

ARE CARE HOMES THE SAFEST OPTION?

COVID-19 CARE HOME STATISTICS

A joint study by the Office of National Statistics and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) state COVID-19 deaths in care homes reached 14,428 by 9th October 2020.

The latest ONS statistics show 29.3% of deaths of care home residents in England between 2nd March and 12th June 2020 involved COVID-19.

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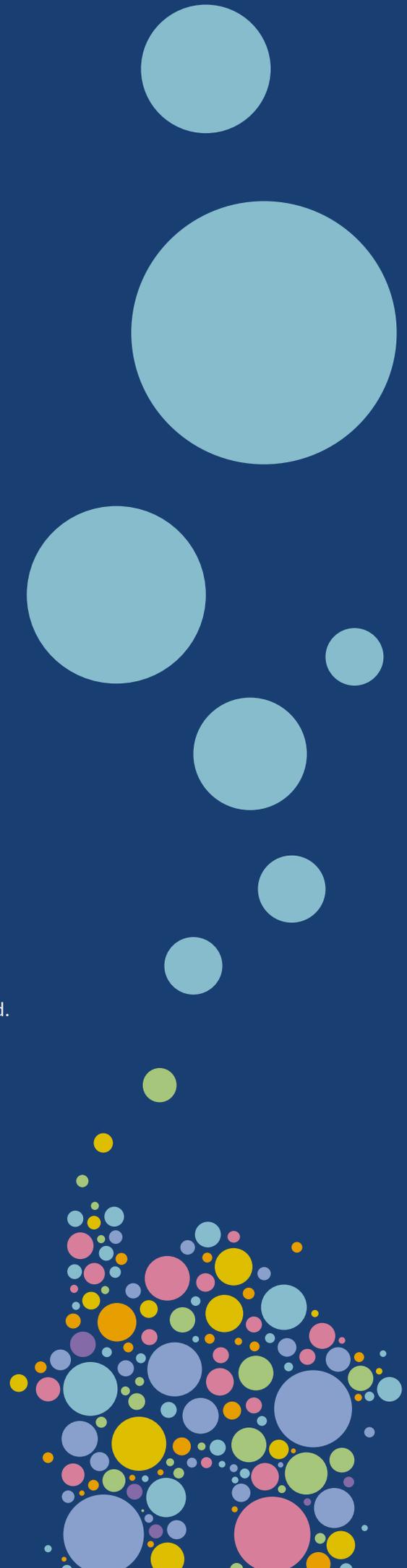
The UK view care homes to be the best option for ongoing care. Providing residents with company, socialisation and carers on duty 24 hours a day.

However, care homes during the pandemic have been deeply affected by COVID-19 and strict lock-downs have had a detrimental effect on residents' mental health and wellbeing. Having contact with family, friends and other residents denied.

Infection rates were amplified by a care homes traditional living arrangements;

- Residents live in close proximity to each other and share communal areas for dining and daily activities
- Care home staff deal with multiple residents across the home

And the fact that residents were discharged to care homes with COVID-19 and the care homes were not informed, increased the chances of cross contamination between residents.



LIVE-IN CARE - THE SAFER OPTION

In a recent survey by the Live-in Care Hub, those organisations polled provide live-in care for a total of 2,926 elderly people. During the first wave of the virus, only 10 elderly people tested positive for coronavirus from that total and only 10 live-in carers tested positive – and these cases are not directly related.

FINANCES

Live-in care is affordable and, in many cases, is cheaper than living in a care home. If a live-in carer, for example, lives with a couple, the cost is the same as caring for one person. In a care home, both would pay the costs.

BENEFITS OF LIVE-IN CARE VS. TO A CARE HOME

- One-to-one care and support around the clock – one-to-one care simply cannot be achieved in any care home.
- A uniquely developed, highly personalised plan of care designed to meet your care needs whilst addressing how you wish to live your life with none of the rigid timetables or set routines experienced in a care home.
- Specialist care of complex conditions provided by highly trained carers delivered in the comfort of your own home. Familiar surroundings and routines are paramount in helping those living with specialist conditions, like dementia.
- Staying at home means you can keep control of your life, with all your treasured memories and possessions around you being cared for in an environment that is safe, comfortable and familiar.
- Considerable and proven benefits to overall health and wellbeing, with much needed peace of mind and reassurance for family members.
- The cost of care is comparable to that of a care home and considerably cheaper for couples, who would be charged double for two rooms in a care home.
- Couples can stay together as a loving couple, as opposed to being split up to be cared for in different areas of a care home.
- Continuing to be part of the local community you have loved, for what might have been many years.

**92% people aged 65 years and above would prefer to be supported at home, rather than in a care home.*

**YouGov, 2020*

*the Good
Caregroup*

 **020 3728 7577**
thegoodcaregroup.com