

### **3 LEISURE (Social Activities, Social Networks & Keeping Busy)**

*Does the group believe this should be a key priority for the Older People Strategy?*

Yes

**Views on existing services, what are the main concerns people have? What are the strengths of the existing services?**

Feedback regarding both Hart & Frogmore Leisure Centre was very positive, staff in both Leisure Centres complemented on knowledge & approachability. Numbers of classes/groups available for sports that cater to older persons is very good. Disabled access at both leisure centres is excellent. Information provided on website is very good, easy to find & informative.

1. Concerns arose that only one swimming pool was available in the whole of the district.
2. It was suggested that the cost of a 365 card might be too expensive for an OAP, especially if they are only receiving a state pension.
3. Transport to & from leisure centres is nonexistent.
4. Information on classes only seems to be advertised in leisure centres or on HDC's web site, which prevents a large number of potential user accessing it.
5. Angry that Harlington centre gym had shut, as this was the only gym a lot of elderly members of the community were happy using.
6. Lack of parking is an issue at Frogmore Leisure Centre.
7. Members of Odiham, South Warnborough etc felt there were no Leisure facilities within close proximity to them; they tend to travel to Basingstoke for most Leisure activities.
8. Weekend activities seem to solely revolve around children or younger families, it was mentioned that this was when single elderly people felt most alone.
9. HDC to facilitate with different groups to advertise/organise events.
10. There should be more emphasis on socialising rather than just sport, as a number of elderly persons are unable to participate due to health or lack of mobility.
11. Would like more of an opportunity for different generations to mix.
12. Enjoyed walks that were arranged by Hart.
13. More social activities to be arranged in areas that are easy to access i.e. Fleet & Odiham Etc.
14. Would like opportunities to participate in light movement activities such as Tai Chi or Line Dancing.
15. Some residents felt intimidated using gym equipment when younger more athletic members were using equipment.

#### **Activities**

1. More Social groups
2. Light movement activities to be put on such as Tai Chi, Water Aerobics, Line Dancing.
3. Not enough activities are catered for elderly men, such as bridge, cards or chess clubs.
4. More Healthy walks

5. More co-ordination with different groups.
6. Find people who are hard to reach/disadvantaged/on their own and provide activities that will cater to them
7. A cheaper card similar to the 365 card for older members of the community who can use the card during off peak times i.e. 10:00hrs to 16:00hrs.
8. Opportunities for different generations to interact on a social level.
9. Activities to be provided for elderly members of the community during the weekends, as groups/activities currently only seem to cater for children or young families.

### **Social activities, social networks –other groups**

1. Would like a cinema in Fleet – could be a film put on once a week at a suitable venue (eg. Church on the Heath), with transport provided
2. Aware of the over-60s club at Hart Leisure Centre
3. Hartley Wintney has 5 keep fit clubs. Need more initiatives to encourage people to keep fit.
4. £30 voucher for people to use at whatever clubs they would like to.
5. Encourage Hart to re run their scheme for 365 card holders to invite friends along who didn't have a 365 card.
6. More taster sessions to encourage others to join in.
7. Strategy needs to advise service providers to link up with each other.
8. Which GROUPS are available?
9. U3A has over 200 members but needs more volunteers. How do we recruit volunteers? Need to have enough volunteers to ensure that no one has too much to do.
10. The group thought older people should be encouraged to take part in social activities such as theatre outings as well as fitness activities at the leisure centres.

### **Accessibility**

1. A centre in Odiham to cater for residents located in surrounding area.
2. A gym in the centre of Fleet to replace redundant Harlington Centre gym.
3. It was mentioned both Hart & Frogmore Leisure Centres were too hard to access due to location & lack of transport.