Creating places for senior living and specialist care
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We believe families should be able to choose the care home that’s right for them. That’s why we design and build homes that support residents right through from independent living to when they are at their most vulnerable.

We are driven by improving the built environment, and our award-winning buildings are some of the most sustainable, popular schemes in the country. We design state-of-the-art and technically compliant care homes using leading industry knowledge to benefit clients and residents.

Our team of designers and building consultants works passionately to create exceptional care homes for private companies, local authorities, housing associations, contractors, and the NHS.

Architecture
Building Consultancy
CDM Consultancy
Employer’s Agent & Cost Consultancy
Healthcare Consultancy
Project Management
We have worked with Hunters for a number of years. Like us they are committed to providing deliverable concepts and an outstanding service, enabling elder persons to live with dignity.

Eileen Appleton, Preconstruction Manager, Willmott Dixon

Hunters strive to understand how the model of care can be more effectively delivered and enhanced through high quality and detail of the building design.

David Brill, Director, Stepnell

The team at Hunters is innovative in their approach, specialist in their field of expertise and a real pleasure to work with, fitting in brilliantly with our team and taking on board and enhancing our ideas. Great service!

Julia Ashley, Executive Director – Commercial Services, Central & Cecil

Hunters provided us with a unique, bespoke extra care scheme design that our customers are delighted to be living in and our local authority partners are thrilled with.

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Steve Hogben, Senior Construction Project Manager, Housing 21
Over-55s housing
Willow Close, Newbury

Affordable and stylish homes

A crescent plan has been used in the design of 63 apartments and bungalow homes to rent for the over-55s. The development acts as a gateway to Newbury and forms the focal feature of the local park. Materials and massing carefully reflect the existing character of the town with design features such as gabion walls and winter gardens.

The high quality design of the affordable apartments has excellent space standards and private balconies or terraces. The central gables include mezzanine levels providing residents with a home office, one of the features that aims to future proof this development.

Sovereign Housing Association
Dickens Yard, Ealing

Active living in an urban centre

Our EA team managed the process of 70 active elderly homes for the over-55s at this exceptionally high quality site. The priority is for elderly tenants who currently live in large houses and want to downsize, so their houses can be refurbished and released to families.

The project is phased, and the larger development will bring a range of housing mixed with major shop and café brands.

Dickens Yard adds a new element to an established street scene in Ealing. Nearly 700 new apartments are built above shops with views over bustling streets or quiet garden terraces.

Catalyst
Dean Road, Richmond
BREEAM Excellent senior housing
This contemporary 24/7 care home has over 40 self-contained studios and flats, some of which are to buy. The home gives independence to residents and provides leisure and communal facilities. It is one of the few in the UK to have achieved BREEAM Excellent and was fully occupied as soon as it opened.
Constructed using light gauge steel frame, the home marked the start of a development relationship with Richmond Borough Council.
Richmond Housing Partnership
Excalibur Estate, Lewisham

An extensive masterplan

Part of a major regeneration project to replace post-war temporary pre-fabricated bungalows, this scheme incorporates homes for the over-55s. These are located opposite the new CoE church and community building for added security and support.

The one and two bedroom apartments are designed in a variety of sizes and all have balconies or roof gardens. This range suits a mixture of tenures in order to accommodate current and future tenants from the estate.

The homes are an essential part of creating sustainable environments with senior persons near their families. The scheme will achieve code for sustainable homes level 4.

L&Q
De Vere House, Wimbledon

Over-55s homes

De Vere House replaces existing outdated 1970s sheltered flats in the heart of Wimbledon. Twenty-five new high quality apartments enable the local residents to live in comfort while its position provides easy access to buses and the town centre. A focus on the senses and seclusion has been designed into the garden, and residents can also take advantage of a health spa and underground car parking.

Central and Cecil
Oak Tree House, Reading
A care home at the heart of the community

Set around a landscaped garden, this 60-person care home features independent living for the over-55s and facilities for the local community. Part of the massive regeneration plan of Dee Park in Reading, this cheerful and high quality home gives residents interesting people-led views, a restaurant, and contemporary living. The details are key here, using images and strong colours to help people with dementia.

