

**Making life changing decisions: housing options**

**Older people’s housing circumstances (nationally and in London)**

* Rising population of older people and older people with long term conditions

\* *Older people over 55 live in 43% of households*

*\* Over 60s set to rise by 50% in the next 20 years*

*\* 2.5 million people long term sick and disabled over 65*

* Where older people live – tenure, living alone, state of housing

*\* Most older people are home owners – 76% over 55 with 18% in social housing and 6% private rented (London home owners 69%, 26% social housing and 10% private rented)*

*\* Most older people live in mainstream housing (93%)*

*\* Only 500,000 specialist homes (over 11m people over 65)*

*\* One third of households in London have one person living alone*

Links with health and care

\* Older people are more likely to live in poor housing than the rest of the population - 2 million older people live in non-decent homes

\* The estimated cost of poor housing to the NHS is 1.4 billion per year

\* 95% of homes lack even basic accessibility features

***Options in later life - to move or stay put? Are the options there?***

**Staying at home** – what to consider? *First Stop/Elderly Accommodation Counsel website - HOOP (Housing Options for Older People tool: See* [here](https://hoop.eac.org.uk/hoop/start.aspx) *or call First Stop 0800 377 7070*

**Staying at home** – (meeting social needs)

* family friends/neighbours
* access to local facilities
* social opportunities
* transport
* safety and security
* getting out and about

**Staying at home** (the home) – *Living safely and well at home – see* [here](http://careandrepair-england.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Revised-LIVING-SAFELY-Lft.pdf) *or contact Care and Repair England 0115 950 6500*

* Safe and secure
  + warmth and energy
  + lighting
  + safety/trip hazards
  + security
* Home adaptations, equipment and technology including alarms
  + what might be available
  + how to access
  + adaptations funding *Disabled Facilities Grants See Silverlinks Adaptations fact sheet* [here](https://silverlinksprogramme.files.wordpress.com/2015/09/adptations.pdf)
  + equipment and technology options/funding - *Disabled Living Foundation*
* Repairs and renovations
  + grants and loans
  + practical help and support with work – *Home Improvement Agencies* – find your local agency from [Foundations](http://www.findmyhia.org.uk/)

**Staying at home** (care and support)

* practical help - handypersons
* care and support services

**Moving –** what to consider? *See First Stop/Elderly Accommodation Counsel website - HOOP (Housing Options for Older People tool: See* [*here*](https://hoop.eac.org.uk/hoop/start.aspx) *or call First Stop 0800 377 7070*

* location
* design, size, layout
* security and safety
* facilities and costs
* friends and neighbours

**Moving options** See Silverlinks fact sheets Housing for Older people [here,](https://silverlinksprogramme.files.wordpress.com/2015/09/housing.pdf) *Moving decision checklist* [here](https://silverlinksprogramme.files.wordpress.com/2015/09/moving-decision-checklist.pdf) *and Cost of moving home checklist* [here](https://silverlinksprogramme.files.wordpress.com/2015/09/moving-home-cost-checklist.pdf)

* general housing
* specialist – sheltered and extra care
* living with family?
* residential and nursing care
* cohousing and home share options?

**Where to get advice** (nationally) *See Silverlinks Useful contacts* [here](https://silverlinksprogramme.files.wordpress.com/2015/09/useful-contacts.pdf)

* First Stop: Advice line: 0800 377 7070
* Age UK: Advice Line: 0800 169 6565
* Independent Age: Advice Line: 0800 319 6789
* Disabled Living Foundation: Tel: 0300 999 0004
* Turn 2 Us: Advice Line: 0808 802 2000

**Jane Minter Care & Repair England janeminter@careandrepair-england.org.uk**