

Citizens' Assembly

Work Programme Item 2: The Challenges and Opportunities of an Ageing Population

Weekend 7

Detailed Conversation Starters: Facilitators and Note Takers

General Instructions for Roundtable Discussions following presentations:

- Hear from everyone and as you do, enforce the ground-rules, firmly and with good humour. In particular, encourage people to be respectful of others and to share the airtime.
- Remember that the speakers are available for any questions or clarifications if required during the discussion. The Secretariat is also available for any clarification.
- Spend the last 5-10 minutes recapping the conversation to ensure that the key points are captured for inclusion in the table summary.
- As members may still be nervous/ uncomfortable with speaking in the public Q&A session on this topic later, you should also capture the top 3 questions which emerge in the discussion, and should be prepared to ask them on behalf of the table if called upon to do so by the Judge.
- Complete the standard feedback template sheet based on the last 5-10 minutes of conversation. Retain the feedback sheet for collection at the end of the discussion.

Saturday Morning

11.20am Sessions 1-4

The purpose of this round table discussion is to:

- help members understand the information they have heard
- embed that knowledge and to document key themes arising from the conversation.
- capture the key questions which emerge during the discussion.
- Remember to use the last five minutes of the session to recap the discussion and agree with the Members what keys you might ask on their behalf (if required)

You'll have 40 **minutes** for this part of the meeting.

Conversation Starters/ Suggested Questions to guide discussions:

1. What is the current level of pension provision in Ireland?
2. What types of private sector schemes are in place?
3. What is typical household income for older people in Ireland and how does that compare to the population more generally.
4. Is the State pension sustainable?
5. Do you think policies which would modify people's behavior in relation to pensions, such as auto-enrolment, should be introduced.

Saturday Afternoon

2.20pm Sessions 5 & 6

The purpose of this round table discussion is to:

- help members understand the information they have heard
- embed that knowledge and to document key themes arising from the conversation.
- capture the key questions which emerge during the discussion.
- Remember to use the last five minutes of the session to recap the discussion and agree with the Members what keys you might ask on their behalf (if required)

You'll have **30 minutes** for this part of the meeting.

Conversation Starters/ Suggested Questions to guide discussions:

1. Do you believe that the state pension provides an adequate income to older people?
2. What are the arguments for and against compulsory retirement?
3. What are the factors that should influence when one decides to retire?
4. What if any are the implications of a gap between the age of retirement and the age of accessing a pension
5. What is meant by the gender gap in pensions?

Saturday Afternoon

4.15pm Sessions 7 & 8

The purpose of this round table discussion is to:

- help members understand the information they have heard

- embed that knowledge and to document key themes arising from the conversation.
- capture the key questions which emerge during the discussion.
- Remember to use the last five minutes of the session to recap the discussion and agree with the Members what keys you might ask on their behalf (if required)

You'll have **30 minutes** for this part of the meeting.

Conversation Starters/ Suggested Questions to guide discussions:

1. Is it important that national discourse reflect the opportunities associated and benefits of an aging population?
2. What does the evidence from TILDA tell us about the contributions older people make to their families?
3. Why is social participation important?
4. How are older people continuing to make contributions to society beyond retirement?

Sunday Morning

10.00am Roundtable Discussion

You'll have **30 minutes** for this part of the meeting.

Conversation Starters/ Suggested Questions to guide discussions:

1. Do you understand each question on the Ballot Paper.
2. Is there anything on the Ballot paper that you would like to clarify?
3. Is there anything not included that you would like to vote on?