

How can Integrated Retirement Communities be integrated?

Kathryn Gundry

Design Associate

kathryn.g@wwa-studios.com



VARIETY IN STAGE AND AGE

As you age you go through different stages of health and well-being which are not related to your age.

“The consequences of this are profound, as so much of society is based on the implicit assumption that age and stage are one and the same thing.”

Lynda Gratton & Andrew Scott Voges

DIVERSITY



- The term “generation” is commonly acknowledged as 25 years – from the birth of a parent to a birth of a child.
- The universal term IRC houses a wide bracket of ages and abilities. The difference between a 65-year-old and a 90-year-old can be as diverse as a 25-year-old to a 50-year-old or even two different 80-year-olds.
- The IRC allows for diversity through choice:
 - Activities to attract more active social residents
 - Independent living with optional care and domiciliary services



Fauja Singh (100)



Tina Turner (82)



"Mr Motivator" (69)



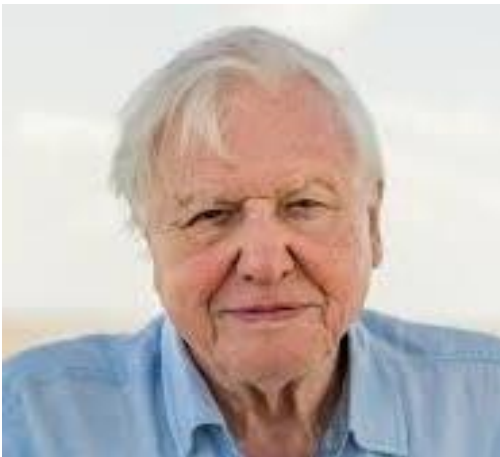
Harrison Ford (79)



Morgan Freeman (84)



Ernestine Shepherd (85)



David Attenborough (96)



Donald Trump (75)



Joe Biden (79)



Judi Dench (87)



Helen Mirren (76)



Danny Glover (75)

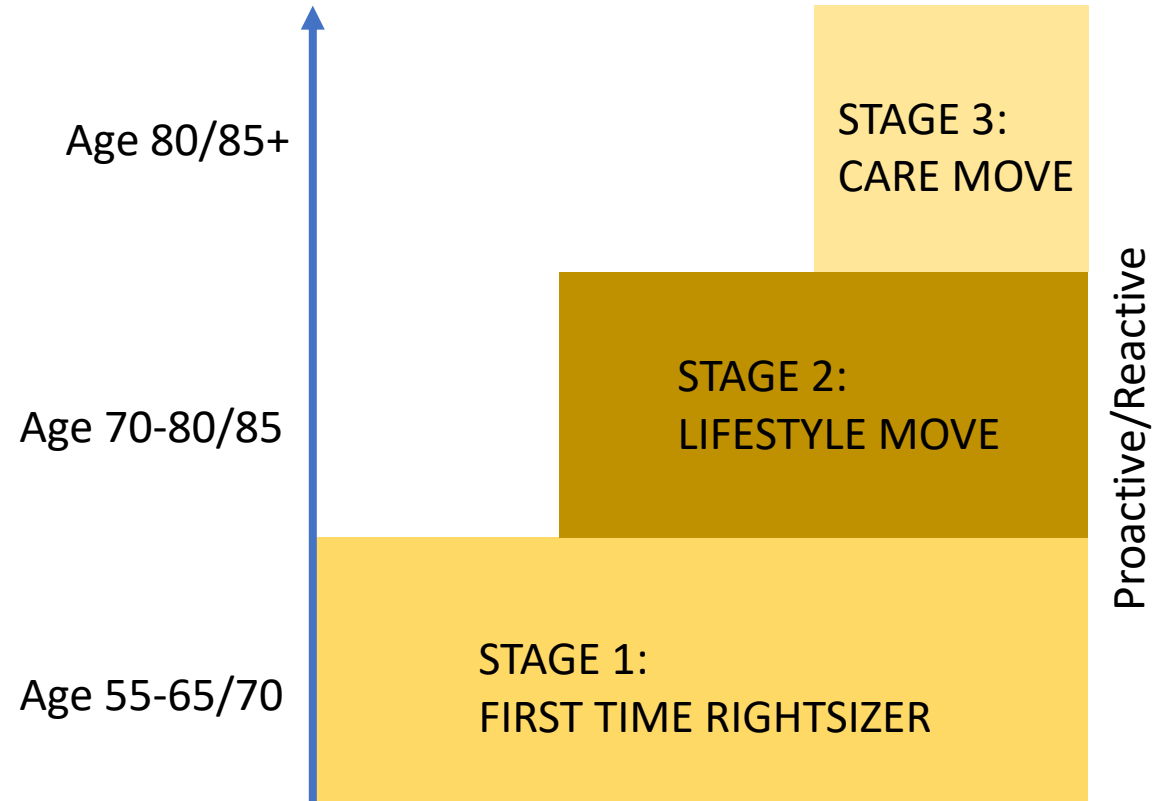
DEMOGRAPHIC

“We have this idea of an older person but it’s fictional, it’s a unicorn, those picture book older people don’t exist. Real life older people are just like you, they’re just wiser. There is a fundamental problem in the whole industry of what we imagine an older person to be.”

