

# Innovations from Denmark

**Tunstall**

## The Dementia Ring

### The challenge

The freedom to spend time outside is beneficial to physical and mental health, however for people with dementia living in residential care environments these benefits need to be balanced with ensuring safety.

How has the Dementia Ring helped residential care schemes allow the people they support the freedom to enjoy outside space without compromising their safety or requiring additional staff to observe them?

### What we did

The Dementia Ring is formed by laying cables underground around the borders of a residential scheme's grounds. Residents wear a discreet, lightweight device on their wrist, around their neck or in their pocket which will raise an alert on a staff dect phone if the resident walks beyond the Dementia Ring.



The Dementia Ring is installed using a new excavation method which carves a groove into the soil for the cable and alarm band, which is then closed using a specialist drum on the excavator. This technique restores the lawn to its previous condition instantly, avoiding the need to lay new turf or sow grass seed. Where the Dementia Ring runs under tarmac or patio the cables are tunneled underneath.

Staff can access an online portal to view alerts raised on the Dementia Ring, and are able to individually identify residents using the system.

The Dementia Ring is currently being used at various locations in Denmark, including two care centres in Hedensted municipality.

“ The benefit of this solution is that we can, in a discreet way, ensure that we know if residents leave the grounds and can provide support straight away.

**Jette Frost, Manager of Birkelund Care centre, Juelsminde**

### Results

- Residents with dementia are able to enjoy time outdoors independently
- Staff, family and friends are assured that the resident is safe and has choice
- Web access enables staff to view patterns of behaviour in individual residents
- Minimally invasive installation



 [Watch the film to find out more: \(Danish website\)](http://www.tunstall.dk/da/nyheder-film/film)  
<http://www.tunstall.dk/da/nyheder-film/film>

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