

How is the Initiative being implemented?



The Department is also working with other agencies, local governments, Regional Development Commissions, Indigenous and a range of other community organisations as well as universities to bring the Initiative to local communities through:

- ◆ the promotion of appropriate activities at the local level;
- ◆ the provision of information on existing and new active ageing opportunities, programs and services at the local and regional level;
- ◆ the provision of funding for active ageing initiatives and to support participation in these;
- ◆ the use of existing communication networks and facilities for lifelong learning and other activities; and
- ◆ the use of action research projects which achieve practical outcomes while, at the same time, inform future policy and development in local and regional areas.

Information about the Initiative is being widely circulated across the State, through agencies, local governments, Regional Development Commissions and community organisations.

Will there be funding available?



Yes. Funding of \$1.35 million over a three year period has been made available for the Initiative.

Funding eligibility and application forms

Local governments and Indigenous and other incorporated community organisations are eligible to apply for the funding. The first round of funding is available in 2005-2006.

Funding guidelines and the application form are available on the Department of Local Government and Regional Development's website www.dlgrd.wa.gov.au.

How do I find out more about the Initiative?

Contact:

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Part of the State Government's Active Ageing Strategy



Active Ageing at the Local Level Initiative



Encouraging and supporting active ageing activities and participation

Would you like to maintain your level of activity and involvement in various interests as you become older?

Are you aware of the many programs and activities which are available across the State, including your local community, and how you may access these?

As a local government, would you like to be able to introduce new initiatives and programs in your community?

Do you have ideas about how you would like to participate and contribute to the wellbeing and planning of your community as you grow older?

Is your community organisation involved in active ageing activities and would like to do more?

What is **Active Ageing**?



Active ageing involves people having the opportunity, and taking up opportunities, to maintain an active involvement in various aspects of life as they age. This includes continuing participation in social, economic, cultural, spiritual, environmental and civic affairs. It is more than the ability to be physically active. It recognises the importance of older people being respected as active contributors within their families, peer relationships and communities and with members of younger generations.

Active ageing is about people being able to maintain their autonomy and independence as they age. It recognises the human rights of older people and principles of independence, participation, dignity, care and self-fulfilment, as well as equality of opportunity and treatment in all aspects of life as they grow older. Further, it recognises that older people should be encouraged and supported to participate in government decision making processes and other aspects of community life.

Active ageing aims to optimise opportunities for people to realise their potential for social, physical and psychological well being and quality of life as they age.

What is the **Active Ageing** at the Local Level Initiative?



The Initiative is a major initiative within the key priority “Community Awareness and Participation” of the State Government’s Active Ageing Strategy.

The Initiative has been developed to help bring about the Community Awareness and Participation goals at the local level where people live.

It incorporates a “lifecourse approach” in which the importance of early life experiences, gender and culture is recognised, along with strong connections between the generations, mutually beneficial and enhancing a sense of belonging and security.

Further, the Initiative aims to have people, local governments, community organisations and agencies working together locally to achieve these goals.

The Initiative focuses on the following two areas:

- ◆ community consultation and participation; and the
- ◆ provision of active ageing opportunities and programs.

What are the aims of the Initiative?



- ◆ to improve and enhance the quality of life of people across the State as they age;
- ◆ to increase the knowledge and understanding of active ageing at the local level within local governments and with State agencies and community organisations;
- ◆ to promote the engagement and participation of ageing and older people in the planning and implementation of policies and programs at the local level; and
- ◆ to provide opportunities for people to maintain an active quality of life as they age.



The Department of Local Government and Regional Development is the lead agency for the management and implementation of the Initiative and has worked with the Office for Seniors Interest and Volunteering to develop the Initiative.