

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE



Two Generations CIC

Homeshare: Reducing Loneliness Among Older People Through Community-Based Care

Social enterprise Two Generations partners with Hillingdon-based charity Age UK to provide a Homeshare service to older communities across the London Borough. Aimed at reducing loneliness among older people, Homeshare matches a Householder who lives alone and has a spare room (typically an older person or someone with a disability) with a carefully-vetted and friendly Sharer who provides overnight presence, companionship and help with household chores (typically a younger person, mature student, care worker or refugee struggling to afford quality housing).

This innovative approach to community-based care is a social enterprise partnership in action, similar to the Homeshare schemes Two Generations has provided in partnership with other London Boroughs, Harrow and Waltham Forest.

As a community-based service, Homeshare innovates to support older people enjoy continued independent living without the need for extra resources or budget from the council, increasing wellbeing while reducing the strain on local health services and adult social care resources.

Age UK Hillingdon supports hundreds of older people across the Borough every month and, where Homeshare could be an option for an older person, refers them or their family to Two Generations, which undertakes a bespoke vetting, selection and matching process with both Householder and Sharer. This an application process, interviews, matching meetings, a trial

period, references and DBS checks - all very similar to the process gone through to bring a carer into the home. Once established, Two Generations manages the Homeshare through the life of the relationship, often lasting 2-3 years.



your national
homeshare
provider



**Would you like some companionship?
Do you live alone and have a spare room?**



We match you with a friendly, carefully vetted younger housemate for companionship, overnight presence and help with household chores.
Homeshare: Supporting Independence, Affordability and Friendship

Homeshare In Partnership With Age UK Hillingdon

Age UK Hillingdon's CEO Julian Lloyd confirms "We're pleased to be partnering with Two Generations to make Homeshare widely available for the benefit of everyone across the borough, as one of a number of tools to help combat loneliness and provide key support at home".

The wider adoption of community-based care models for shared living arrangements can offer greater flexibility to meet people's needs and act as an alternative to residential care or traditional in-home care services. Homeshare supports older people to live independently in their local area while providing additional support to do so. Homeshare can be provided on a short or long-term basis and the service is personalised to each person to meet their needs. This includes people being discharged from hospital, people living with dementia and young people transitioning from children's social care.

Regular surveys of Two Generations' Homesharers report a 97% reduction in loneliness and feedback from Householders is uniformly positive. One example includes The Morris family:



People-centred councils
driving social innovation
putting people first

E: comms@councils.coop | T: [@CoopInnovation](https://www.coopinnovation.co.uk) | W: [councils.coop](https://www.councils.coop)

"We contacted Two Generations for my partner's elderly mother who needed an overnight presence as well as companionship to allow her to stay in her own home independently. We found both in Two Generations who have been nothing short of brilliant in terms of providing us with a wonderful Homesharer, Alison. The whole process felt very safe with all the checks that were done and Two Generations has been fantastic making sure we had the best possible fit. We have found it to be a great experience and having got to know her during the process, Alison already feels like a new member of the family !"

As a national Homeshare provider, Two Generations is now working several councils nationwide and is keen to support CCIN members to offer Homeshare in their communities.



Householder & Sharer Together

For further information contact:

Justin Dewhirst
Partnerships Adviser, Two Generations
justin@twogenerations.co.uk | 07554 037263 | www.twogenerations.co.uk