

Sage Advocacy Seminar 29/02/24

Living in each other's shelter:

Housing continuum and an 'all-neighbourhood' approach to ageing, interdependence, and care

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“Ar scáth a chéile a
mhaireann na daoine”

We live in each other's 'shadow'
... 'shadow' also meaning 'shelter'

1 **Integrated approach to housing and neighbourhoods to support healthy ageing across the lifecycle**



Housing Options for Our Ageing Population Policy Statement



The role of housing

- **Good quality housing provides a continuum of support and care across the lifecycle and is a key factor in healthy ageing.**
- ***This requires diversity and choice: Develop a catalogue of housing options that provide a range of choices that meet the diverse need of an ageing population, spanning owner occupier, private rental and social housing, whilst providing accessible care and the associated support needs. (HOOAP p27)***
- **And must include housing with care/supported housing, and long-term residential care settings: *Long-term residential care is often the most appropriate care option where an older person's needs are complex. (HOOAP p12)***



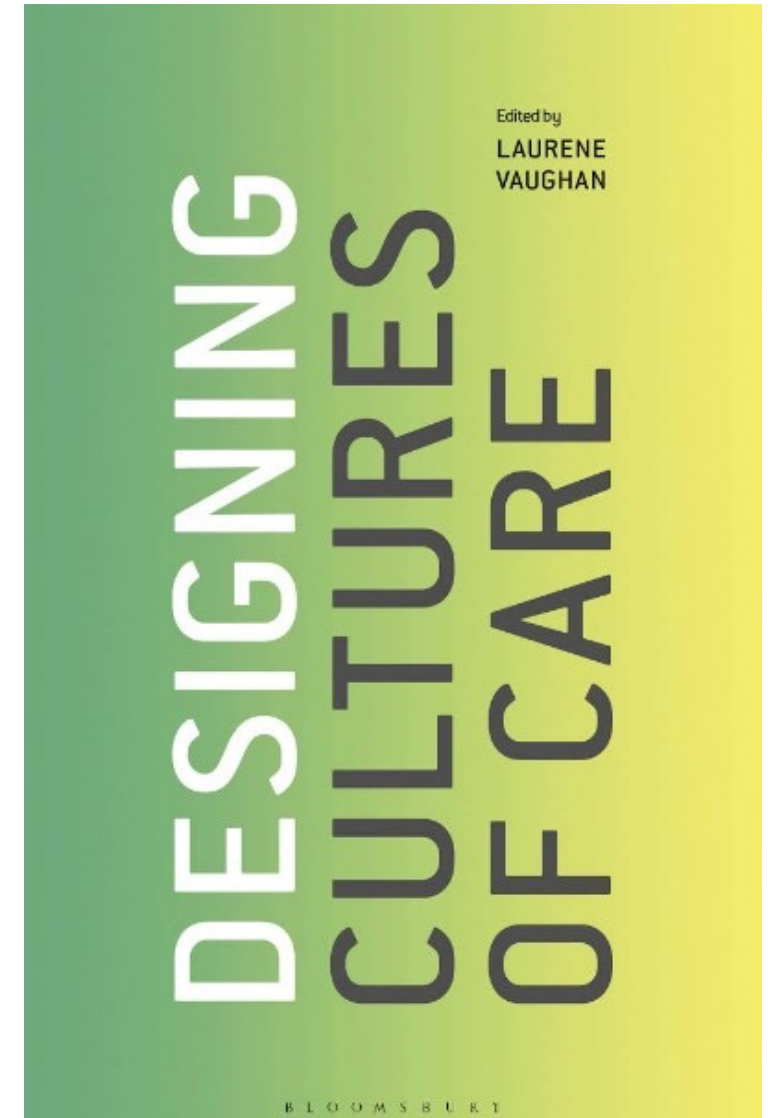
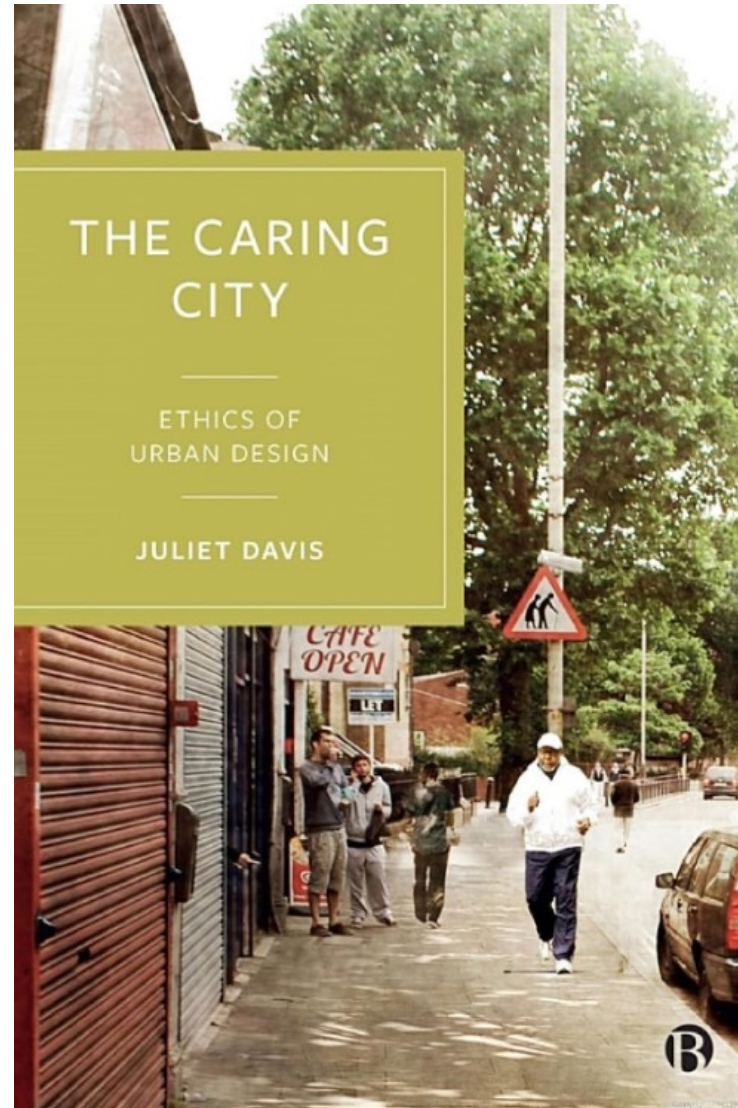
Integrating health in urban
and territorial planning:
A sourcebook

