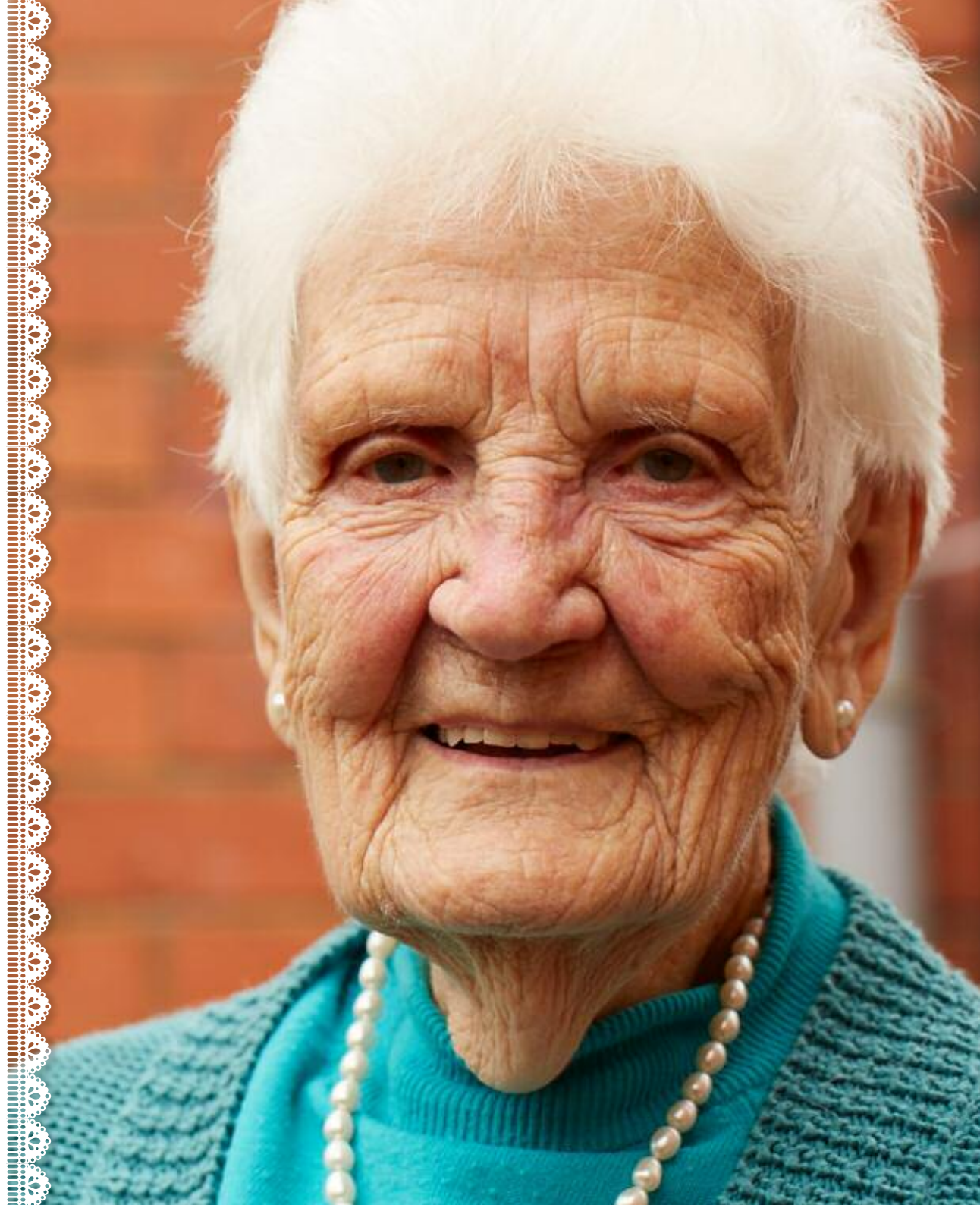


*Home is ...*

Care & Repair England  
Annual Review 2013



# *Home is ... being in control*

This year we asked hundreds of older people to tell us what 'home' means to them. The resulting answer was clearly that home is so much more than a roof over your head.

Care & Repair England's work is underpinned by this important message. As our Annual Review demonstrates, it informs everything that we do.

The aim of Care & Repair England has always been to improve the homes and living conditions of older people, particularly for disadvantaged older people in general housing which they own.

We continue to pioneer solutions and highlight the critical effects of housing condition and suitability on older people's health and well-being. This is against a backdrop of rising low income home ownership amongst older people and a massive decline of state housing help for this group.

