

# **Colivet Court, Limerick**

-:-

**Award Winning**

**Age Friendly Housing for Older People**

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**An Example of Best Practice**

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**Presented by Anne Rizzo**

**International Relations Officer**



# CONTEXT

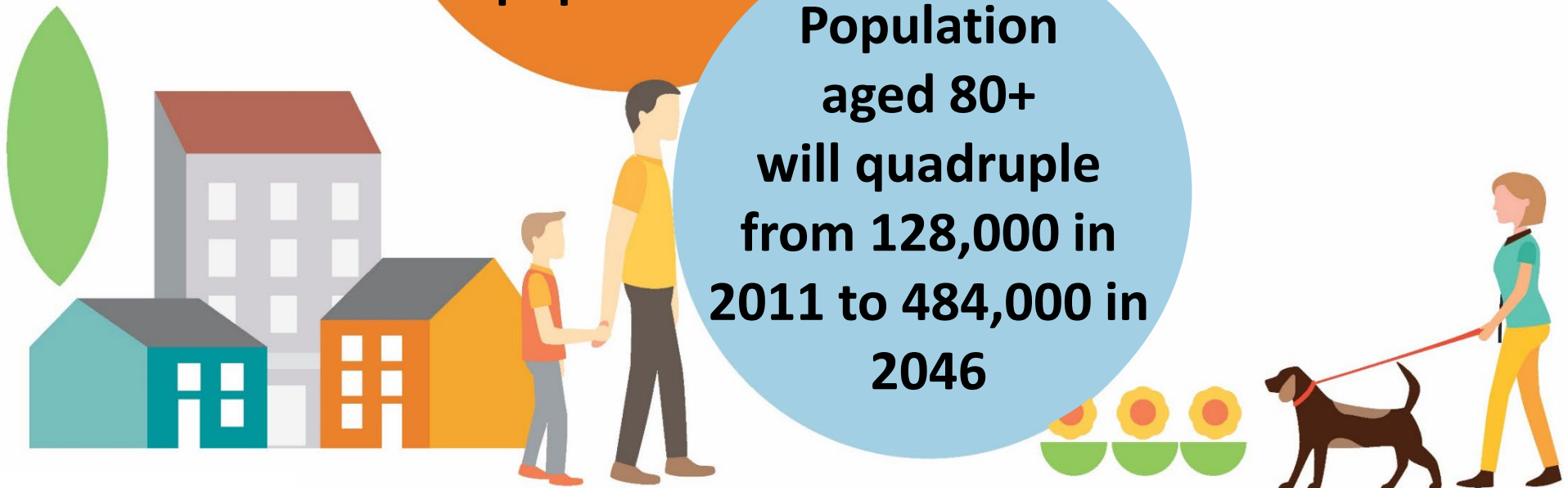


**No. of People  
>65 in Ireland  
expected  
to reach 1.4  
million by 2040**

**This equates  
to about  
23% of the  
total  
population**

**The implications  
for areas of  
public policy  
are considerable,  
diverse and  
challenging**

**Population  
aged 80+  
will quadruple  
from 128,000 in  
