

Recommendations from PAiL event Celebrating the Diversity of Older Londoners, City Hall, 22 February 2019

How can the Mayor of London promote diversity, which includes Older People, disabled people, people of colour, and the LGBT community

- Make older people more of a priority, for example the Equalities strategy omitted older people's issues
- Appoint a deputy mayor for older people
- Be more aware of trans gens needs
- Take into account national and London borough issues politically
- Adopt the Newham & Lewisham models of citizen led research
- Show accountable governance
- Challenge Ageism in the UK.

Outdoor Spaces/buildings

- Currently retail use of signage/tables & chairs is hazardous to wheelchair users when trying to navigate pavements
- Ensure more seating
- Ensure more accessible toilets

Transport

- Stop cuts to public transport
- Keep the freedom pass!
- Transport to be truly accessible to all
- Invite GLA/TfL heads to travel on the tube/buses and the overground, and look at cycle lanes

Housing

Social Participation

- Provide funding for befriending projects
- Invite clubs and organisations to be involved in citizen led projects – to overcome challenges, inspire and motivate
- Invite a culture of openness and value experience
- Less segregated housing and more mixed community spaces
- People need to meet each other and see different lifestyles

Respect & Inclusion

- Intergenerational pairing in schools, places of faith, and community centres
- Mentoring – to break down preconceived stigma – old to young, young to old
- Tackle Stealth Discrimination – unconscious prejudices
- The GLA Publication – ‘Inclusive London’ should have more representation of older people
- Combat the general lack of patience with old people in society
- Society should give more value to ALL people
- London to be inclusive & comply with accessibility standards, making people feel welcome
- Look at addressing Intersectionality - BAME /LGBT/women/disabled people etc. are at an increased risk of being marginalised as they grow older
- Look at greater integration

Civic Partnership & Employment

- Phase out zero hours employment contracts
- Training/support for self employed

Community & Information

- Engage with people without digital skills
- More IT awareness training for older people – think about how to reach those who are housebound – provide transport if necessary
- Promotion of the benefits of IT, as some older people need to see the usefulness in order to engage
- Continue to offer offline contact – i.e. telephone
- Strengthen the community by having competent people teaching the not so able
- Provide Information on events and activities
- Provide learning opportunities
- GLA website could be simplified
- Look at how/where events are advertised and does that need to change in some circumstances?
- Public Information must genuinely reflect reality – it’s often based on selected groups and not on society as a whole. Some people are unable to get out/or get online to voice an opinion
- Publicise – not everyone knows about the work being done and the difficulties people face
- Make use of existing public spaces, like libraries/GP surgeries
- Offer Diversity promotions/training to change attitudes
- Guarantee the continuation of free TV licences for the over 75s

Community Support & Health Services