

## 6. Our Letter of Commitment

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

Dear Committee

I am writing on behalf of Wrexham County Borough Council to apply for membership of the World Health Organisation's Global Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities.

As a Local Authority and provider of public services we recognise the importance of developing age-friendly communities, as the population is ageing. The 2021 Census in Wrexham reported that there has been an increase of 20.3% in the number of people aged 65 to 74 years. This growth is projected to continue and it is predicted by 2040 there will be an increase of 15.7%.

The aims and values of WHO Age Friendly Communities status focus on enhancing the quality of life for older adults through inclusivity, accessibility and empowerment. Wrexham County Borough Council supports these aims and values the contributions that older people make in their communities.

We are committed to supporting and enabling people to age well. In June 2013, we signed the Dublin declaration signifying the commitment to developing age-friendly communities that encourage active ageing and enhance quality of life as people age. The *Ageing Well in Wrexham Plan (2016-2019)* set a priority to make Wrexham a good place to grow older. Our Ageing Well Lead Officer and Chief Officer for Social Services provide a lead role in the creation of an Age-friendly Wrexham.

The Older People's Commissioner for Wales' commitment to make Wales a nation of age-friendly communities, and Welsh Government's vision: *to create an age friendly Wales that supports people of all ages to live and age well* (Age friendly Wales: strategy for an ageing society) supports our continued focus on developing age-friendly communities in Wrexham.

Please find the attached *Plan for Age-friendly Development in Wrexham (2016-2019)*. This plan demonstrates the commitment from Wrexham County Borough Council and its public sector and third sector partners. The document provides an overview of current age-friendly projects and initiatives and key actions that will help to make Wrexham a great place in which to live and age well. I trust you will find the plan both interesting and informative.

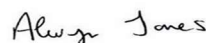
The plan will be further developed and prioritised in co-production with community groups, residents and service partners to continue the excellent work that has been taking place across the county. New opportunities for age-friendly development and learning will be explored, and best practices adopted from other communities in Wales and across the World.

On behalf of Wrexham County Borough Council and its partners, we look forward to your consideration of our application and hope that we can contribute positively to this inspiring global network of age-friendly communities.

Yours sincerely,



Alison Reeve  
Interim Chief Officer



Alwyn Jones  
Chief Executive



Councillor Mark Pritchard  
The Leader of Wrexham Council