia 20 1211 Geneva 27

To Whom it May Concern

RE: Membership to WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities

On behalf of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (FODC), I would like to confirm our commitment to becoming a more age-friendly district and support this application to apply to be part of the Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities. For several years, we have been building our partnerships with district wide and regional networks that engage with older people. FODC has had support from the PHA (Public Health Authority) for the last 4 years, and with their funding we have completed a comprehensive consultation process and subsequently launched our Age Friendly Strategy on the 1st March 2019, demonstrating our commitment to Age Friendly throughout our district. The Age Friendly Strategy sits within an over-arching Community Planning framework ensuring a multi-agency and cross sectoral commitment to delivery of the Action Plan. Outcome 2 of the Community Plan is specifically for older people and there is a range of indicators to enable the monitoring of progress achieved from the delivery of agreed actions. The Active Together Strategy for Fermanagh and Omagh District is still in draft format however there are a number of references to health and wellbeing interventions for older people.

Within Fermanagh and Omagh District Council we have a staff member dedicated to the delivery of an IT project for older people as well as an officer coordinating the activities and outputs for the PHA's Age Friendly funding as part of their broader work requirements. We are currently in negotiation with the PHA for further funding to enable this role to become a fulltime position for the financial year 19/20 and beyond.

It is important that we continue to strive to improve our district for older people given that the population demographics of the District project that the figure of 15% aged 65 years or over in 2015 is expected to rise to 23% by 2030. I trust that you will give our application due consideration and look forward to hearing the outcome soon.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Siobhán Currie

Chair of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council