On behalf of the Trustees of Care & Repair England,  
I would like to thank everyone who has supported our efforts both practically and financially over the past year.



Peter Archer, Chair of Care & Repair England







## Care & Repair England

Care & Repair England is an independent charitable organisation which aims to improve older people's housing. Its vision is that all older people have decent living conditions in a home of their own choosing.

### Mission

We aim to innovate, develop, promote and support practical housing initiatives and the related policy and practice which enable older people to live independently in their own homes for as long as they wish, particularly for older people living in poor or unsuitable private sector housing.

### Strategic Objectives

- Work with older people to identify what they need in order to live independently and well in their own homes and then promote and support the development of solutions, particularly in the private housing sector
- Raise awareness of the scale and nature of the impact of poor and unsuitable housing on the health and well being of older people and work with them to influence change in practice and policy.

## Values

Care & Repair believes in:

- Working directly with older people who are affected by poor or inadequate housing conditions (the majority of whom live in private sector housing) to develop long term solutions
- Enabling older people to live independently and with dignity in their own homes for as long as they wish
- Connecting housing, health and social care in ways that improve older people's whole quality of life
- Enabling older people to influence the planning of housing, related services and wider decision making
- Actively promoting and implementing equality and anti-discrimination practices in relation to age, disability, gender, race, faith and sexual orientation.

This Review gives an illustrated 'snapshot' of the work of Care & Repair England. A more detailed description is included in our Annual Report and Audited Accounts 2012-13.



# Home is ... the small things



Practical housing help, including small repair and minor adaptation schemes, enable older people to live independently in their own homes for longer. Our *'Just about managing?'* programme is:

- Developing new ways of providing affordable help with small repairs through volunteering and
- Supporting older people to influence local decisions about homes & services

So far we have initiated local projects with Care & Repair type agencies, and/or worked with older people's groups, in Hull, Leeds, St Helens, Stoke on Trent, Liverpool, Wirral and Knowsley.

Mrs Hester of Hull is 87 and lives alone, on a low income, in her home of 35 years. She cannot afford commercial repair costs. Her kitchen outside door was sticking and extremely draughty. When the weather got colder, she contacted the local handyvan team who planed and adjusted the door so that it no longer jams and installed draught excluders.

*"It's just great - the heat doesn't escape from the room now and they [the carpenter and volunteer] were really helpful and so nice".*

# Home is ... being in control



*Silverlinks* is our new Big Lottery funded initiative being trialled in Bristol, Manchester and Leeds. It is pioneering new ways to link older people who are facing major decisions about their housing with older people who have dealt with similar situations. Older volunteers are providing information & advice at events and talks, as well as offering one to one help.

See the blog for more information:  
[www.silverlinksprogramme.wordpress.com](http://www.silverlinksprogramme.wordpress.com)



Silverlinks  
volunteers  
in Bristol





# *Home is ...* *being in control*

## Information & Advice

We work with EAC FirstStop to promote impartial housing and care options advice and information. We delivered 'Housing Options' training, workshops and events that reached over 1,000 older people and advisers. The 'peer to peer' initiative continues to enable older people to pass on information to their peers, whilst a new national programme supporting 15 new local options advice services has been established with funding from DCLG.

[www.firststopcareadvice.org.uk](http://www.firststopcareadvice.org.uk)





# *Home is ... being in control*

## Champions for Change

Older People and Housing Action is a new initiative to support local activity by older people's groups to improve housing and related services for an ageing population. A new network of 'Older People's Housing Action Champions' will enable exchange of ideas and we will offer information, intelligence and resources on housing issues.

More information on the blog:  
<http://housingactionblog.wordpress.com/>







# *Home is ...* *the foundation of a healthy later life*

Care & Repair England continues to highlight the crucial role of home for healthy, independent later life, particularly in the context of debates about the integration of health and social care.

Just some of this year's activities:

- ***Home from Hospital*** - initiated and co-ordinated a 'Hospital2Home' Good Practice Guide supported by DH, DCLG, British Geriatrics Society, ADASS, Royal College of Nursing, Chartered Institute of Housing, College of Occupational Therapists, Age UK, Foundations & Local Government Association. Launched by Dept of Health Minister Norman Lamb
- ***Made many representations and submissions*** concerning housing and ageing including; *House of Lords Inquiry into Demographic Change; DH Social Care Reform; All Party Parliamentary Group (Housing & Care); Government Spending Review; NHS Reform; Building Regulations and Planning Review*
- ***Raised the profile of housing and ageing issues*** through representation on: *Housing and Ageing Alliance (chair); Home Adaptations Consortium (chair); Dept for Work & Pensions backed Age Action Alliance; Department for Communities and Local Government's advisory group, the Housing Sounding Board*





## Management Committee

### PETER ARCHER (CHAIR)

Founder member of Care & Repair England & Chair for 17 years: Partner of the Housing Consultancy Partnership; Board Member & Chair of the Audit Committee of The Community Housing Group; Founder member of the Pro-Housing Alliance; Board Member of Empty Homes; Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health and Chair of its Professional Standards and Policy Committee.

