**DesHCA Professional Interviews**

**Topic Guide**

**Introduction**

* Set expectations for the interview. *“Today we’re going to chat about your experiences working on projects involving age-friendly housing. We’d like to learn about the factors that influence decisions around designing and developing age-friendly homes, and any challenges in these processes.”*
* Reinforce informed consent process. “*I know you’ve signed a consent form to say you’re happy to talk to me today, but if there are any questions you don’t want to answer, or if you change your mind about taking part, please just let me know. It’s no problem at all.”*
* Open discussion of background and experience. *“So, could you start by telling me a bit about your background, and your experiences of developing age-friendly housing?”*

**Sector-specific questions**

* [Specific questions about participant’s field of expertise – prepare these before interview] e.g.   
  Architects:   
    
  **Educators (only):** It sounds like you play a vital role in the education of professionals and future decision makers. With this in mind, can you tell me to what extent does the syllabus in the course(s) you are involved in expose students to issues around design or management of physical environments to make them supportive of ageing, age-related impairments, cognitive impairment, or even broader takes on considering diversity in the needs or preferences of potential end users?   
    
  Would you be interested in including more of this? Considering the pressure for education to cover a wide array of important topics (e.g. Climate change, human rights, required discipline specific expertise), what approaches, or resources, or even policy changes do you think might help you to do this?

**Influences and challenges in design and delivery processes**

* Are you aware of innovations in housing and ageing?

What design guidance/policy to you refer to (if applicable) with regard to age-friendly/ dementia/ inclusive design?

Where do you go for guidance/policy?   
Where do you look for inspiration, case studies, or ways of potentially improving your design knowledge/skills in this area, or the age-friendly qualities of the projects you are working on?

Have your drawn on research in this area? Have you found any challenges in this area? (e.g. accessing information in the first place? making practical use of the information? or convincing others to take on board research findings in decision making?)

* Knowledge exchange
* Do you share your insights/best practice? How?
* Do you do your own evaluation work/ research in this area?
* What have your found is the most helpful type of research/information in this area?
* Influential factors.
  + *“What sort of factors do you have to consider when developing age-friendly housing?”*
    - *SUB question: are there any specific sector influences*
    - *PROMPT:* scalability
* Challenges.
  + *“Are there any particular challenges that affect your industry when you’re developing age-friendly homes?”*
    - *SUB question: are there any specific sector influences*
    - *PROMPT:* scalability
* Connections  
  The housing design and construction process can be complex, requiring input from a substantial number of different people with a wide variety of skills and expertise. The same could perhaps be said for the process of managing housing and implementing adaptations when they are needed. Successful outcomes are therefore dependent on working relationships and partnerships between organisations:
  + What are your main partnerships within your sector?
  + Barriers to partnership/interagency working
  + PROMPT: Include business connections if not mentioned/building industry
* Skills within the sector
  + Do you think there are enough skills on development/dementia / age friendly design in the sector?
  + How do you think capacity can be built in this area?
* Resource, cost/benefit, and perception of costs
* Would you say that cost is a key barrier to developing age-friendly housing?
* Perceived costs of design changes
* Perceptions of consumer demand for changes
* Perceptions of the benefits
  + What do they think the benefits are? (QoL, cost, reduced institutionalisation?)
  + Prompt: Scalability (Have you undertaken any work regarding scalability?)

Insight to development and retrofitting – conversation cover both?

PROMPT: Home and environment modifications? (sarah Ill chat to you about this)

* End user requirements
  + Who and how do you consult? Co-production? Engagement with end users?
  + How do you connect with older people /service users in this process?

**Final points**

* Check whether the participant has any final thoughts or questions.
  + *“Is there anything else you’d like to share with me, ask me today?”*
* Mention of other DesHCA activities if appropriate
* Thank participant for taking part today