

Developing Homeshare in the UK

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Social care and health services in the UK

- Free universal health care from the NHS
- Social care for adults is means- and eligibility-tested.

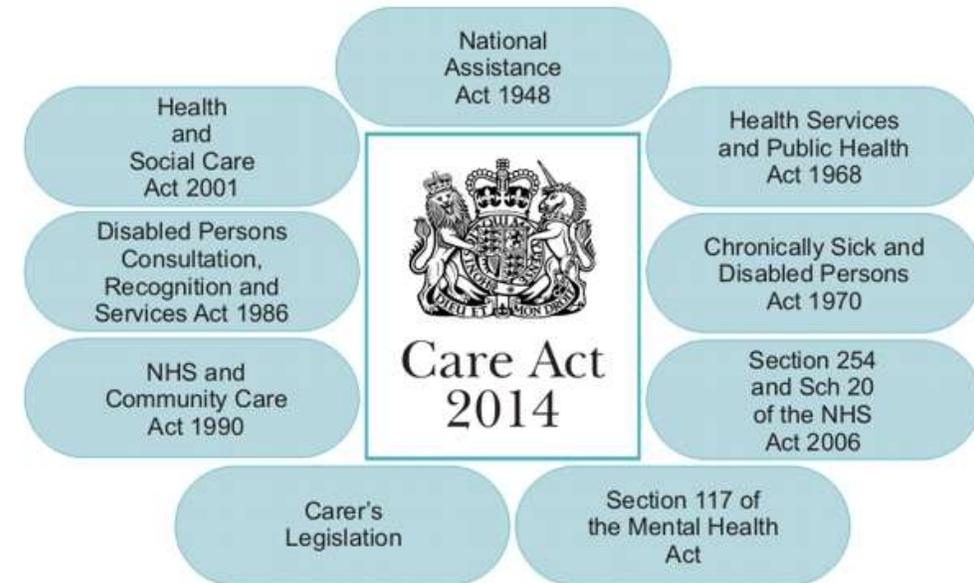


Includes:

- Statutory assessment
- Care management: planning and monitoring

(Means-tested) support (only) for eligible people:

- Day to day living support
- Personal/intimate care (regulated and inspected)



Homeshare Schemes

In the UK health and social care system

- Homeshare is a preventative service, below eligibility criteria
- Enabling people to stay at home and reduce the need for more institutional care
- Self funders
- No personal care provided, but additional home care may be received if necessary



Overview: Schemes in the UK

- 8 Homeshare schemes across the UK
 - Supporting approximately 180 Homeshare arrangements
- There are support matches across the country: Scotland, the Midlands and East England but majority in Greater London
- 2 **new** Homeshare schemes currently in development
- 50% of schemes are trading as charities or social enterprises
- 50% are private sector companies



Sorcha O' Beirne and Peter Worsley, who were successfully matched in a Homeshare arrangement during Sorcha's University studies.

Homeshare Schemes

Key Reasons for Impact on Sustainability

Three Schemes closed in the last 18 months – Why?

- Lack of interest in the scheme by potential Householders
- Homeshare scheme not able to dedicate sufficient time/resource to develop the service
- Schemes reliant on grant funding that is not renewed
- Potential Householders failed to take up the scheme because they were unable to afford the Householder fees

Homeshare Schemes

Challenges Maintaining and Improving Growth

- Remains largely unknown with a low profile
- Perceived risks of living with a 'stranger'
- Getting a good match
- Length of time taken to get references & checks for homesharers
- Lack of young males apply to become homesharers
- Homeshare is unregulated – impact on credibility of service
- No academic evidence base for Homeshare
- Length of time taken to establish a scheme and become self-sustaining



Article on the matching process between Sophie Thompson, 51 and Edith, 94.

[Taken from positive report in Woman and Home]

Homeshare Schemes

Good Practice and Innovation

- Safeguarding is a key consideration in all of the UK schemes
Homesharers, suitability of the home, needs of the Householders are assessed before introductions
- All schemes have a verification process: DBS, reference checks and interviews for the Homesharer
- Structured support is essential during the first weeks by all schemes to support the transition
As circumstances of both Homesharers and Householders can change quickly
- Shared Lives Plus Good Practice Guide
regularly updated as policy or practice changes arise

Homeshare Models

Delivered in the UK

Current Homeshare Householders:

- elderly couples
- people with disabilities
- older people in the early stages of dementia
- single mothers
- carers



Actress, Lady Valerie Style, 97 –Householder.

With her, her two Homesharers, University Graduate Caroline Jenkinson, 24 and French graduate, Anne-Catherine Faulle, 25.

