



SURDI
DOMUM
GROUP

DEAF UTOPIA

Extra Care Opportunity for Older Deaf People in the UK

by Robert Pattision BA (Hons) MA RIBA

“mixed economy of owned and rented properties
with support 24/7 for Deaf people aged 50 plus
from around the UK”

Why a Deaf-specific EXTRA CARE service?

Appropriate cultural and Sign Language environment **PREVENT** isolation and lack of social stimulation

(Source - Hunt R., Oram S., Young, A. (2014). Deaf older people's preferences for residential care)



How will this reduce isolation?

A cultural, accessible and Sign Language environment will mitigate high levels of **MENTAL ILLNESS** common among older Deaf people

(Source - Hunt R., Oram S., Young, A. (2014). Deaf older people's preferences for residential care)



Our Aim:

“To respond to the cultural, communication, sign language, housing, care, accessibility, security and lifestyle needs of the older Deaf person”



Buildings to be designed
and equipped to be **fit
for purpose** to enhance
access, communication,
culture and Sign Language

Specific needs of older
Deaf people met
including **mental health
prevention** and tinnitus
mitigation

KEY PRINCIPLES

Majority of staff recruited
and trained to facilitate
care in the 'communication
mode of choice' such as
Sign Language

Activity based care
**enhancing health
and wellbeing**

DEAF UTOPIA PATHWAY

Community Consultation to explore geographical need and values of the project



Stakeholder Consultation to determine scope and funding models required for the design, build and running of the facility



Identification of interested financial partners



Location, type of provision and anticipated funding model confirmed by partners



Confirmation of management arrangements, protocols for pilot project, bespoke build and conference activity



Clear pathways to commissioning and engagement of commissioners

SURDI DOMUM GROUP

- *Surdi Domum - Latin for Deaf Home*
- Deaf-led Business
- Committed to developing, building and delivering a unique specialist Deaf Extra Care provision
- We have the right credentials, networks and connections to make this happen



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The future of Deaf Extra Care



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