Catalyst Housing
Reading Borough Council
Care villages and combination care
St Michael’s Complex, Aylsham
Community-focused senior living

This extensive care village in north Norfolk brings together an outstanding range of care options, with naturally lit, contemporary homes for the over-55s sitting alongside one of the largest extra care centres in Norfolk. Eighty-six rooms for people suffering from Alzheimer’s disease, cancer, and Parkinson’s disease combine with a sensory garden and NHS therapy rooms. The focus is on community, with landscaped gardens, a social centre with cafe, and doctor’s surgery with pharmacy.

Aylsham Community Trust
Circle Anglia
North Norfolk PCT
Bicester, Oxfordshire
Combination living
This 60-bed residential care home combines 20 extra care apartments and 40 private homes. An all-tenure community delivers exceptional care services for residents. The two care buildings are linked by a large communal lounge, while some apartments retain individual entrances, allowing for a sense of security without compromising independence. Links to Bicester transport, and amenities are good, and this scheme strikes a strong balance between private and community space. The scheme is part of Oxford’s county-wide care strategy.
The Orders of St John Care Trust
Bedfordshire Pilgrims Housing Association
Set back from the noise of a main road, this leafy site has been designed to a specialist dementia concept developed by Hunters’ architecture team. With over 60 residential beds and more than 70 extra care apartments, the home is community focused and features views across courtyards or winter gardens. Its symmetrical design helps residents to orientate themselves, and a simple palette of materials gives a “homely” feel. Springfield Road care home is domestic, not institutional, with private rooms, natural lighting, and allotment gardens.

The Orders of St John Care Trust
Townlands, Henley-on-Thames

Part of a wider NHS strategy

This nursing and dementia care home is part of a wide-ranging health campus developed to a best-practice model designed by Hunters’ architects.

Open spaces are emphasised at this 64-bed home, with landscape views, natural lighting, and adjacent historic buildings. The home is planned in a ‘H’ shape, which is ideal for effective nursing supervision, as well as giving residents courtyard gardens.

Hunters also masterplanned a new community hospital, Sue Ryder palliative care centre, and 45 assisted living flats within converted listed buildings at the same campus.

VINCI Construction
Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust
The Priory, Hungerford

State-of-the-art design

The Priory is a new breed of care home mixing extra care and over-55s accommodation in a sustainable environment. The scheme aims to optimise the views over Hungerford Common, an area of outstanding beauty. Providing 100% ‘affordable’ homes, it is landscaped to integrate into its natural surroundings where even the bats are to be residents of a new bat barn construction that is part of a wider ecological mitigation strategy.

Sovereign Housing Association
Extra care
Alice Bye Court, Berkshire
BREEAM Excellent design

Built to replace an existing care home, the new BREEAM Excellent design features over 50 extra care apartments. Located in the centre of a market town, it is well connected to surrounding amenities while also providing in-house restaurants and other services for residents and the public. The home forms part of West Berkshire Council’s wider development strategy of extra care accommodation throughout the county.

Housing 21
Girton Green, Cambridge

Luxury senior living

This care home for the over-55s in Cambridgeshire focuses on leisure facilities, complete with a ‘relaxation centre’, spa, gym, boule court, hair stylists, and cafe/restaurant.

More than 75 private ownership flats combine the freedom of living in a spacious modern apartment with the reassurance of 24-hour on-site support. There is a community feel, with sofas scattered around the building and in the garden.

Abbeyfield
Sunesis

Off-site (modular) construction units

Sunesis is a major new care home initiative that Hunters is designing with our clients. A pattern-book of designs have been developed to give clients the opportunity to “purchase” a building that has an assured price and offers a quality model of extra care.

The ‘off the shelf’ modules are a cost effective and attractive alternative to bespoke buildings.

Commonplace in other countries, the Sunesis design is compatible with BIM so it can be easily adapted by other contractors and architects in the market.

Willmott Dixon
Grange Avenue, Derby

Leisure-focused living

These extra care retirement flats include an assisted bathing suite, therapy rooms, hair and beauty salon, shop, and a café and restaurant.

Of the 70 individual apartments, half are for rent, and half are for sale on a shared ownership basis. The home offers 24-hour care for elderly people who are independent but who can remain in the home should their care needs increase.

The use of natural light creates a welcoming atmosphere, and courtyard gardens link the inside to the outside.

The extensive facilities at this BREEAM Very Good scheme are also for use by the surrounding community.

Housing 21
Moorlands, Cambridgeshire
All-age community environment

This scheme replaces an outdated care home and provides a selection of private homes and a modern extra care facility, creating an all-age community environment.

