



MEDIA RELEASE

Ref: 008DN : lifetime homes standard

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Adapting new homes to meet future demand

Changes in housing demand have prompted SKDC to focus on the ways in which homes can be planned, developed and upgraded to enable people to live independently as they get older or as family circumstances change.

It wants to encourage the development of the Lifetimes Homes standard to meet existing and changing needs of households.

Features such as level access doors and approach paths are easily designed in from the outset as are wider doors which can help pushchair or wheelchair users alike.

This will mean that initial development or refurbishment costs are likely to increase but this will reduce the cost of disabled facilities grants and disruption involved in providing adaptations at a later date.

Actions for 2012 are to:

- Work with all developers to increase the number of Lifetime Homes across the district
- Look at the feasibility of refurbishing a proportion of the homes that the Council owns when they become available for re-letting.

In 2010 16.6% of the district population was aged between 60 and 74. By 2026 that percentage is predicted to rise to 23.7%.

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For media enquiries:

Email the SKDC communications team at pr@southkesteven.gov.uk or phone 01476 406498 or 406440.