

ANNEX 2 SPECIALIST ACCOMMODATION DEFINITIONS

Independent Living

1. An independent living arrangement is one that maximises independence and self-determination; where an individual can make choices and decisions without excessive influence or interference by others; and where an individual can access the practical assistance and support that they need to participate in society and live an ordinary life. This assistance can include adaptations to the living space, personal care, and social support that promotes the ability to live independently. Such an arrangement can be delivered in self-contained owner-occupied or rented accommodation.
2. Other housing options exist for people who may require a greater level of support or who prefer a group living environment, but want to exercise a greater degree of choice and control over their daily lives than would be possible in a care home setting. A supported living arrangement is where an individual is provided with some form of accommodation and organised support by a provider. This can include support with developing daily living skills, and can sometimes include personal care. Shared supported housing (in a traditional domestic setting) is the most common model but supported living can also be delivered in small purpose built blocks of self-contained flats. These models often offer a mix of shared and personalised support with the individual having greater choice and control over the personalised element.

Extra Care Housing

3. Our definition for extra care housing is the nationally accepted definition from the Housing Learning and Improvement Network (HLIN).
4. *'Extra care housing is housing with care primarily for older people where occupants have specific tenure rights to occupy self-contained dwellings and where they have agreements that cover the provision of care, support, domestic, social, community or other services. Unlike people living in residential care homes, extra care residents are not obliged as a rule to obtain their care services from a specific provider, though other services (such as some domestic services, costs for communal areas including a catering kitchen, and in some cases some meals) might be built into the charges residents pay¹.*
5. The common and fundamental feature of all these types of accommodation with care and support is that there is a clear and distinct separation between the housing provision and the care provision - if it were otherwise such schemes would be liable to register as care homes. Whilst on site services may be shared a key component is that occupants have security of tenure and housing rights and cannot be required to move, unless in breach of the occupancy agreement.

¹https://www.housinglin.org.uk/assets/Resources/Housing/Housing_advice/Extra_Care_Housing_What_is_it.pdf

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