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# Homeshare for all? Challenges and opportunities

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What is NAAPS?



NAAPS is a UK Charity that advises and represents very small family and community based services for people who need help and support

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## NAAPS and Homeshare



- Set up and run two pilot Homeshare Programmes
- Run a Homeshare Association for programmes in the UK and support and advise the members
- Believe Homeshare will never be 'mainstream' in the UK unless it can answer difficult questions and present itself in a professional way
- Have written a Practice Guide
- Work hard to promote the Homeshare model
- Are passionate about fostering more Homeshare programmes so they are able to support many more people

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## Inclusive



We believe that:

- People need support and housing at all stages of their lives and for many different reasons
- Homeshare has the potential to help lots of different people and not just those who are older and students

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## Rehabilitation from illness



Kelly is a 47 year old woman who became ill resulting in a six month stay in hospital. Her illness meant that she would have to relearn many tasks. Medical staff did not want to discharge Kelly without her having someone at home. To date Kelly has had two Homesharers each staying with her for a year. The first sharer helped Kate with cooking and household tasks, adapting what was done as Kate regained skills. The second sharer helps Kate with organising the house and remembering her appointments. The arrangements have both worked well with friendships forged and Kelly regaining her independence

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## Young person with a disability



Sophie has a learning disability and is in her mid 20s. She was living with parents but wanted to move out. She purchased her own flat through a shared ownership scheme run by a Housing Association. Initially she did not have the skills and confidence to live in the flat alone and was matched with her first Homesharer for 7 months. The sharer supported Sophie to socialise and to learn how to cook and clean. A second sharer was then matched for 8 months before Sophie decided she was ready to live alone. Homeshare improved Sophie's confidence and ability to communicate. It has also given her the opportunity to live independently of her parents, in a safe way.

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## Older sharer



Mary is in her 80's, has become frail after a fall and has lost her confidence to live alone, drive her car or even go out into the village. Mary is matched with a retired male Homesharer in his early 60's called John. John has a history of shared living arrangements and was looking for low cost housing. John helps with daily domestic chores and provides some Mary with company and security.

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## Challenges resulting from a 'Homeshare for all' approach



- Often treading new ground which can be hard work
- Less opportunities for sharing with Homeshare programmes around the world
- Raises lots of issues and questions that all need to be addressed
- Welfare benefit and financial issues
- Working with Householder who are not owner occupiers raises housing issues

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## Opportunities resulting from a 'Homeshare for all' approach



- More people can be helped by Homeshare
- Perception of Homeshare is more inclusive and it is not just seen as a service for older owner occupiers and students
- Raises the profile of Homeshare
- Able to learn many more lessons
- More attractive to funders and local government

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Further information?



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