### CHRIS LONG-LEATHER (TREASURER)

Retired Chartered Accountant formerly employed as a finance director in the automotive components sector. Treasurer of Age UK Warwickshire for past 11 years.

### MARIA BRENTON (SECRETARY)

Professional and personal interest in old age; Consultant on Cohousing Communities of older people. Formerly worked in University sector and NHS.

### DR. IAN P. DONALD

Consultant physician for older people at Gloucester Royal Hospital: Enthusiastic about community care for older people and care at the interface of primary and secondary care; main research interest is the epidemiology of disability in older people, falling and intermediate care.

### DAVID GARDINER OBE

Housing and ageing activist; Lambeth Pensioners Action Group and London Older People's Strategy Group; formerly Older People UK Advisory Group; Member of range of independent housing/health/care advisory bodies including Housing & Ageing Alliance.

### ELIZABETH PHILLIPS

Chief Executive AgeUK Warwickshire which manages South Warwickshire Care & Repair and the county handyperson service, in addition to a wide range of care services.

### LORNA EASTERBROOK

Independent consultant in older people's health, housing and social care; Associate of the Centre for Research on Ageing (Southampton University); Associate of the National Development Team for Inclusion & Community Catalysts; Trustee, Beth Johnson Foundation; formerly at the Kings Fund, Age Concern England.

### ANTHONY SHELTON

Chairman of Age Concern Essex; Chair of: Courtaulds Homes of Rest, League of Friends of Halstead Hospital, retired local government housing manager.

### JOHN SIMMONS

Retired Deputy Director of Social Services & Head of Adult Services for Derbyshire: Vice Chair East Midlands Older Persons Advisory Group; Executive of UK Older Persons Advisory Group member; Vice Chair, Beth Johnson Foundation.

### DOMINI GUNN-PEIM

Director, Director of Health and Wellbeing at Chartered Institute of Housing; Formerly Audit Commission National Lead for Vulnerable Communities & Lead Housing Inspector NE/Y&H.

### FRANCES HEYWOOD OBE

Historian and community activist; housing researcher (University of Bristol) specialising in housing and adaptations, now mainly retired; OBE for services to housing for disabled people; Hon. Fellow of the College of Occupational Therapists.

## Chief Executive

### SUE ADAMS, OBE

## Acknowledgements

Care & Repair England wishes to thank all of the donors, funders and strategic partners who have supported and contributed to its work programme during 2012-13.

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

EAC FirstStop

Charles & Elsie Sykes

Goldsmiths Company

John Ellerman Foundation

Rayne Foundation

The Big Lottery

The Tudor Trust

Department for Communities & Local Government

The Department of Health

AgeUK

Anchor

College of Occupational Therapists

Hanover Housing

Housing LIN

Royal British Legion

## Equalities and Diversity Policy Statement

Care & Repair England values the diversity of communities and individuals and is committed to making its services, resources and policies responsive, accessible and appropriate to people's diverse range of interests and experience. Care & Repair England believes that people face discrimination and social disadvantage for a wide range of reasons, particularly because of their race, class, sex, age, physical or mental disability, religion, appearance or sexuality. The organisation is committed to challenging such discrimination in any activities that it undertakes.

### Patron

Care & Repair England is most grateful to its patron, Baroness Greengross OBE, for her ongoing support for the work of the organisation. This endorsement is greatly valued and appreciated by all of the Trustees and staff.





## About Care & Repair England

Care & Repair England is an independent charitable organisation established in 1986 which aims to improve older people's housing. Its vision is that all older people have decent living conditions in a home of their own choosing.

We aim to innovate, develop, promote and support practical housing initiatives and the related policy and practice which enable older people to live independently in their own homes for as long as they wish, particularly for older people living in poor or unsuitable private sector housing.

## For further information contact

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Care & Repair England is an Industrial and Provident Society  
with Charitable Status Reg no. 25121R

Patron: Baroness Greengross OBE  
September 2013

Design and Production: The Design Box, Leeds.  
Photography: Richard Moran, Colourbox, Bristol Care & Repair



*Home is ...*  
*a place to be me*