



Case Study: Durham

WORDS AND PICTURES BY

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Our 6 apartments in Durham are set out over three floors, and cater for a range of needs and abilities.

As the tenants would have a range of abilities, we've worked closely with Care Provider **Community Integrated Care**, who run the scheme, to ensure that the property has been fitted out to cater for everyone's safety and specific needs, while retaining as much independence as is possible for the tenants.

We firmly believe that when it comes to living arrangements, one size most definitely, does not fit all. Our aim is to create places that each tenant is proud to call home.

“

I love it...since I've come here I've felt a lot calmer ”

KIERAN

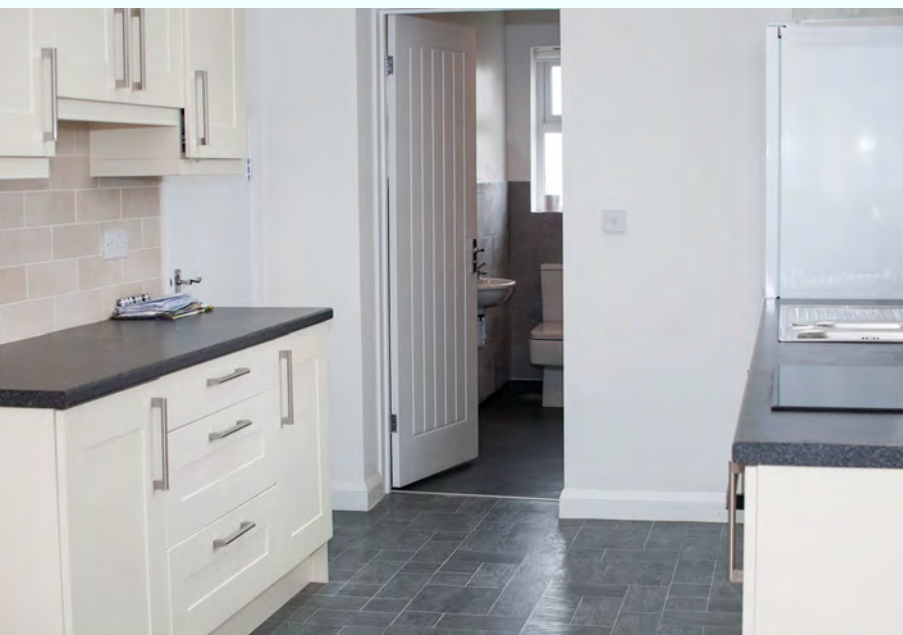
Mersten Tenant - Durham



Providing specialist homes that are fit for purpose is at the heart of what we do.



Each apartment has been fitted with induction hobs, new white goods in fully fitted kitchens, with details being tailored for the individual needs of each tenant such as anti scald taps, lockable cupboards, full bathroom and/or wet rooms, and durable flooring where appropriate. Each bathroom is completely individual to each tenant and contain a range of baths, showers and wet rooms.



Many of the apartments have spare rooms that can be utilised as guest rooms, calm spaces, or used for leisure activities, giving tenants more choices around how they want to organise and customise their living spaces.

Offering a sense of independence and choice is fundamental to the rights of our tenants, and we make sure to revisit our properties to hear what our tenants think of their new living spaces.

Now home to five (soon to be six!) tenants, we revisited Durham in January 2019. It was wonderful to see that everyone had settled in well, both at home and in the village where the local community, shops and pubs have already welcomed everyone with open arms.



Welcome home

Having their own front doors has given the tenants greater independence to explore the local village and space to enjoy their own homes without disturbing each other in a safe, and quiet environment. Gavin is able to go to the shops and pub independently and already having made friends with Kieran, they are planning pub trips together.

Kieran previously lived with family and is in his first week in the apartment but he is already so proud of his home and enjoys being “master of his own home” and greeting guests. Kieran had personalised his apartment and was delighted to show us his very impressive sheep collection, DVDs, and the new furniture he’d chosen. Kieran now does his own dishes and has stopped the support worker from helping him with this task.

We spoke with several of the fantastic support workers and it was lovely to hear that the tenants were showing improved behaviours and greater independence since moving to the property. We wish everyone a wonderful time in their new Mersten home!