2011 to 484,000 in  
2046**

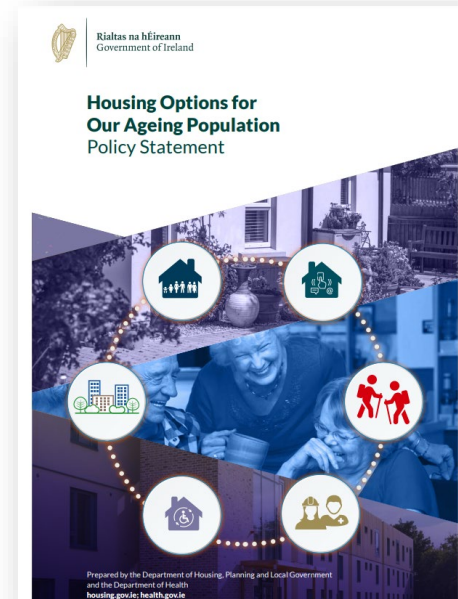
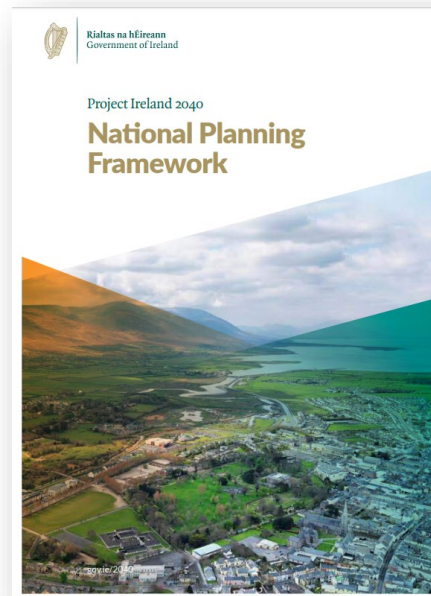


# PUBLIC POLICY BACKGROUND



Public Policy is actively supporting well-designed lifetime adaptable infill and brownfield development close to existing services and facilities as articulated in:

- **Rebuilding Ireland**
- **Project Ireland 2040**
- **Housing Options for Our Ageing Population Policy Statement**



# COLIVET COURT (35 UNITS FOR OLDER PEOPLE)

- 21 two bedroom apartments
- 14 one bedroom apartments
- Guest room
- Communal facility





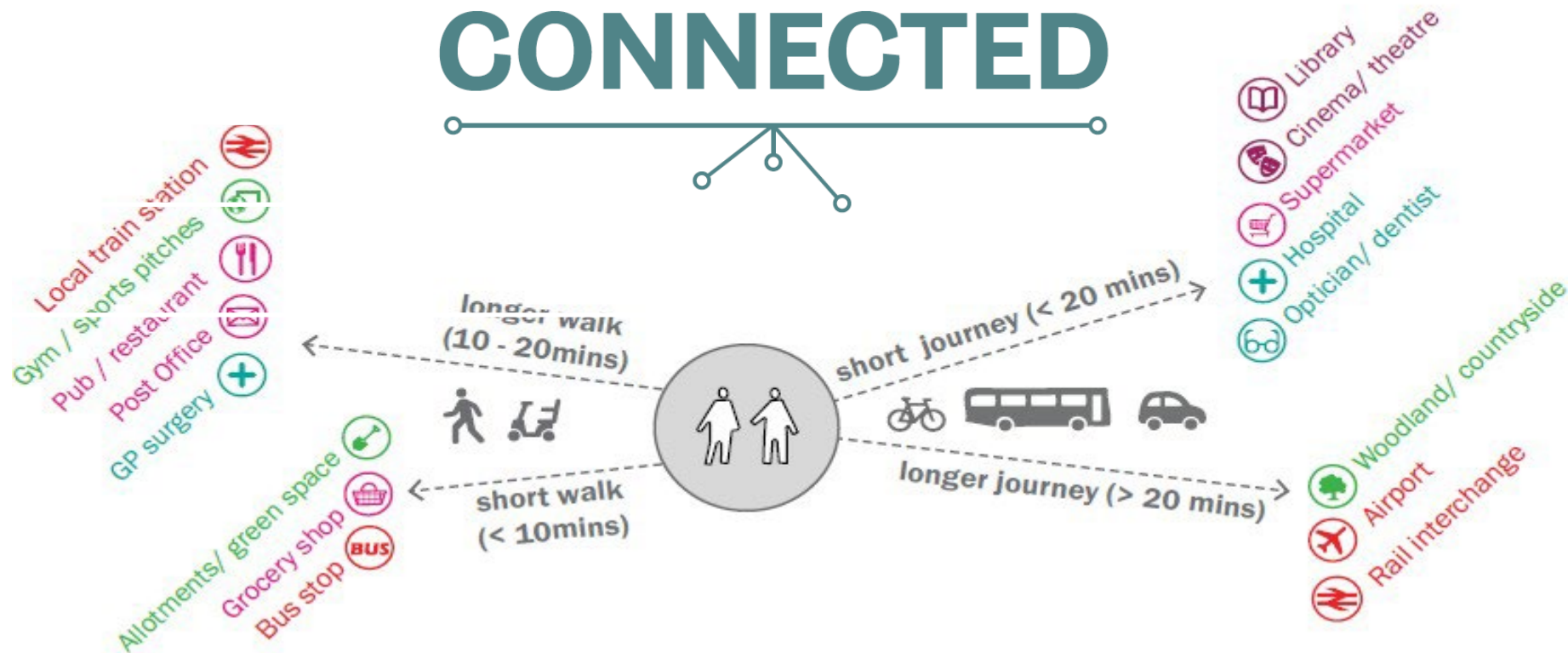
# **AGE FRIENDLY HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS**

