

FOUR QUESTIONS

PEOPLE FORGET TO ASK WHEN LOOKING AT A RETIREMENT VILLAGE

Why is this location popular with retirees?

- Can I walk to the local supermarket or is public transport close by?
- Is the village close to my family and friends?
- Can my family and friends get to the village using public transport?
- Where is the closest public hospital and medical centre?
- Are there local clubs close by?

How will I stay connected to family and friends?

- What facilities are available for me to use free of charge?
- Are there any fee for service activities such as exercise classes?
- Is there a gym?
- Are family and friends able to stay while on vacation?
- Can family and friends use the facilities eg. the pool?
- Can I bring my pet to the village?

What's the atmosphere in the village?

- Who owns and operates the village?
- How many years' experience do the owners have in managing retirement villages?
- Do the village staff greet residents with a smile?
- Are the village residents friendly?
- If the village is over 10 years old - are the common areas well maintained eg. new carpets and modern furnishings?
- Is there a social club that organise resident BBQ's, social drinks & outings?
- What type of craft, music, card, exercise, groups meet at the village?

What are the ongoing costs?

- Are council and water rates included in the recurrent fees?
- What percentage have recurrent fee's increased/decreased over the past three years?
- What type of costs will I need to cover once I move in eg. Electricity, Telephone, Internet?
- Is there a dining room that can provide meals – what is the average cost of the meals?
- Are there domestic and personal services available – what is the average cost for house cleaning?
- Who maintains/replaces the appliances that are sold with the unit?
- Who upgrades and refurbishes the unit when it is time to sell?
- Is there a 24 hour emergency call service available – what is the cost?
- What are the DMFs (deferred management fee's) when I leave the village?

