**Healthy Ageing Strategy 2021-2025 summary**

Among our Inner West community of more than 200,000 members, almost 55,000 people – or about one in four residents – are aged 50 years or older. Like many other communities, the Inner West is ageing at a faster rate than in the past, and this trend is projected to continue.

A priority for Inner West Council is to support all members of the community to lead full and rewarding lives as they age. Every day, Council delivers a comprehensive program of activities and support for older local residents to promote their ongoing health and wellbeing in their homes and in the community.

The *Healthy Ageing Strategy 2021-2025* builds on this foundation.

To develop the strategy, more than 600 locals contributed their views on the interests, needs, aspirations and challenges of the community as they age. Council also consulted with service providers and community-based organisations, stakeholders from government and business, and Council staff.

In addition to input from the Inner West community and other stakeholders, the strategy reflects expert advice and findings from the latest research into healthy ageing practices.

Importantly, the *Healthy Ageing Strategy* *2021-2025* recognises that the needs of older people in the Inner West are wide ranging and diverse.

With national and international evidence clearly demonstrating that social connection is essential for good physical and mental health across all life stages, the strategy is designed to ensure everyone has the opportunity to stay engaged in the community as they age regardless of their circumstances.

The *Healthy Ageing Strategy 2021-2025* focuses on delivering across six priority areas:

1. Staying active
2. Getting around and staying connected
3. Housing, employment and financial security
4. Safety
5. Learning and sharing knowledge
6. Health and diversity.

The strategy is supported by an action plan, which provides details about Council’s activities and plans, and the timeframe for implementation. The community can follow progress on implementing the *Healthy Ageing Strategy 2021-2025* through Council’s Quarterly Reporting process.