

## Quality and Choice for Older People's Housing – A strategic framework

DETR: London January 2001

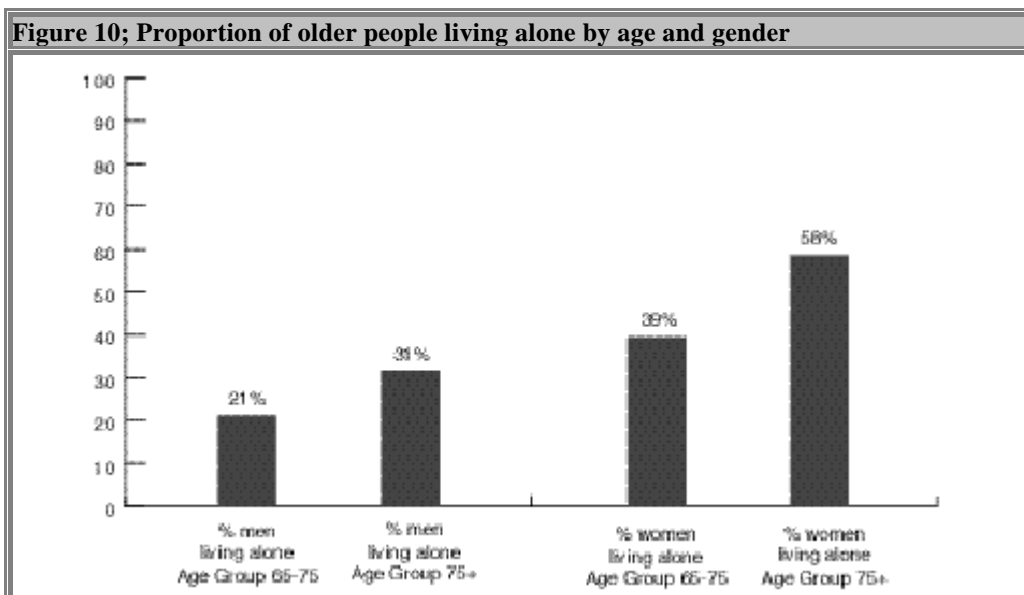
### Household characteristics

#### Older People Living Alone

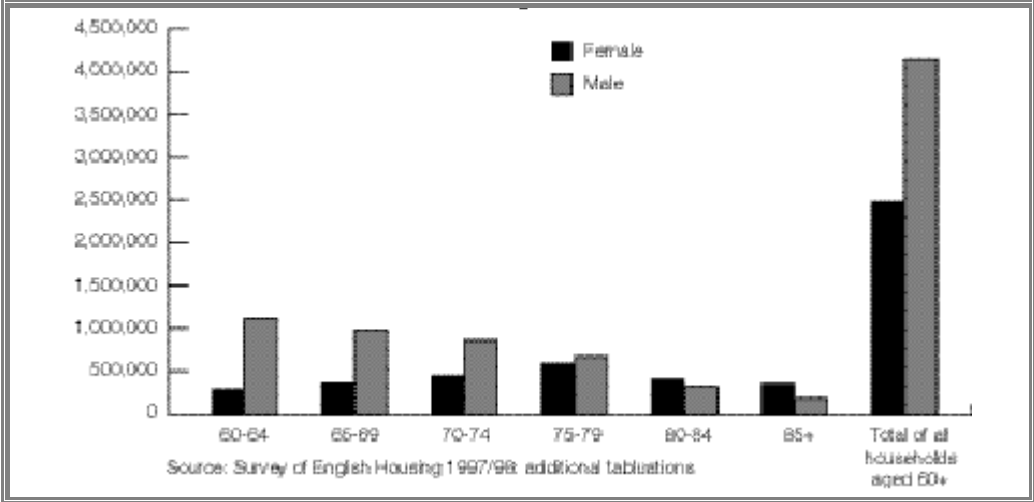
- In 1996, in the 65-75 age group, 21% of men and 39% of women lived alone and 31% of men and 58% of women aged 75 and over lived alone.

#### Women who are Heads of Household

- The number of women head of households (currently defined as where there is no adult male present), represents around one third of all older households. The number of households headed by an older woman ranges from around 660,000 for women 60 and 69 years; 1,051,000 where the woman is aged between 70 and 79 years and 766,000 for those aged 80 years and over.
- A greater number of household heads aged 80 years and more are women - 766,000 compared with 502,000 male heads of household of this age.



**Figure 11: Age of head of household**



### Ethnic Group

- The minority ethnic population has a much younger age structure than the white population, reflecting past immigration and fertility patterns. In the 1991 census there were 96,000 people from black and minority ethnic groups aged 65 years and over, representing just over 1%, of all people aged over 65 years in Great Britain. The census indicated there were 8,714,000 white people aged over 65 years. There are, however, particular areas of higher ethnic concentration reflecting immigration patterns - such as in London, Birmingham, Manchester, Bradford and Leicester for example.

**Figure 12: Minority Ethnic groups as a proportion of the population by age**