Homeshare Models

Delivered in the UK

Current Homeshare Users: **Demographic**

Householders:

- Aged 70-90, female, owns their own home and lives on their own.

This varies between organisations.

Homesharers:

- Overseas students wanting to improve English language and understanding of English culture.
- More middle aged females, older students, post graduates and young professionals responding to Homeshare advertisements.



Paula Levi, 94, and Alison Sweatman, 47
from Ategi Homeshare

Homeshare Schemes

Funding and Money Matters

- Homeshare Schemes are typically operated by a Scheme Coordinator
- The ongoing costs of running a Homeshare scheme are usually funded from fees paid by the Householder and the Homesharer.
- In all but one of the UK schemes the Homesharer pays no additional rent but commits up to ten hours of support to the Householder per week
- Fees vary significantly from scheme to scheme



Homeshare Schemes

Funding and Money Matters

- The Homesharer pays the agreed rent and commits up to ten hours of support to the Householder per week
 - cooking, shopping, cleaning, laundry, reading, administration, walking the dog, companionship and sitting services for carers
- Start-up costs for schemes have come from a number of sources including;
 - commissioning from local authorities
 - grants from small trusts and charitable foundations
 - investment by the parent company and private funds.
- Currently 50% of Homeshare schemes have secured grant funding
- 1 scheme is commissioned by its local authority

Shared Lives Plus

Who are we?

Shared Lives Plus is the UK network for shared living approaches to care and support for disabled or older people. We support Homeshare and Shared Lives schemes around the UK

Shared Lives Plus helps members to work together, influences local and national policy makers and provides support, training, events, resources, research programmes and access to insurance.

Our members include **5,000** Shared Lives carers, **150** local Shared Lives schemes and **13** Homeshare organisations, right across the UK.

Shared Lives Plus

Sector Support and Investment

Shared Lives Plus provide a dedicated Homeshare Officer:

- Provides support and advice to members, policy makers and interested parties
- Ongoing support to network of Homeshare schemes
- Promotes Homeshare to wider stakeholder groups
- Develops resources and information to support the delivery and development of Homeshare schemes
- Homeshare good practice guide
- Developing a Quality Mark for Homeshare in the UK

Shared Lives Plus

Sector Support and Investment

Backed by **Lloyds Bank Foundation** and **BIG Lottery**

Both organisations have committed **£1million of funding** and have brought together a range of partners including:

- Age UK
- The Foyer Federation
- SCIE
- Shared Lives Plus

This investment will support the start-up and development of a number of Homeshare schemes across the UK.

Shared Lives Plus

Sector Support and Investment

Funding for the first two schemes has been allocated to:

Age UK Oxfordshire in Oxford

Novus Homeshare in London

The experience of the pilot projects will be tested, developed and fully evaluated to help establish a replicable “blueprint” for setting up Homeshare schemes in new areas.



Lynn Heath, 52 and Charlotte Plowman, 33 from Ategi Homeshare.

Homeshare Schemes

Future Development

The Lloyds funded partner programme coming to Homeshare **will:**

- Support the development of Homeshare quality standards
- Develop a replicable business model
- Develop a dedicated UK Homeshare website
- See the development and/or expansion of Homeshare schemes across the UK
- Provide ongoing publicity and raise the profile of Homeshare in the UK
- Fully evaluate the pilot Homeshare schemes
- Share all programme learning with the Homeshare and wider community
- Develop a clear evidence base of the impact of Homeshare

Homeshare Schemes

Recommendations & Learning – for Schemes

1. Be clear about target groups – invest in expert marketing.
2. Most schemes aim to target young people – we know the market demographic is much wider
3. Create a business model (per scheme). Long term: become self-financed through fee charges
4. Release quality assurance tool – remove doubt in unregulated sector
5. Means to support Homeshare arrangements that are not working e.g. Temporary Homeshare support or agencies
6. Clear aims and objectives that can monitored and measured

Homeshare Schemes

Gaps in Learning and Research

1. What are the experiences and outcomes for Householders and Homesharers of home sharing?
2. What factors affect the success, outcomes and lengths of matches?
3. What is the potential for Homeshare as a preventative intervention?
4. Why is Homeshare so much bigger in other countries than the UK? What could enable the sector to scale up?
5. What are the total cost-benefits of a successful Homeshare scheme?

What we'd like to know from you...

- Is Homeshare regulated in your country?
- Do you have Quality standards for your Homeshare sector?
- Do you have a Good Practice Guide for Homeshare?
- Could we work together to create a Homeshare International passport for overseas students to speed up the recruitment process?