



Homes Fit for Purpose

- By Jill Wadley

My Background

- Married with 2 daughters and 11 grandchildren
- Started volunteering when 14yrs
- My working life as secretary

- Volunteer within the community
- Active volunteer within social housing 16 years which started as Chair of compact group

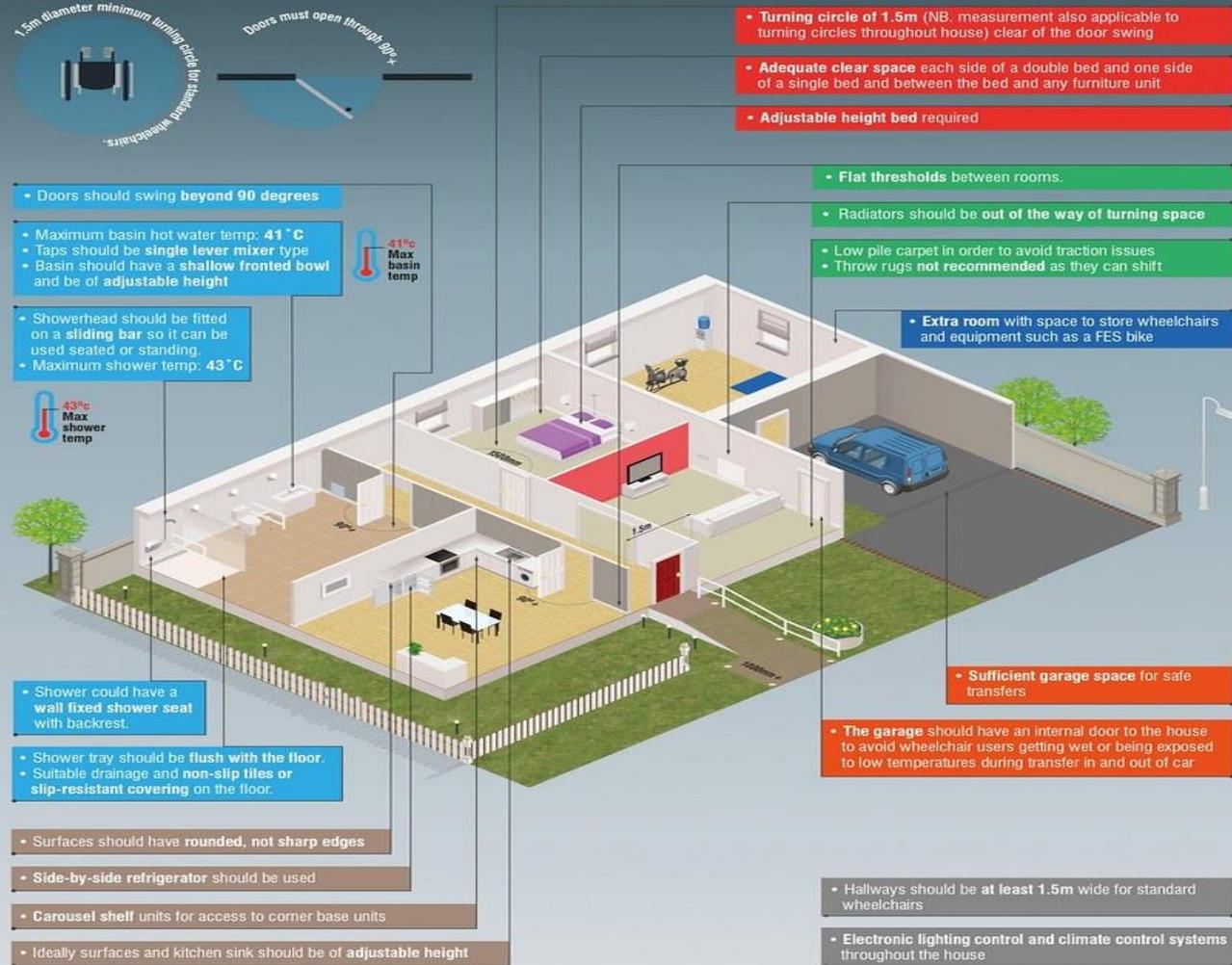


What happened?