## **Key Principles of Colivet Court**

- 1. CONNECTED**
- 2. SPACIOUS**
- 3. ACCESSIBLE**
- 4. PLEASURABLE**
- 5. MANAGABLE**
- 6. SOCIABLE**
- 7. GREEN**



# CONNECTED



- Colivet Court is conveniently located a short distance (**450m/5 minute walk**) from shops and a supermarket at Roxboro Centre
- There is a local **bus service** into Limerick City Centre. The bus stop has been moved in consultation with Bus Eireann and is located in front of the development
- To the eastern end of the site is a **secure, landscaped car parking area**



# SPACIOUS

- Perception that 'downsizing' means smaller spaces
- Colivet Court designed with higher than normal floor to ceiling heights, allowing for greater levels of daylight and a feeling of spaciousness
- 21 two bedroom apartments, 14 one bedroom apartments, a guest room
- Majority of the scheme comprises 2 bedroom apartments
- Understands that co-habiting couples may need 2 separate bedrooms for health or lifestyle reasons
- Flexibility to use the additional bedroom as an office space
- Additional bedroom can be used for carer



# ACCESSIBLE

- Homes with wider doors, larger circulation space or level access are often described as a specialist product
- Accessibility in the home is the difference between being able to remain living independently and a crisis move to a residential setting
- Colivet Court - level thresholds, ramps, appropriate door and corridor widths.
- All ground floor apartments are wheelchair accessible. There are six wheelchair accessible parking spaces in the development.
- The stair core serving apartments 15 – 21 has been fitted with a passenger lift.
- Provision has been made in all other stair cores for the installation of a lift in the future should the need arise.
- Five apartments have been fitted out with wheelchair accessible bathrooms including a wheelchair accessible toilet and basin, shower seat and all necessary grab rails





# PLEASURABLE



- The home environment plays a vital role in our sense of psychological well-being throughout the lifecourse.
- Home contributes to feelings of pleasure, comfort, and security



*Quotes from residents of Colivet Court*

“Space to entertain friends or to host guests for the weekend without feeling too cramped.”

“I love my new home, it is like winning the lotto, and the Caretaker is very helpful also.”

“Space to properly put away tools, household stuff and toys for the grandchildren.”