Anna Sabine

TENURE TYPES AND CHOICE

- The IRC term is designed to cover the multiple moves and stages within later life:
 - Right sizing
 - Lifestyle moves
 - Care Moves
- The IRC can allow a proactive early move allowing for progression and increased services in one place



AGEING IN PLACE

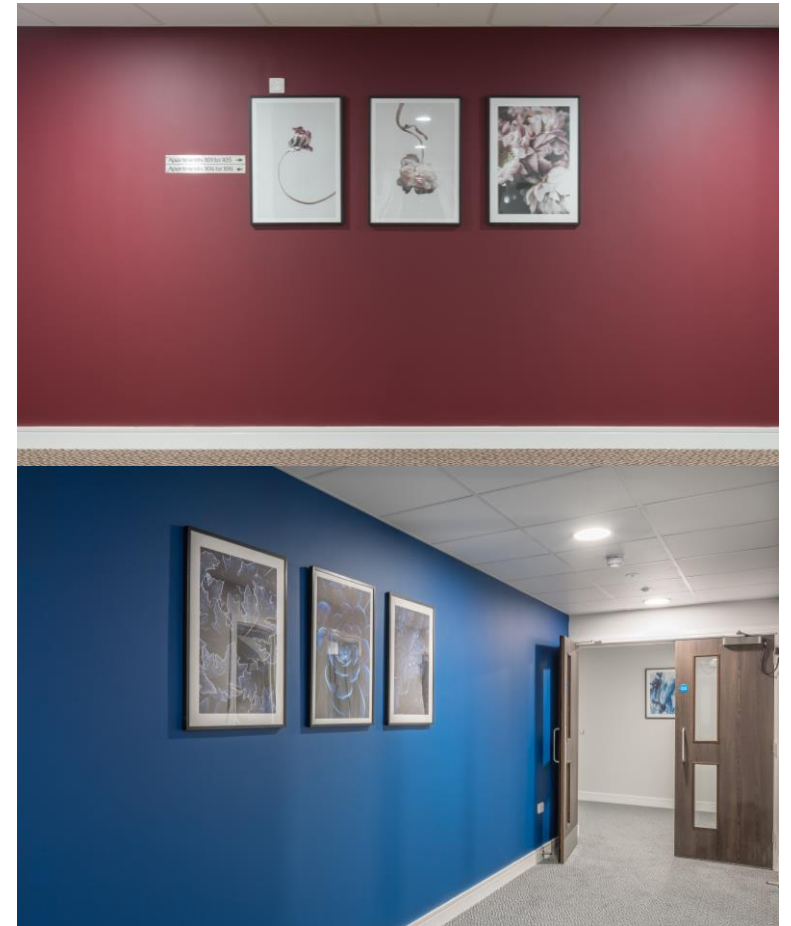


- Ageing in place is fundamental to the IRC because you are covering a variety of stages of life
- With all inclusive environments you need to consider the accessibility from physical to cognitive and sensory.
- Social Isolation can be reduced with active communities within and outside of the organisation. Visual connections to active frontages.
- Increasing care needs for changing stages of lives – adaptable accommodation.
- Temporary crisis care: falls with injury requiring additional help for short periods of time.

DEMENTIA DESIGN

“You’ve got to try to help people understand where others are coming from. We try to educate our residents, we encourage them to be Dementia Friends. Educating people to say ‘This is how we can help and support one another’ is a really important part of it.”

Kris Peach



DEMENTIA DESIGN

- Working with our clients we have create dementia-friendly designs and environments.
- We encourage all our designers at WWA to undertake the dementia friends training. By understanding what it is like to live with dementia we can integrate design solutions and turn that understanding into action.
- We believe in embedding good practice around dementia on a day-to-day basis across our designs



DEMENTIA DESIGN



- Education:
 - Tolerance
 - Care
 - Support
 - Barriers – labelling disabled people
 - Personal ambitions
 - Continuity
 - Conversations
- Design considerations:
 - Replicate the familiar
 - Colour coding
 - Orientation
 - Own front door
 - Progressive Privacy
 - Safe and secure
 - Independence

INCLUSION

“Housing should be a gateway into the wider community, not a source of refuge from the real or perceived perils of living within a particular street or neighbourhood.”

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health



INCLUSIVE DESIGN



- Include the community by encouraging multigenerational use of spaces
- Over-65s are estimated to spend an average of 80% of their time in the home - 90% for people over 85.
- For the physically disabled, barriers can range from:
 - blocked wheelchair ramps
 - buildings without lifts
 - inaccessible toilets
 - blocked dropped kerbs
- For people with cognitive impairments exclusion can be sensory or perception of space
- No one size fits all, variety within the scheme maximises choice

CONCLUSION



- Adaptable to meet changing needs of users to allow for diversity in users and ageing in place.
- Flexible to allow for multiple uses of spaces – to increase use and activity throughout the day.
- Communication and education with residents, staff and the wider public on how schemes are dementia friendly and what that means.



Kathryn Gundry, BARCH MARCH RIBA ARB
| Design Associate

Office: +44(0)208 9415161

Kathryn.g@wwa-studios.com

West Waddy Archadia

Mark Slater, Design Director
Mark.slater@wwa-studios.com

Ifti Maniar, Planning Director
Ifti.maniar@wwa-studios.com

Johnathan Headland, Urban Design Director
Johnathan.headland@wwa-studios.com

Ewan Green, Passivhaus Associate
Ewan.green@wwa-studios.com

Kathryn Gundry, Design Associate
kathryn.gundry@wwa-studios.com