- 2007 Torfaen County Borough Council found themselves with a problem
- Welsh government wanted to bring all social housing up to a certain standard (Welsh Housing Quality Standard)
- This left Torfaen with dilemmas
- Gave choice to tenants
- 2008 following a tenant vote Bron Afon Community Housing was born



Accessible Housing For Wheelchair Users

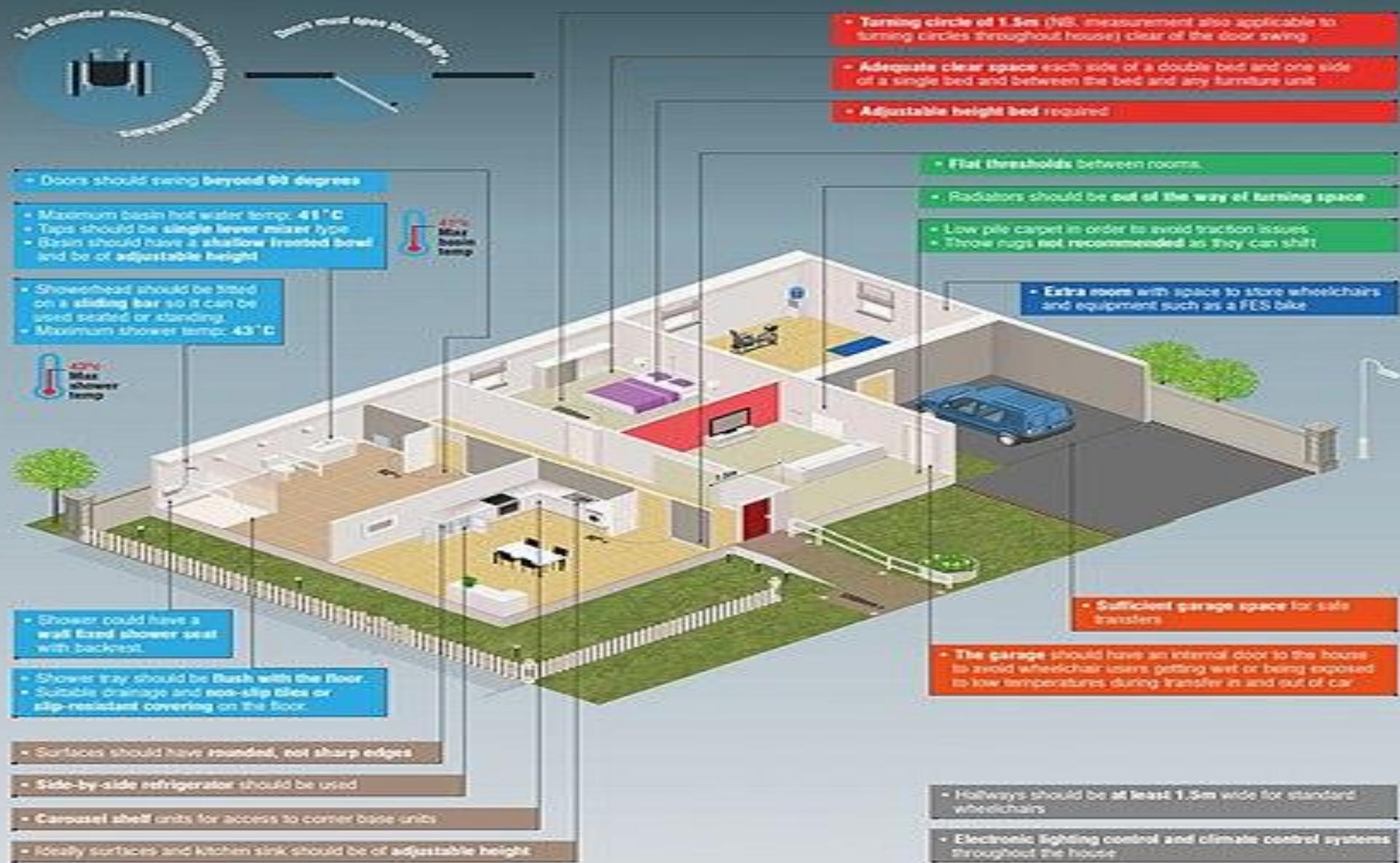


What are the barriers for disabled people when it comes to housing?

How can we be sure that social housing providers know their stock?

At Bron Afon, Savills who are a housing specialist advisory service look at randomly selected homes for stock condition, is this enough?

Accessible Housing For Wheelchair Users



- ✓ Are reasonable adjustments the right way?
- ✓ How can we influence change?
- ✓ My suggestion of categorising stock (WC1 – fully accessible; WCL2 – w/chair accessible but some limited steps; WA3 – walking with aids, stairlift walk in shower; W4 – general purpose housing).
- ✓ Use alternative material, prefabricated (built in factory) with foam core or mineral wool can be adjusted easily
- ✓ Effective, efficient way of building and cost very little to heat
- ✓ 1% of all new builds should be accessible housing of their total build
- ✓ More availability to reduce waiting time



- ✓ Is it a human right to have adequate housing for those who need it with Disabilities?
- ✓ CIH Cymru; Tai Pawb and Shelter Cymru backing the bill for everyone to have the right to adequate housing in Wales

Thank you

Any questions?

