



South Tyneside Council

GNAFCC
Avenue de la Paix 9
1202 Geneva
Switzerland

5 August 2026

Dear Sir/Madam

WHO Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities (GNAFCC)

South Tyneside is a metropolitan borough situated in the North East of England. There is a population estimate 151,393 of which 21% are aged over 65 years or above. We know this figure is set to rise in the future. ([South Tyneside Data Observatory – Welcome to Our South Tyneside Data Observatory!](#))

In 2022, South Tyneside signed up to become an Age Friendly Community via the Centre for Ageing Better. South Tyneside Council is also signed up to Age Friendly Employer Pledge and the Centre for Ageing Better Good Home Hub ([Age Friendly Communities - South Tyneside Council](#)).

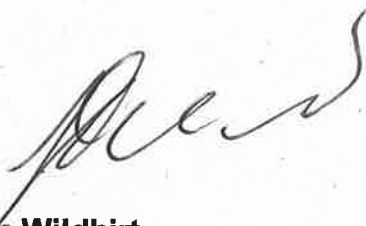
As the Mayor of South Tyneside, I am writing to express my support in South Tyneside signing up to the World Health Organisation (WHO) Global Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities.

As part of the application process, we have completed the WHO application form, completed a baseline survey, and have an age friendly strategy in place (2024-2028) We can also confirm that in South Tyneside:

- Age Concern Tyneside South (ACTS) has agreed to be the supporting partner and to lead on engagement with older residents. Age Concern is a UK charity, working locally to support people over the age of 50. It is the largest voluntary sector organisation working with older people in the borough.
- The Living Well Alliance is the lead alliance for this work. This is South Tyneside's placed based partnership whose aim is to enable residents to live and age well, by preventing delaying and reducing the burden of long-term conditions and the consequences of frailty.
- Age Friendly Communities has the full support of the Health & Wellbeing Board.

I believe we are in a very strong position to begin our Global Age Friendly journey, in conjunction with our residents and partners and we look forward to hearing the outcome of our application.

Yours faithfully

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

Councillor Stan Wildhirt
Mayor – South Tyneside