

THE SUTTON PLAN

OUR PEOPLE, OUR PLACES, OUR PLAN

A letter of support for an age-friendly Sutton.

In Sutton, we are ambitious for all our residents and this is no different when it comes to older people. Older residents in Sutton contribute to all aspects of life through their work, their families, by volunteering and by supporting their communities. Much is made of the UK's ageing population; however, in Sutton becoming age-friendly means creating a culture where the contribution of older people is valued and maximised. To continue this work and take it to the next level we will be joining the WHO's Global Network of age-friendly communities, in order to learn and share our journey towards being age-friendly with others around the world.

This spirit of collaboration and partnership is at the heart of how we do things in Sutton. From its inception, the Sutton Plan - our borough-wide partnership, has identified making life better for older people as a priority. This means that making Sutton an age-friendly borough is not just a Council commitment, but an ambition all our partners share. Together, we will adopt the age-friendly framework. This will enable us to continue to listen to older people and build on the excellent work we have already done to meet the needs of Sutton's older population.

Age UK Sutton is the lead partner for this piece of work and has committed, with the strong support of partners, to making Sutton age-friendly as part of their strategy. By analysing data and engaging with our residents we know our strengths - of which there are many, and the issues we need to address. Throughout 2020, Age UK Sutton will run a dedicated series of engagement events. These events will involve older people, community leaders and senior decision-makers from across the borough and will focus on how we jointly tackle issues such as **social isolation, access to transport and participation in public life.**

We are committed to listening to and working with all our residents, to create a place that is leading the way in supporting ageing and valuing the contribution that older people make.

Councillor Ruth Dombey
Leader of the Council, London Borough of Sutton

Nicola Upton
Chief Executive Officer, Age UK Sutton

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