



## Housing 21 empowers disabled residents



### Site overview

**Sector:** Public Sector

**Business:** Housing

**Fireco Solution:** Freedor SmartSound

**Solutions Provided:** 9

### Customer requirements:

- Improve access and meet compliance regulations.

**‘Housing 21 is a leading, not for profit provider of Retirement Housing and Extra Care for older people of modest means. We operate in nearly 200 local authority areas, managing around 20,000 Retirement and Extra Care Living properties and providing over 42,000 hours of social care each week.’ states the Housing 21 website.**

### Disabled residents struggle with self-closing doors

Nicola Conway, the Housing Manager at the Granville Court accommodation noticed that some of the doors around the building were being wedged open. She was aware that this caused fire safety issues so took immediate action. After investigation, she found out “this was because due to their disabilities, residents could not open the door when it was closed”.



“ **It meets fire safety regulations and helps residents who have disabilities.** ”

Nicola Conway, Housing Manager

## Surveyor opts for Freedom SmartSound

Nicola contacted the Housing 21 Company Surveyor to see what they recommended. After assessing the situation, the Surveyor specified Freedom SmartSound. This was the best option for Granville Court because “it meets fire safety regulations and helps residents who have disabilities”.

Freedom SmartSound takes the weight out of the heavy fire doors and allows residents to place the door open at any angle. Being able to keep the door open empowered residents as it meant they could easily enter and exit rooms.

If the fire alarm sounds, Freedom SmartSound releases the door to close, allowing it to prevent the spread of fire and smoke.

## Positive experience with Fireco

Freedom SmartSound has now been installed on a few of the residents’ flat entrance doors as well as communal areas including the office, dining room, kitchen and staff room.

Nicola and the residents at Granville Court are pleased



with how Freedom SmartSound has improved access throughout their building and there is no longer any need to wedge open doors.

Fireco has been “very efficient and responsive and staff were polite and knowledgeable. I would definitely recommend them”.