“Neighbourhoods are the building blocks of towns and cities. People live most of their lives in their local neighbourhood and for some, e.g. children and older people, the neighbourhood is even more significant. Both in terms of people’s health and the health of the planet, if we are unable to make neighbourhoods healthy and sustainable places, then we will not have healthy and sustainable cities.”

2

Interdependence, care, and the built environment

Care, architecture, urban design



The built environment and the “materiality of care”

- Care is embodied and **interdependent**
- Care happens on a spectrum of **caregiving and care receiving**
- Care operates at multiple spatial scales - there is ‘**an ecology of care**’ (Tronto, Bowlby, et al.)
- Care is ‘**placed**’ within buildings, cities. (Bowlby et. al 2022 ‘caringscapes’)
- Care depends on “**accessibility**” in terms of location and how the built environment “shapes people’s capacities”
- Care depends on places to remain supportive or conducive to care through time through **adaptability or durability**.
- **Place-attachment** and continuities of fabric and place that help us stay connected
- Care and the impacts of the built environment on the wellbeing of future generations (Davis, 2022, The Caring City: Ethics of Urban Design)



3

**Challenges: fragmentation,
poor-quality built environment,
and global crises**



“Already many people, not just in this country, but around the world, are facing the stark reality that their home and neighbourhood were simply not designed for an ageing population”

**Baroness Andrews 2007 –
Delivering Lifetime Homes,
Lifetime neighbourhoods**

Fragmented policy & practice

Ageism & cultural challenges

Disconnection between housing, supported housing, & long-term care models

Inaccessible & unhealthy existing housing (incl. vacancy, dereliction, etc)

Poor quality urban environments: inaccessible public realm, excessive travel distances to services & amenities, air & noise pollution, high traffic volumes & speed, & lack of safe/accessible active travel options