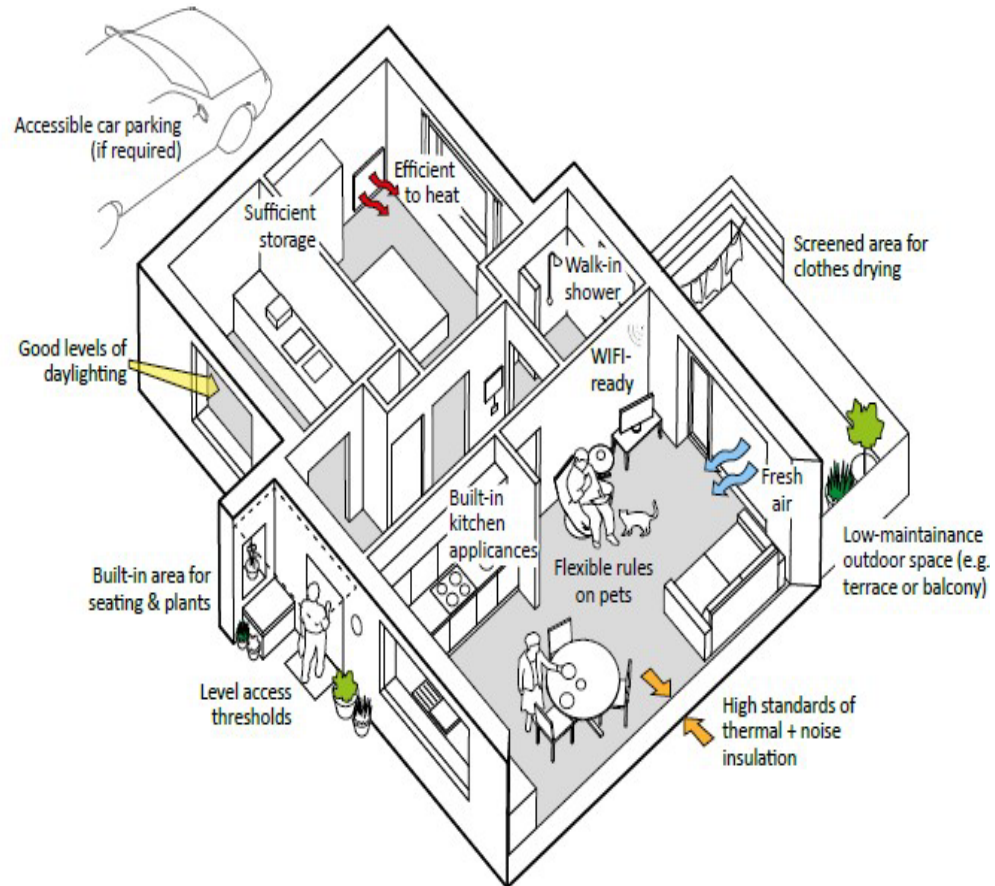
I feel very safe and secure in my new home, it is also very warm.”



# MANAGEABLE



- Low maintenance design features
- Development managed by An Approved Voluntary Housing Body
- Bottom up approach to management rules.
- Strong focus on understanding clients needs and wants.
- Caretaker on- site daily
- A Housing Officer, visits regularly to meet residents on a one to one basis
- An emergency service (warden call) is available through a 24 hour response centre



# SOCIABLE



- The scheme has extensive internal and external common areas where tenants can meet and socialise.
- Many residents already know each other well having lived in the locality most of their lives.
- The communal facility has been designed to be used by the wider community also but controlled by the residents creating an integration of this whole development with the surrounding community rather than a stand-alone older person accommodation.
- The local Health Service Community Worker for the Over 55s has a long-standing relationship with many people living on the scheme.
- She has provided help moving in, ensured supports followed residents who relocated, organised public health intervention when needed and built links with tenants she didn't already know. She is pro-active in helping with and encouraging use of the communal facilities.



# GREEN



- A high level of consideration was given to addressing this issue the design stage as this was of serious concern to older people on relatively low incomes – frees up money/financial stability in an era of ever-changing fuel prices.  
(e.g. one residents fuel bill mid-winter went from €75 per week to €7 per week)
- There is a high level of insulation in the walls, floor and roof.
- High quality double glazed windows and external doors are fitted.
- There is a high standard of air tightness in the building fabric to reduce heat loss through the roof and windows, and minimise draughts.
- Two photovoltaic panels are provided per apartment as a sustainable source of renewable energy.
- All apartments in the development achieved a Building Energy Rating B1.

Lets hear from some of the residents.....









**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION**

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