

## Independent Living

### Background

Our Independent Living schemes offer high quality, self contained one and two bedroom apartments for people aged 55 and over, for sale, shared ownership or rent, making Independent Living affordable to local people.

The best of all worlds – a safe and secure home, a community of like-minded people, a social life on your doorstep and support and care available when you need it.

If you can answer yes to these questions, then Independent Living could be for you:

- Would you like to live in an accessible self-contained apartment with community facilities including a restaurant and hairdressers, and looked after garden right outside your front door?
- Would you like to be part of a vibrant community, with neighbours supporting each other, spending time together and taking part in a variety of social activities?
- Would you enjoy the freedom to come and go as you please, and have friends and family visiting whenever you want?
- Would you like access to on-site care and support as and when you need it?

### Key ideas

- Flexible use of space – communal rooms' use designated by residents
- Internal streets not corridors with easy and clear circulation
- Community hub with a wide range of opportunities for residents and the community
- Landscaped and stimulating gardens encouraging residents to enjoy the outdoors
- Bright and airy environments with plenty of natural light

### How it works

Instead of grouping all people with a specific care need in a single building new schemes are designed to be suitable for residents who require varying degrees of care ranging from people who still live fully independent lives through to people who require a daily carer.

The principle behind this is that as people's needs vary over time residents can remain in their homes and adapt their environment to suit their needs rather than having to move house. Personal care services would be provided either through social care services or paid for privately.

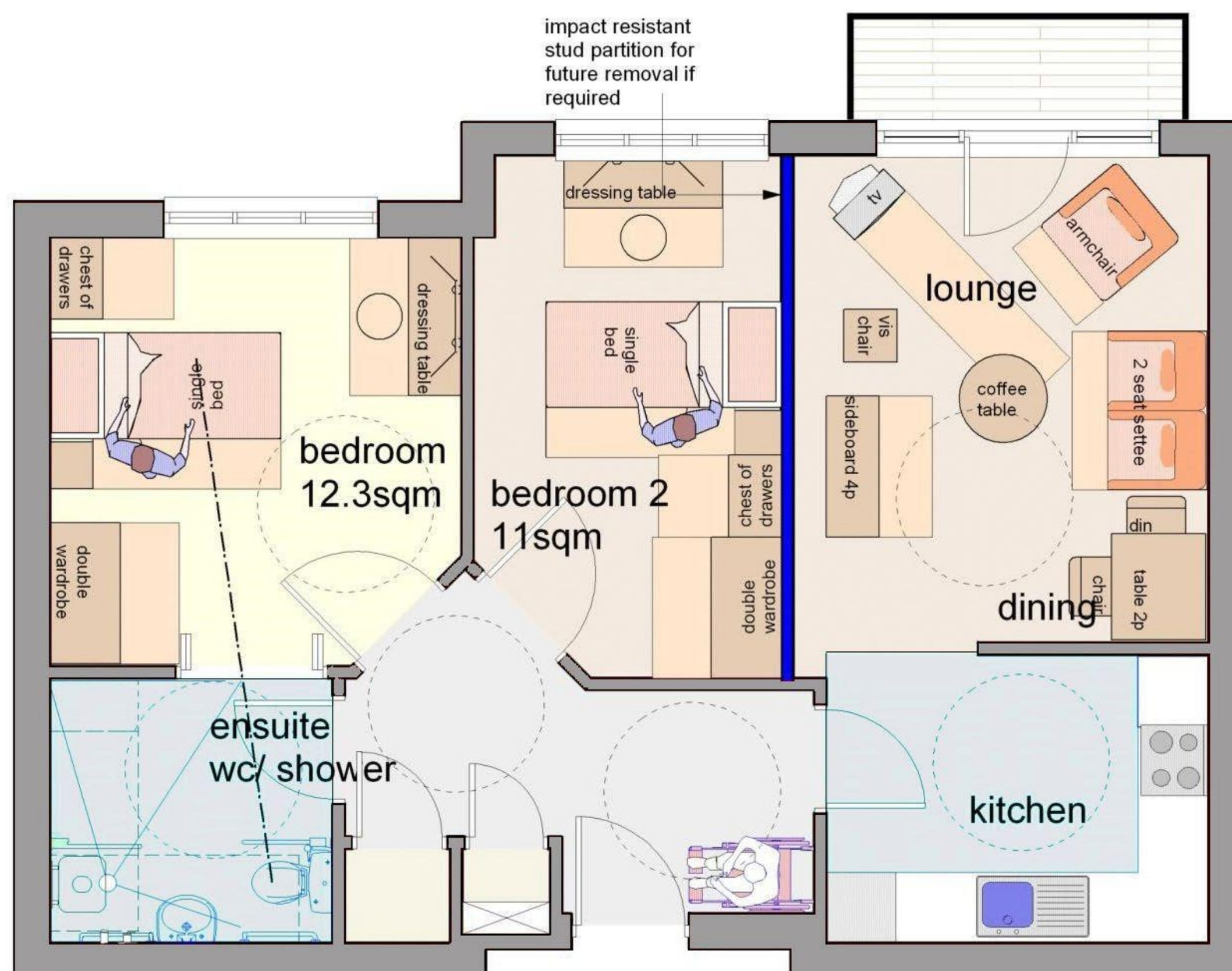
Residents live in their own apartment although there are communal areas, such as lounges, dining areas, hobby rooms and health and beauty suites so people can meet up with friends or join in with social activities if they want to. This helps to promote a wider sense of community and reassurance that support is available if required.

Support accommodation such as staff/visitor sleep-over facilities, offices, quiet rooms, communal lounge, communal kitchen, library, laundry, health & beauty suite, treatment centre, bath spas and roof gardens provided within the building to aid the support network for the residents.

Apartments are constructed to allow for future adaptability and choice so that a person or couple can move into a one-bedroom apartment with an enlarged lounge & dining area. If over time the needs of one or both of them changes and they prefer to sleep in separate rooms or a live-in carer is required, the flats can be easily adapted to create a second bedroom.

The flexibility in terms of the internal layout means that people can live as independently as possible and do not necessarily need to move to alternative accommodation if their needs change.

Plan of sample two-bedroom flat



Sample communal lounge



Sample roof terrace



Perspective of sample one-bedroom flat

