

# Choosing a Care Home



Home 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Home 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Home 3: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Location and first impression:**

- Can the home be reached easily by relatives and friends that will be visiting?
- Is there adequate parking?
- Do the surroundings suit your loved ones?
- Is the outside of the home well-kept and tidy?
- Is the home clean and well maintained?

**Care provided:**

- Can the home offer care that meets the needs of your loved one?
- Do healthcare professionals such as opticians, chiropodists, physiotherapists visit the home?
- Does the home have suitable equipment and facilities such as baths, hoists, wheelchairs and electronically operated beds?
- Do staff get to know residents and understand their personal likes/dislikes needs?
- Are the care needs reviewed regularly?
- Is there a hairdresser based at the home or one that visits on a regular basis?

**Notes:**

**Bedrooms/communal areas:**

- Will the room be catered to your loved ones needs?
- Are the bedrooms/communal area clean and well decorated?
- Are there a variety of living spaces such as lounges, quiet rooms and dining rooms?
- Is there a safe and accessible garden?
- Do the bedrooms have en-suite facilities?

**Leisure and wellness:**

- Is there a weekly plan/programme of activities?
- Are individual activities available for residents who are not able to, or who do not wish to participate in group activities?
- Do residents go outside the home for trips?
- Do they have access to a minibus?
- Are residents religious needs met?

**Dining:**

- Are residents offered a choice of menu for each meal?
- Can residents eat when they want?
- Can meals be eaten in the resident's room if desired?
- Can visitors dine with their relative/friend?