



Remodelling sheltered housing and residential care homes to very sheltered housing

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We are an interdisciplinary team of architects, social scientists, economists and rehabilitation engineers from King's College London and University College London, who have come together to collaborate on a two-year research project funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC.) The objective of the study is to examine how local authority and housing association sheltered housing and residential care homes have been remodelled to become extra care housing. The outcome of the study will be advice for local authorities and housing associations about remodelling in the future.

As part of this important piece of research, the team is examining the relative significance of various social, architectural, and support features of extra care housing, as recommended by good practice guidelines. From a search of the current literature on extra care housing, we have identified twenty-five generic features of extra care housing and support services that are recommended in most current guidelines. As members of the DoH Housing LIN, you are knowledgeable about extra care housing and services, and so the research team would like to solicit your feedback on the relative importance of each of these various features.

We should therefore appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to indicate the level of importance you place on each of the features of extra care housing included on the pro-forma overleaf, by placing an X in the appropriate box. Please feel free to add any additional features you deem necessary to extra care housing that are missing from this list in the box marked 'Other', and then score them in the same way. Please indicate at the head of the form, your current job title, organisational role or professional affiliation, so that we can sort and classify the responses according to the respondents' roles and responsibilities in respect of extra care housing.

Please return the pro-forma by email to Hedieh (Hede) Wojgani at h.wojgani@ucl.ac.uk by June 5th 2006. The results will be shared with the LIN, in the form of a short Report prepared by UCL that will be available by the end of July 2006.

UCL Survey on the Features of Extra Care Housing

Current Position / Job Title:						
	Feature	Very Important	Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant	Very Unimportant
1	Living at home – not in a home. A 'homely' feel.					
2	Self-contained dwellings. Control of one's own front door.					
3	Providing a culturally sensitive mode of service delivery.					
4	Rebuilding tenants' skills for independent living.					
5	Scheme located in a lively neighbourhood.					
6	Scheme manager to co-ordinate care and support teams					
7	On-site support staff who assist tenants with daily chores					
8	Activity coordinator to organise tenants' social activities.					
9	Activity room for use by tenants and local community					
10	Community that mixes abilities and types of tenure					
11	Communal lounge to promote social activities					
12	Communal dining room where tenants can share meals					
13	Premises that are wheelchair accessible throughout					
14	Guest room available for tenants' friends and family to stay					
15	Lifts to upper floors so that the whole scheme is 'visitible'					
16	Day Centre incorporated in the scheme to boost social life					
17	Communal kitchen to serve a fresh mid-day meal on site					
18	Wellbeing facilities - hairdresser, gym, chiropody etc.					
19	Smart and assistive technology for independent living					
20	Flexible design to adapt to changing needs of tenants					
21	Communal laundry room for the tenants' use					
22	Flexible care, responsive to tenants' fluctuating care needs					
23	Assisted bathrooms for use by frail tenants					
24	24-hour support on site for those who need it					
25	Consulting room for visiting health / care professionals					
26	Other					
27	Other					
28	Other					
29	Other					
30	Other					