

Theme 2 – Time, talent and energy

You are the next generation of older South Australians. You are living longer, spending your time and resources in volunteering, as caregivers and in the workforce. And you are often doing all of these at once! Your energy is the most important natural resource in South Australia.

This balancing act finds some of your friends and peers, stressed in trying to manage expectations of families, community clubs or with organisations where they volunteer, or in workplaces in transitions from full-time to part-time employment. Respect and recognition go a long way to build trust in relationships, systems and services.

In the future some of you will find you are being valued as trusted advisers, mentors and coaches. You may even be in demand by young entrepreneurs, new graduates and companies who will be deepening their understanding of the value of your knowledge, skills, experience and networks.

Perhaps as new businesses emerge the older South Australian will be highly valued in both national and Asian-Pacific economies for their strategic thinking and experience in moving from old-world economies to new-world ones. There may be a rise in demand from older people for volunteering opportunities mixed with travel and learning languages.

For those who can't for whatever reason, share their time, talents and energy may find themselves isolated and disconnected. Extra supports may be required to enable everyone to access the opportunities on offer.