



UNIVERSITY of
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Housing LIN Summit 2021

A Festival of Ideas

Planning for later life

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BE THE DIFFERENCE

The importance of planning for ageing

The National Records of Scotland estimate that there will be 240,000 more pensioners over the next 25 years, an increase of 23.2% in Scotland, while the working age population reduces.

Yet, the housing sector is ‘woefully underprepared for ageing’ (Lords Select Committee, 2013)

We must act now to support integrated, accessible housing that supports all groups

We are ALL stakeholders in ageing

Our evidence

'A Good Life' in later years research

- Recruitment and training of the national-wide community researchers with project team Drs Corinne Greasley-Adams, Jane Robertson and Grant Gibson
- Project collected insights from a mixed-method approach that involved a national survey, focus groups & visual analysis. Housing and communities were key themes
- Funded by the Life Changes Trust in partnership with Age Scotland

Housing through the lens of Ageing

- Secondary analysis of national housing consultation conducted in partnership with the 'A Good Life' community researchers
- Key areas of urban/rural challenges, adaptations and fuel poverty
- Funded and in partnership with Age Scotland

Housing and Ageing: Looking to the Future

- Establishment of a Housing and Ageing programme in partnership with University of Dundee, Age Scotland, Heriot-Watt, Housing LIN, the DWELL project and SFHA
- Funded by SUII and Social Policy Association

'Inclusive Living'

- A concept and tool developed with the Scottish Housing Sector
- Funded by SFHA

Co-production

Co-production is a term that is increasingly used around engagement to describe the delivery of public services in an equal and reciprocal relationship between service users and service providers.

Collaborative ways of providing housing are becoming more commonplace to build community resilience through co-producing and co-creating locally driven solutions for older people (Stevens 2016).



A wider, integrated challenge

I mean, it's all relative to housing... Neighbourhoods, everything. I mean, housing just doesn't come in...doesn't take in houses, it takes in all your infrastructure, roads, lighting, footpaths, and that's... (Kilmarnock).

The wider infrastructure of affordable, regular and accessible transport in rural areas is important in tackling social isolation and loneliness and that point was made during some of the events. Access to local services like GP surgeries, shops and bus stops/railway station are also often mentioned by older people.

Our housing and ageing programme

Our programme mobilised learning from stakeholders including older people, practitioners and policy makers in Scotland, England and Wales by developing and exchanging knowledge between diverse geographical areas that share similar issues around housing and ageing (e.g. inequalities around rural/urban/disadvantaged communities).



Our underlying approach

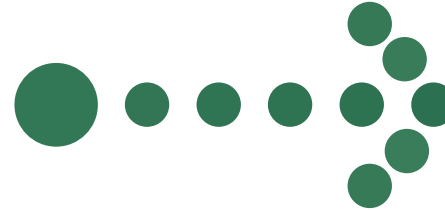
Housing & Home



Community



Care & Technology



Underpinned by adventurous qualitative methodology

The 'Serious Game'

A 'Serious Game' - a bespoke, personalised, strategic exercise – that allowed negotiation of potential obstacles for delivering Housing and Ageing strategies by 2030.

- The game facilitated knowledge exchange by involving participants in taking on different perspectives within policy and practice, and managing different scenarios.



How to we plan for the future while trying to deliver today's chaos?

Planning for the future and 'the bigger picture' is difficult.

However, when people planned strategically for the future outcomes were more positive.

Co-production is a key way to do this.

Main themes

- Talks, decisions and change must start with and include older people
- We must start thinking of housing as a much wider, holistic concept that takes into consideration place and belonging – especially in the rural context
- The housing sector has the most potential in the preventative agenda (yet none of the budget)
- Housing brings tangibility to the preventative agenda via specific things such as adaptations, housing with care, access to care and repair services and a warm energy efficient home.
- It is not just about ageing, but ageing well

'Place housing at the heart of service integration'



- ▶ Housing should be at the centre, not the edges, as is the current situation with health and social care integration ****

Communicate, Collaborate & Coproduce



Increase consultation and promote partnership and collaboration with meaningful coproduction and co-working with older people

- ▶ Listen to older people. Work in an integrated way across sectors ***
- ▶ Ensure any consultations are listened to and not just paper exercises *
- ▶ Speak to end users as much as possible as they are experts on their wants and needs *
- ▶ Meaningful and real coproduction needs to be a priority ***
- ▶ Use a rights-based approach to making decisions and planning for the future **

Look to the future



Build suitable accessible housing, including lifetime homes, and listen to the people who are going to use it, across all tenures ***

- ▶ Keep building social housing, focused on local needs **
- ▶ More opportunities for downsizing **
- ▶ Increase housing choices for all older people ****

Choices & Communities



Ensure people can Age-in-place

- ▶ Keep older people in the environments they are familiar with and provide every necessary facility that can improve their living **
- ▶ Invest in and support the development of community-focused services that foster genuine social connections, e.g. shared lives and home structure **



