

# Independent Living Policy

## Introduction

The Trustees acknowledge that those accommodated at North Memorial Homes should be able to live independently. However, it is recognised that circumstances sometimes arise as a result of illness, infirmity and frailty that lead to it being inadvisable for residents to continue living at North Memorial Homes. The charity does not provide care facilities for residents in any sense. This policy covers what actions need to be taken when Trustees identify that a resident is no longer able to live independently.

## Recommendations to residents at point of Letter of Appointment.

There are certain arrangements that we strongly recommend residents to make. These include:

- nominating a next of kin or close friend whom the Trustees may contact in case of need. It is advisable to confirm the name of the next of kin, annually.
- If there is a Lasting Power of Attorney, for Health & Welfare in place, details of this should be provided to the charity in order that the Trustees may be aware of to whom they should refer in case of need.
- advising the charity of the name and address of their GP and providing the Trustees with a letter of authority enabling them to make contact with him or her in case of need
- informing the Trustees of the contact details of the person who has Power of Attorney.

## Increased Frailty

In the case of residents experiencing increased frailty, where practical (and legally permissible) Trustees will endeavour to authorise adaptations to make life easier provided that it remains safe for the resident to live independently. However, Trustees will inform residents that permission must be sought on all occasions before any adaptations are made. If it is necessary for a care package to be put in place, again Trustees will ask the resident to inform the charity accordingly.

If increased frailty or ill health makes it impossible for a resident to continue to live independently, after full consultation with the resident, their relatives, if applicable, and medical practitioners, Trustees may feel it necessary to request the resident to move to more appropriate accommodation where care is provided. In cases where residents do not have a next of kin, it is likely that a multi-disciplinary meeting organised through the local authority



will need to be arranged. It often proves necessary to define the concept of independent living at North Memorial Homes for other agencies.

Regrettably the threat of setting aside the resident's appointment may need to be made (and in some cases actioned) which should be strictly on the grounds that a move to an alternative, more suitable form of accommodation.

Trustees should be very careful to ensure that they are clear to third parties that they are not responsible for the resident's care and that the Trustees cannot permit residents to continue to occupy accommodation at North Memorial Homes if they are not able to live independently.

Setting aside a resident's appointment will be regarded by Trustees as the last resort when all efforts to remedy the situation have failed.

**This policy has been approved for issue by the board of trustees of North Memorial Homes**

Signature: .....

Name: Fully approved by the Board of Trustees

Date: .....9<sup>th</sup> December 2024.....