The extra care accommodation consists of one and two bedroom apartments with outstanding communal facilities including a health suite and cinema.

Cambridge Housing Society
Goodwin Court, Barnet

Staying independent

Set around a landscaped sensory courtyard garden, Goodwin Court mixes one and two bed extra care with leasehold apartments, supported by a range of communal facilities and living areas.

The garden conservatory, lounge, and restaurant have given residents social spaces to interact. Assistive technologies have been installed to support residents and maintain the independence that characterises a successful scheme.

Sanctuary Housing
Specialist care
Specialist care
Providing variations in types of care

The care market is becoming more complex, with more choice and ever increasing specialisms. Whilst independent living is encouraged wherever possible in a supportive environment, the traditional care or nursing home may now have to address design requirements for dementia, rehabilitation, learning disabilities and acquired brain injuries. We have design and technical experience in all these evolving sectors bringing leading knowledge and skills to our clients.

Main image: Refurbishment of the elderly care unit, Homerton
Top left: Using graphics and natural daylight
Bottom left: Natural external space in Dartford
Monkscroft, Gloucestershire

High-tech sensory care

Monkscroft Care Home is part of Gloucester’s county-wide strategy to update and re-provide care within the county. Hunters have designed a modern scheme that will eventually be part of a wider masterplan for Cheltenham’s Coronation Square.

The scheme combines 40 specialist dementia units and 40 nursing beds designed around two central courtyards.

A specialist dementia landscape consultant has developed the sensory garden design with Hunters.

The Orders of St John Care Trust

BPHA

Images © ehhouse
Horton Road, Devizes

Living with dementia

Open-plan living is emphasised at this sustainable scheme. It includes a “street” with resident day-out shops, a cinema, and garden centre. A combined heating power plant supplies sustainable energy, and a sense of place is maintained with short corridors.

The scheme is part of the Wiltshire Care Strategy programme, which delivers specialist dementia household and end-of-life accommodation. It has been designed and audited with the aim of achieving the Gold Design Standard by the University of Stirling’s Dementia Services Development Centre, which develops services for people with dementia and promotes dementia friendly design in buildings.

The Orders of St John Care Trust
Flexible care home standards
Progressive and affordable design

Working with our client we were commissioned to create a suite of specialist concept designs and detailed layouts for dementia and nursing care. This unique and state-of-the-art project addresses the needs of residents and care staff, and is designed to meet the University of Stirling Gold Standard for dementia design.

The Orders of St. John Care Trust
Suffolk and Brent PFI

Technical advisory role

Working closely with Suffolk County Council as technical advisors and designers, we developed 21st century living environment concepts for patients suffering from dementia. The aim of our designs was to work with the consequences of dementia to enable a more independent and fulfilling life.

One concept provided a communal ‘heart’ so residents’ private areas are connected straight into communal areas, and used images, often personal, rather than words or numbers, to provide recognition stimulus.

In Brent, we designed semi-independent living units for people with learning disabilities. The units are fully integrated with general housing, and our design process involved extensive discussions with existing residents, their carers and families, and social services.

Suffolk County Council
London Borough of Brent
Stoke Mandeville, Aylesbury

Calming environment

The design for this 90-bed nursing and dementia care home is founded on integrating state-of-the-art dementia accommodation with a calming, external space provided by a series of private courtyards. These courtyards are easily accessed from the residents’ group wings.

Key features of the scheme include dual aspect lounges with intimate winter gardens, splayed corridor spaces with natural light from ceiling light wells, focal walls with landscape imagery, and private front gardens.

The intention is to work with the University of Stirling to achieve the Gold Standard for excellence in dementia design.

The Fremantle Trust
Millbrook Lodge, Gloucestershire
Part of a council care strategy

This two-phase project provides an 80-bed nursing care home as part of the Gloucester County Council care strategy.

Built in the village of Brockworth, the home replaces two existing schemes within the county.

The home is constructed in traditional masonry over two floors with four distinct care suites of 20 residents. Each suite allows residents to live in comfort with lounges, dining rooms, and assisted bathing facilities close at hand.

The shape of the building maximises the stunning views of Coopers Hill as well as allowing the creation of interesting, sheltered, and secure garden spaces.

The Orders of St John Care Trust
BPHA
Architecture
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CDM Consultancy
Employer’s Agent & Cost Consultancy
Healthcare Consultancy
Project Management