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FUTURE HOMES: FUSING RESPONSES TO AGEING, SUSTAINABILITY AND DIGITAL INNOVATION IN NEW HOUSING MODELS

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Statement of the Problem: Housing is one of the most significant issues in our lives: its security, comfort, affordability, location, layout and tenure may profoundly impact on our quality of life throughout our life. The suitability of living accommodation is explicitly listed as part of the legal definition of wellbeing in the UK's Care Act 2014. Improving and adapting mainstream homes, development of specialist housing and provision of housing related support can all contribute to efficiency savings and demand on health and care services. The Building Research Establishment (2016) quantified the annual cost to the NHS of specific aspects of housing disrepair alone as being in excess of £1.4 billion. They suggested that the quality of housing plays as significant a role in determining health as smoking and alcohol.

Methodology: Drawing on quadruple helix models of working the author, created a cross sectoral working group that is developing new prototype housing models. We have development finance to commence building in spring 2018. In the current year we are working across a number of engagement streams with health professionals, community members and with industry seeking to fuse innovation and inclusivity.

Findings: The presentation will talk of interim findings of working across sectors to create long life, loose fit, low energy homes that will benefit all of us.