

# The Ascot Project

## Improving the Quality of Life of Older People in Ascot

### Feedback from the March Panel meeting

At the March meeting, Panel members were asked to provide feedback on the information that had been prepared by the steering group and on the proposed survey of the needs of older people.

Key telephone numbers are to be distributed to older people

on a laminated card. Information about local activities will also be made widely available.

The survey was broadly welcomed although the order and wording of some questions will now be revised.

Concerns were raised

about legal aspects of conducting the survey, including whether CRB clearance will be needed. These will be investigated by the steering group.

The sample will now be defined and, at the next Panel meeting, we hope to identify potential interviewers.

April 2004

#### Next meeting

The Panel is meeting again on **Thursday 29th April**, from 7-9pm, at the Chandler Centre in Sunninghill High Street.

The agenda will include the survey of older people and the proposed retirement fair (see below).

### Findings from the Transport Group

On behalf of the Transport Group, David Hilton reported back to the March Panel meeting.

David presented the findings of a study carried out by the Borough Council. This showed that 64% of

older people were unable to make desired journeys because of a lack of public transport.

He further described the success of the Crowthorne Community Bus which, in 2003, ran 280 trips

for its members.

The Panel encouraged the Group to explore this model, starting small to establish demand. The details of this approach will be further discussed at the April meeting of the Panel.

#### Retirement fair

Provisionally scheduled for August this could include information on:

- Diet
- Home repairs
- Local activities
- Housing
- Finance
- Transport
- Staying healthy
- Holidays
- Sport

### Volunteering in Ascot

Rachel Evason is now actively recruiting volunteers in the Ascot area. Those who come

forward will help to meet important local needs. They are also likely to have fun and

make new friends. More information is provided in the leaflets enclosed.