

## Idea 4 – Discussion prompts



You could have a discussion session to explore research priorities. This could be done in a group or one-to-one, whatever you and your residents prefer. Smaller groups might be easier to manage for a discussion, depending on if you have any help (e.g., in a larger group, it might be helpful to have someone to write down what residents tell you).

To get the conversation started, we have given some examples of research and new approaches used in care homes on **pages 2-3**. As well as discussing them, you could also cut these out and ask residents to rank them in order of how important they feel each topic is.

On **page 4**, we've suggested some questions you could ask to see what residents think about the research.

Before the session, you might also want to print out some **answer cards** so that you can write out any research ideas residents talk about. You could also look at the **picture prompts cards** we have made to give you some more ideas. Both are available on our website ([www.carehomepriorities.com](http://www.carehomepriorities.com)).

# Young, old and marvellous: how a care home built a nursery – and everyone thrived

At Belong Chester, the older residents and young children have the chance to spend each day together, and it's led to big improvements in all their lives. What's the secret?

By [Helen Pidd](#), North of England editor

# Remote monitoring in care homes reduces hospital admissions finds study



A first-of-its-kind independent study linking care home data to NHS records has proven that remote monitoring of care home residents can significantly reduce the number of unplanned hospital admissions, consequently saving costs for the NHS.

Above: The Guardian, February 2024

Above: Digital Health, September 2023

HEALTH

# Japan uses robots to care for its elderly. Could it work in the UK?

The country with one of the world's oldest populations is turning to robots to deal with the elderly. Can new technology be the answer to our social care problem?



# Care home staff and residents need 'family' bonds to thrive

[Science news](#)

16 April 2024



Care home residents receive much better care when they enjoy 'family' bonds with staff – but staff must be empowered to create these bonds, new research has found.

Above: The Times, August 2023

Above: University of Leeds, April 2024

## Hen-keeping - a cracking new therapy for older people

A project that lets people keep hens is reducing depression, loneliness and the need for antipsychotic medication for those in sheltered housing and care homes



The hen project, which is supporting some 700 residents in more than 20 care homes in north-east England, was launched in London last week. Photograph: David Charlton/Equal Arts

In the garden of a care home, ginger nut ranger hen Ellen has just laid her second egg. Staff and residents of Elmgrove House, in west London, are hoping that their other three hens - Alice, Sylvie and Craven - will follow suit. The four are already proving popular. Resident Ashok Patel, 64, has been pronounced "a natural" with the hens, someone who can coax them back into the henhouse when it is time for bed. "I like the hens, and the hens like me," he says.

Henpower, a project that brings hens to older people in care settings, has joined with **Notting Hill Housing** to introduce the hens into two of the housing association's extra-care sites. The project is supporting some 700

## Study to examine benefits of sounds of nature in care homes

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Researchers will investigate the effects of natural sounds on the mental health and wellbeing of older people

**New research will explore whether the sounds of nature can have a positive impact on care home residents.**

Experts and researchers at the University of Gloucestershire will work with older people in the community to record nature-based soundtracks.

Sounds such as waterfalls, birdsong and sea waves will be played through immersive sound systems.

Above: The Guardian, July 2015

Below: inews, September 2023

Above: BBC, September 2023

Below: BBC, February 2023

## How AI smart lamps are preventing falls and keeping people out of hospital

BIG READ

Hartland House in Cumbria is the first residential care facility in the UK to install Nobi lamps to help detect and prevent falls - the results have been extraordinary



Each Nobi lamp camera takes an image every second to quickly detect signs of a fall



By Paul Gallagher  
Health Correspondent

## Pharmacists make care homes safer, research suggests

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GETTY IMAGES

The research found the presence of the pharmacists reduced harm

By Jennifer Harby  
BBC News

Basing pharmacies within care homes makes them safer for residents, new research suggests.

## Looking at the research:

1. Out of the topics shown, which ones do residents think are the most useful/important? Why do they think this?
2. Do they think any of the topics are unhelpful/not important? Why?
3. Are there any research topics not covered by the pictures that the residents think are really important? What are these? If the residents could ask researchers to improve or look into something, what would it be? (Consider writing these on our answer cards!)