

## Centre of excellence for dementia care praised by Minister



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The Minister of State for Care has praised the work carried out at a West Midlands centre of excellence, which provides care for people with dementia.

Caroline Dinenage MP visited Arden Grove in Coventry this week (November 05) to see first-hand the work that goes into providing its residents with the best care possible.

Arden Grove, which is owned by Accord Housing Association, is specialist housing, with care complex for people with dementia. The service has been specifically designed to provide a homely environment where people with dementia can flourish and enjoy life whilst having access to support throughout the day and night.

Minister for Care Caroline Dinenage said: "As our population grows and ages there are more people than ever living with complex health conditions like dementia and Arden Groves sets a brilliant example of what specialised care and support should look like.

"I was delighted to tour the complex and see their innovative use of virtual reality technology, which provides residents with exciting experiences in the comfort of their homes."

Arden Grove is a centre of excellence for dementia care and provides an environment with the best of both worlds, with welcoming communal spaces on each floor where people can meet, eat together and socialise with the added benefit of individual apartments, enabling privacy and independence.

The centre consists of 33 self-contained one bedroom apartments with kitchens and en-suite, fully-adapted shower rooms. There are communal lounges and communal kitchens on each floor stimulating a sense of place and home.

The centre also uses virtual reality software Virtucare which the Minister was able to experience during her visit. Virtucare enables residents to do things and go places they might not be able to go to, without physically leaving

their home.

Maxine Espley, Executive Director of Health, Social Care and Support at Accord said: "At Arden Grove, we have developed a unique care model that utilises our significant experience and expertise of working with people with dementia. We were delighted to welcome Caroline Dinenage MP to Arden Grove where she was able to see the excellent work carried out by the staff on a day-to-day basis."

Coventry City Councillor Faye Abbott added: "I'm delighted the Minister was able to visit Arden Grove and see first-hand how the partnership between the City Council and Accord has created this great scheme enabling people to continue to live independently with care and support on hand when they need it"

For more information about Arden Grove visit: [www.accordgroup.org.uk/find-a-service/82](http://www.accordgroup.org.uk/find-a-service/82).

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