



# Towards 2030

*The continued need for evidence based policy*


Sigrid Patterson  
Office for Ageing



New South Wales  
Government



Department  
of Ageing,  
Disability &  
Home Care



# *Towards 2030... 1 year on*



- NSW strategy on ageing
- Underpinned by research in each of the strategic outcome areas
- Promotes planning now for the impending demographic changes
- Aims to continually evolve with a sound evidence base
- Comprises 5 key strategic outcome areas and 13 priorities

# ***Towards 2030 target outcome areas***

1. Getting in early, planning for change
2. Improving prevention and early intervention
3. A productive, skilled and adaptive workforce
4. Facilitating participation in all areas of society
5. Providing quality care and support





## 1. Getting in early, planning for change

- Explicitly notes: *work across sectors and with universities to influence and expand the focus of research into the implications of demographic changes for NSW*
- Focus – planning for retirement – narrowing the fiscal gap arising from demographic change
- Possible areas for further investigation:
  - Indicators for early ‘non planned’ retirement
  - Interventions to address indicators
  - Specific needs of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander and culturally and linguistically diverse people
  - How do we build human capital?



## 1. Getting in early, planning for change *cont.*

- Focus - liveable homes and communities
  
- Current commissioned research:
  - Environment and built factors for maintaining independence in older age
  - Local government and the impact of ageing
  - Effective Assessment of Social Isolation



## 2. Improving prevention and early intervention

- Focus - improving health and well being
- Current commissioned research:
  - Health promotion and early ageing in people with intellectual Disability: implications for health service planning
- Possible areas for further investigation:
  - Nutrition and older people
  - Prevention or delaying the onset of dementia



### 3. A productive, skilled and adaptive workforce

- Focus – enabling increased workforce participation
- Possible areas for further investigation:
  - Identification of particular groups that could be more engaged in the workforce and barriers for non participation
  - Identification of flexible practices to assist people to participate more in the workforce



## 4. Facilitating participation in all areas of society

- Focus – improving community participation
  
- Possible areas for further investigation:
  - Identification of barriers for older people to undertake volunteer work
  - Identification of carers and their support needs



## 5. Providing quality care and support

- Focus – improving the provision of specialist support for older people with complex needs
  
- Possible areas for further investigation:
  - Identify the age related needs of people with a disability
  - What are the indicators for people with a disability successfully ageing in place?



## ***Challenges***

- Specific needs of CaLD, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Targeting of services and strategies for older people in predominantly ageing LGAs
- Commissioning research on “normal ageing” rather than a disease focus so we can focus on a good health and social systems rather than illness
- Engaging the NGO sector – applied research collaborations
- Continued monitoring of the social landscape



## ***Where to now.....***

- Continuation of research to inform policy evolution
- Finalisation of outcomes framework and baseline data
- Priorities around specific challenges – the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, targeting of specific areas where ageing is prominent
- Engagement with the NGO sector

**Thank you**

