

At every stage over the past 6 years progress on the strategy has been led from the front by older people. Throughout this time Older & Bolder has continued to meet, discuss and gather support for the strategy from politicians of all parties and none. Now it is over to the Minister.

Join Older & Bolder's call to publish the strategy this year. Hand this leaflet to TDs in your constituency. Ask them to write to Minister Kathleen Lynch T.D. encouraging her to publish the National Positive Ageing Strategy within 2012.

Delivering an ambitious National Positive Ageing Strategy this year is the best way to honour 2012 as the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity Between Generations.

Older & Bolder is an alliance of eight organisations in the age sector in Ireland
Active Retirement Ireland, Age & Opportunity, Alzheimer Society of Ireland, Carers Association, Irish Hospice Foundation, Irish Senior Citizens Parliament, Older Women's Network, Senior Help Line



Support equality for older people

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Make Positive Ageing Happen in 2012

For 6 years older people have called for a **National Positive Ageing Strategy**. Right now a planned approach to population ageing is vital. With reduced resources Government cannot afford to make poor decisions. Join our call for a positive ageing strategy this year.

Six years of action

2006

In 2006 organisations working with older people came together under the name Older & Bolder to call for the development of a national strategy on ageing; it was clear that a planned approach to growing older in Ireland was needed.

2007

When politicians went canvassing in the 2007 General Election they heard a clear message from older people all around Ireland that a National Positive Ageing Strategy was a priority. This action, coordinated by Older & Bolder, secured a commitment in the 2007 Programme for Government to develop such a strategy.

2008

In 2008 Older & Bolder published a baseline position paper on how best to involve older people in the development of the strategy. Throughout 2008 and 2009 Older & Bolder met with hundreds of older people in venues around Ireland to discuss what a planned approach to population ageing would require. In December 2008 Older & Bolder held the conference 'Nothing About Us Without Us', which drew on local experience and international perspectives. The conference led to a strong call for the Minister for Older People to put older people at the centre of the process by conducting meaningful public consultations.

2009

In **2009** the then Minister for Older People held 9 public consultations on the strategy with over 1,100 older people.

2010

In **2010** 190 written submissions were made by organisations and individuals on the strategy including a detailed submission by Older & Bolder.

2011

In early **2011** the new Government of Fine Gael and Labour committed to complete and publish the positive ageing strategy in their Programme for Government.

In September **2011**, 5 years on with little progress, Older & Bolder asked people all over Ireland to send decision-makers bookmarks on the strategy. Encouragingly, politicians from all parties joined our photo call to renew support for the National Positive Ageing Strategy.

2012

The Minister for Older People responded positively to Older & Bolder's calls to publish the strategy within **2012** – there is still time for this to happen.