

Theme 1 – The future is not what it used to be

Life has changed over the last 30 years, we are now in the longevity revolution.

Over the next 30 years we already know that changes in climate, technology and the ways people balance work with other demands lie ahead. There are changes we can't predict and some surprises in store. Uncertainty and complexity are givens now and into the future.

This theme invites you to explore the ways older people might shape the future they want for themselves. In their youth they may have been a generation of innovators and disruptors. Many of you have higher expectations about the right to housing, transport, quality and affordable services regardless of location than previous generations. You also have high expectations about being involved in the design and delivery of services. There also is a growing group, mainly women, living in poverty and as they grow older. Associated with this, housing options and quality of transport, community connections may become vulnerable. Aboriginal Elders and those for whom English is not your first language are at even higher risk. There are lots of different 'haves' and 'have nots' – digital access, income, and even food choices differ if you live in the city and suburbs or in a regional or remote location.

The right to feel safe, have adequate shelter, access to education and health continue and are vital across the life course, and contribute to ensuring an age friendly future for older South Australians.