Create mixed communities and housing that supports intergenerational exchange

- ▶ Older people and those with dementia are best cared for in a varied community where they are known by a mixed group of people **
- ▶ Build agile and adaptable places for people (irrespective of age – intergenerational) **

Inclusive Living

A vision for the Housing Sector

We want to *reset* the way we think and approach important areas such as adaptations, accessibility and independent living. We do not wish to see these issues as an ‘add on’ to housing

Thinking about Inclusive Living supports housing decisions and development to be supported by strategic thinking inclusion, design and connections

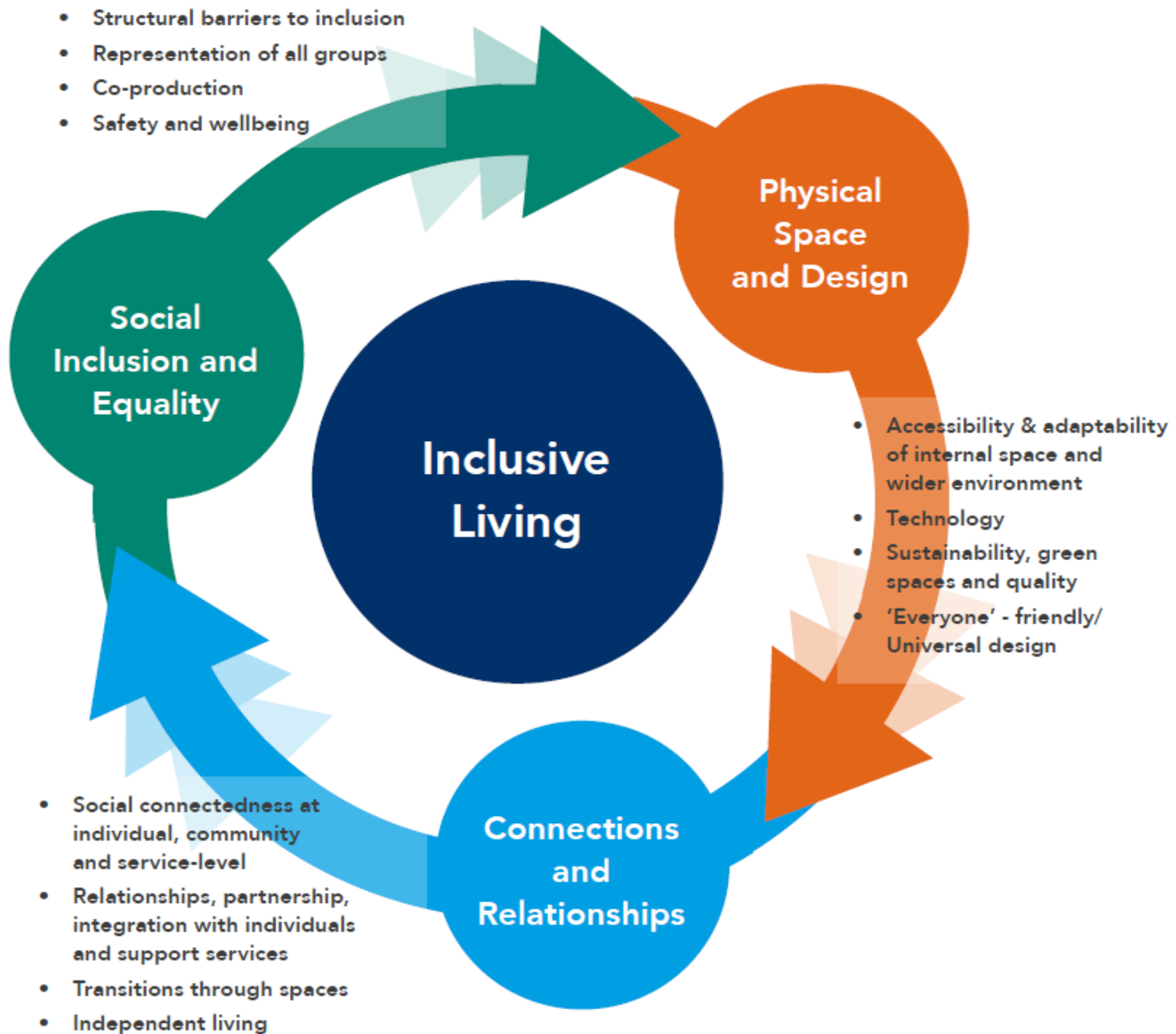
We developed a systematic evidence base and toolkit that explores literature around inclusive living and supports organisations as a strategic and operational planning tool



We are housing Scotland



BE THE DIFFERENCE



Starting the journey towards Inclusive Living

The concept of Inclusive Living highlights the importance of removing physical and social barriers to inclusion by developing intergenerational communities

Inclusive Living highlights the importance on access to wider environments, communities and opportunities for social connections.

Through good design that considers structural barriers, inclusive design and connections between people and places we can create a housing sector that is inclusive for everyone. This breaks down silos and assumptions and opens up options and accessibility for all groups.