Fragmentation, poor-quality environments, global crises

Exclusion from or difficulties with technology

Impacts from climate change & biodiversity loss, & high energy costs

Inadequate engagement & co-creation with older people

Poor outcomes for older people: ill-health, disability, exclusion, loneliness, & lack of intergenerational engagement

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**Opportunities: harnessing
policy and national
programmes**



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements

Guidelines for Planning
Authorities



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Town Centre First

A Policy Approach
for Irish Towns



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Places for People

National Policy on Architecture



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2023

CAP23

Changing Ireland for the Better



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

National Sustainable Mobility Policy



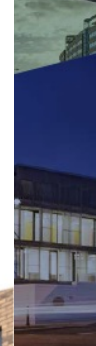
Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Housing for All

A new Housing Plan for Ireland



Department of Housing, Local
Government and Communities



National Housing Strategy for Disabled People

2022 - 2027





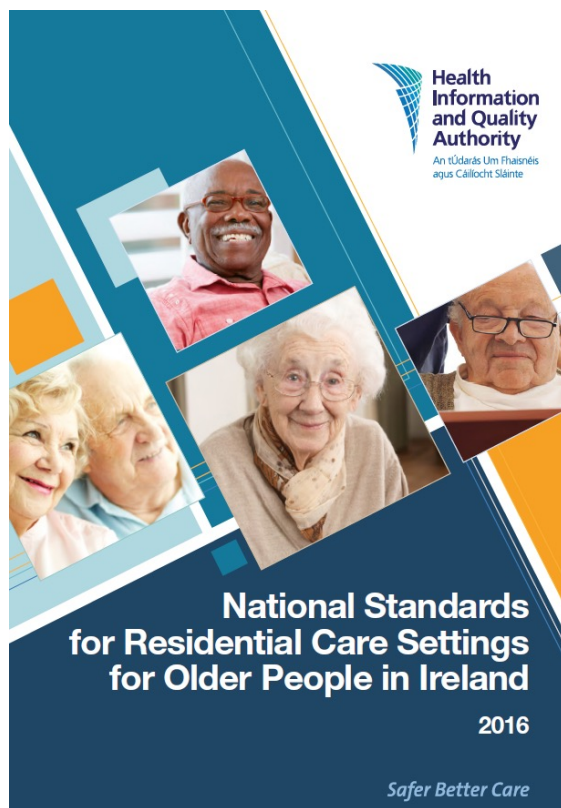
Riailtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Housing Options for Our Ageing Population Policy Statement



Prepared by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government
and the Department of Health
housing.gov.ie; health.gov.ie

***“Promote
integration
within the
community and
the development
of social
networks.”***



Design Guide for Long-Term Residential Care Settings for Older People

***“The physical location and
community connection of a long-
term residential care setting for older
people is a vitally important
consideration. Long-term care
settings in isolated locations, or in
locations peripheral to communities,
are sub-optimal for residents,
visitors, and staff alike.”***



Age Friendly Towns | A Guide

Age Friendly Ireland



[← Resource Topics](#)

[Home](#) > [Ábhair](#) > [Social & Health Care Supports](#) > [Healthy Age Fri...](#)

Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme

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Where to next: integrating care policy and implementation with the built environment

Future health & care policy to fully recognise the role of the built environment, housing & neighbourhoods

An 'all-neighbourhood' approach to leverage existing neighbourhood assets, & consider what additional settings, services, amenities, public spaces, or mobility routes (walking, wheeling, cycling, etc) are required. How do we create walkable, accessible, intergenerational communities.

Greater integration across the housing & residential care continuum in neighbourhoods

Universal Design approach to spaces, buildings, products & services

Connect care, climate & biodiversity & the built environment for sustainability & resilience

Ethical & person-centred approach to technology & digital environments for housing & neighbourhoods

Housing continuum and an 'all-neighbourhood' approach to ageing, interdependence, and care



Digital tech

Housing

Supported housing

Respite/rehab

Long term residential care

Local shops, employment, amenities

Local education, health, childcare

Public realm, mobility/public transport

“Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine”

Look back to more **traditional, mixed-use, walkable, and compact** neighbourhoods and towns.

‘Living in each other’s shelter’ and embracing the ‘interdependence of care’ may help us achieve **neighbourhoods and communities that bring us together and help us care for each other, that are better for us, consume less resources, and that let us care for, and be taken care of by nature.**

Thank You For Your Attention

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