**Topic guide for interview with architects**

**Key aims:**

1. Understand how architects think about older people and care in their design, and the key issues and challenges in designing for this sector.
2. To understand the role of architects, their working practices and the nature of their day to day work in this field.

* **Example** of care home/design project for older people

-**Commissioning** - procurement

**-Brief -**What is it/does it look like? Level of input – architect/client

-**Development of design-** Initial development/changes/3-D models, sketches, plans, computer design – when, how used?

-**Teams -** How organised? Lead/roles/outsourcing

* **Relationship with client -**how do you work together during the process? How involved is the client with the design?

Different types of client – local authority vs. private v. charity

Design and build vs. traditional

* **Issues/challenges**

-Planning

-Construction

-meeting the needs of different groups/stakeholders

* Constraints:

-**costs/**financial issues

-**legislation**/regulations

* **Envisaging the end user**

– how do you envisage the end user? Staff/service users/visitors

-Where do you **get your ideas about the end user from**? Client, in-house research, sector standards, personal experience

-Formal **consultation with users** (staff/service users)

* **Envisaging care**

- How do you think about ‘care’ in terms of your design? (e.g. processes - washing, dressing, mealtimes, relationships, activities…)

-Where do you get your **ideas about ‘care’** from?

*-* ***wider developments/ideas in health and social care***

-design/models from hospitality industry – **home vs. hotel** model?

* Role as an architect

-how would you describe the **role of the architect** when working on these sort of care projects (e.g. conductor)? What distinctive skills do architects bring to the project?

-Would you see yourself as a **care/healthcare** **specialist**?

-Other types of project? Ideas across different projects

-What is **distinctive** about working on healthcare projects?

-training /education

* How different was the finished building from the one you originally envisaged?

-Surprises/unexpected developments, anything you would change?

-Interior design – were you involved? Important?

-hopes – atmosphere, quality, how the building works (practices/relationships/activities of those who use it)

- what do you think makes for ‘good’ architecture or design in this sector?

* Future research – following projects – anything should focus on? Anything further to add?