

A checklist to help you choose a Care Home

The first impression	YES	NO
Was the home easy to find?		
Do you like the location?		
Were you warmly welcomed at reception?		
Was the reception area clean and tidy?		
Did the residents seem happy and engaged?		
Was there an unpleasant odour?		
Did the staff interact with the residents?		
The environment		
Did the home have a 'homely' comfortable feel?		
Was the home well decorated and in good order?		
Can you bring your own furniture and possessions?		
Was there en-suite facilities?		
Are there a variety of communal spaces?		
Are there adapted baths or showers that meet your needs?		
Is there a nurse call system in your room?		
Can you control the heating in your room?		
Does it have a garden / outside space you can access?		
Do you have a telephone point in your room?		
Do they have internet access?		

The food

Are there choices at mealtimes?	
Can you choose to eat in your room?	
Can you get involved in food preparation?	
Can the chef cater for your dietary needs and preferences?	
Can relatives join you for a meal?	
Are their snacks and refreshments provided throughout the day?	
The activities	
Are there a good range of activities on offer?	
Do these activities change month on month?	
Are there activities you are interested in?	
Are there regular outings arranged?	
Are there activities or events that include relatives?	
The staff	
Do the staff hold relevant qualifications?	
Do they receive regular training?	
Is there specialist training i.e. dementia care?	
Is there a high staff turnover?	
Do the staff speak your language?	