

The Whiteley
Foundation for
Ageing Well

### Almshouse Research: Ageing Well

5<sup>th</sup> June 2019 Dr Alison Armstrong

### Research – how it can benefit us all

- Gather evidence to
  - Improve the lives of Almshouse residents and staff
  - Make positive operational change
  - Contribute to knowledge about ageing well in place
  - Influence policymakers
- Opportunities for involvement
  - Cohort of residents to guide research activities
  - Meaning and purpose

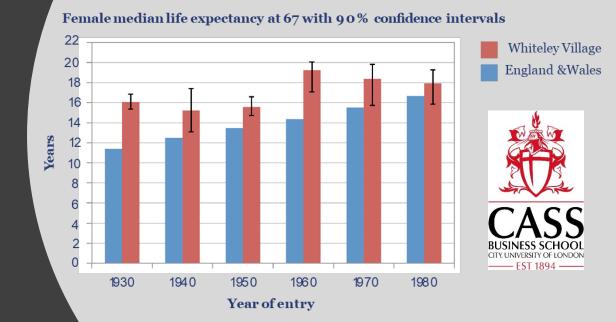




Whiteley Village, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey

#### Longevity

- Historically, Whiteley Village residents have lived longer than similar non-residents
- Women entering in the 1960s lived
   4.9 years longer
- Reduces or removes longevity inequality between high and low socioeconomic groups

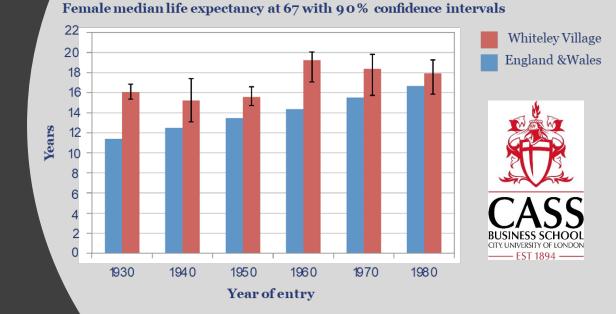


#### Full report available:

http://whiteleyvillage.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/CASS\_ILC-UK\_-\_Does\_Living\_in\_a\_Retirement\_Village\_Extend\_Life\_Expectancy \_-\_Web\_version.pdf

#### Questions

- Why do Whiteley Village residents live longer?
- Are more years good years?
- Does this apply to other Almshouses covering longer periods of history?





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### Living in Whiteley Village

"Driving down the avenue of trees when I first came here, I can't tell you, and the beautiful buildings, I felt I was coming home, I just felt such joy. I'm proud to live here"

"I'm safe here, I'm secure, people know me and look out for me. Knowing that gives me such peace, and to my children too. They know Mum's OK"

"There's things going on. You can lead a quiet life if you want to, but me, I get involved in lots of things"



Diane Garrard

## Do other Almshouse residents live longer?

- Phase I: Do other Almshouse charities hold comparable data?
- Thank you for your contributions.
   Please take part if you haven't done so
- Phase II: If so, we can conduct analyses to understand longevity across Almhouses more generally





Freda Hodgson

# Other projects we are running

- Psychosocial Impact of Transitions in Retirement
- You, Me, and the Big D: Dementia Awareness Training
- Whiteley Longitudinal Study
- Resident Life History Collection
- Health monitoring technology





Whiteley Village, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey

#### Other Almshouse research

- New Almshouse development
- Sharing good practice
- Technology, healthcare & well-being
- Designing for community
- Link with local Age UK branches







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Thank you

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