



World Health Organisation

Global Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities,
Avenue Appia 20, 1211 Geneva 27,
Switzerland.

16th January 2026

Dear Committee,

Carmarthenshire County Council recognises the importance of developing our county and we wish to affirm our commitment to enabling people to age well by becoming an age-friendly community. This letter outlines our application and aspiration to gain membership of the World Health Organisation's Global Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities.

The population in Carmarthenshire is ageing and we recognise that we need to meet the needs and wants of the older members of our communities to ensure that they feel included and valued in all that we do. There has been an increase of **18.9%** in people aged 65 and over in the County since 2011 and this figure is projected to increase even further to a point where nearly 1 in 3 residents will be aged 65 and over. The increase amongst the older age groups has been the most dramatic observed, in particular, for those aged between 60-74 and 85 years and over where increases of **24.1%** and **32.4%** respectively were reported which reinforces the model of an ageing population for Carmarthenshire which is why it is important that we consider the impact of an ageing society now.

Carmarthenshire County Council appreciates the contributions that older people make in their communities, and we wish to fully support them so that they enjoy living here in the county. We aim to encourage our older population to live full and healthy lives where they are able to participate and impact their communities. This also means empowering older people by ensuring that they understand their legal rights and how they can exercise them to make their voices heard. We believe that people of all ages should be able to access quality services and opportunities to live, age well, remain healthy and active and thrive as part of our resilient communities, whilst working together to improve well-being across the county.

As a county we are fully aligned with the Older People's Commissioner for Wales's ambition to make Wales a nation of age friendly communities and welcome Welsh Government's approach for an 'Age

Cynghorydd | Councillor

Linda Evans

Arweinydd y Cyngor | Leader of the Council

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Friendly Wales: our strategy for an ageing society' both of which support the eight Age Friendly Domains set out by the World Health Organisation which drives our focus on developing age-friendly communities in Carmarthenshire.

We have developed a plan in co-production with service partners, community groups and residents which provides an overview of current age-friendly practices and initiatives as well as key actions to continue the excellent work that has been taking place across the county to help make Carmarthenshire a great place in which to live and age well. This plan demonstrates the commitment of Carmarthenshire County Council and our public sector and third sector partners to work collaboratively, promoting innovation, developing new opportunities, and sharing best practice to deal with the challenges that people may face as they grow older.

Carmarthenshire County Council fully commits to becoming a member of the World Health Organisation's Global Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities. We believe that Age-Friendly communities create the conditions within which people can age well, adding life to years – not just years to life. Being Age Friendly brings a number of benefits to people of all ages and we wish to ensure that Carmarthenshire is a place people want to live in which is welcoming and accessible to all.

On behalf of Carmarthenshire County 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,

Cllr Linda Evans
Leader of the Council

Cllr Jane Tremlett
Cabinet Member for Integrated
Health, Children & Adult Social Services

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