

Housing Learning and Improvement Network

HOUSING WITH CARE MATTERS

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Director General of Social Care, Local
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**Issue with live URLs
and website links**

NEWS: A New Network Platform

As many of you will be aware, from this month CSIP no longer exists and our Housing Learning and Improvement Network (LIN) webpages, along with other networked programmes, have transferred to a new platform, DH Care Networks. The Housing LIN pages are now at www.DHcarenetworks.org.uk/housing. Do save this as a favourite.



As part of the move into the Department of Health's Putting People First team, we have also removed the Housing LIN CSIP mailbox. You can now contact us on info.housing@dh.gsi.gov.uk.

I very much hope that you continue to be an active member of the Housing LIN and make the best use of our extensive on-line resources and networking opportunities. Check our website for the latest regional meetings and other learning events.

Jeremy Porteus – National Programme Lead, DH Care Networks, Department of Health

POLICY NEWS

Putting People First – new circular on transforming care

The [DH Local Authority circular](#), published on 5th March 2009, sets out information to support councils and their partners in the ongoing transformation of adult social care as set out in 'Putting People First: a shared vision and commitment to the transformation of Adult Social Care' (2007). It includes key objectives for Putting People First to transform the delivery of social care and provide care closer to home. In particular, it reinforces the details of how the ring-fenced Social Care Reform Grant should continue to be used to help councils redesign and reshape their systems over the remaining 2 years of the Grant. The circular identifies a number of areas of delivery around personalisation, prevention and early intervention, integration and partnership working at a local and regional level, such as the work of the Joint Improvement Partnerships, Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnerships and Joint Strategic Needs Assessments.

Whilst there is not an explicit reference to housing, it does cite care closer to home and independent living as key priorities. For information on the strategic links to housing with care, see the recent Housing LIN briefing, Transforming the Delivery of Services, at:

http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/library/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/Briefings/Briefing25_KeyDrivers.pdf

It also lists the expenditure allocated by LA. The circular can be downloaded at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/LocalAuthorityCirculars/DH_095719

Supporting People and Area Based Grant allocations 2009/2010

CLG has published details of how the £1.66 billion of Supporting People funding will be allocated amongst local authorities in 2009/2010. As reported in the previous Housing LIN enews, the Supporting People funding is un-ringfenced from 1 April 2009 and will become part of Area Based Grant from 2010.

Click on the following link to download a pdf listing the grants allocated to each local authority, Supporting People grant allocations 2009/201:

<http://www.spkweb.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/6E19E99C-A20D-4752-93DE-D6C98A28BEC3/16428/Document.pdf>

DH announces 3rd sector grants allocations

A number of housing and housing related agencies have been awarded DH Third Sector Investment funding for Innovation Excellence & Service Development. These include:

Informing decision making - housing and health

Care and Repair England have been awarded a grant for their *If only I had known...* programme. The aim is to help older people, their families and carers to make informed decisions about future housing, care and support either following hospital admission or where a person has a long term health condition.

Care advice improvements for the 21st century

Elderly Accommodation Counsel (EAC) has received a 3 year grant to 'lead a step change' in the way older people can access the highest quality information and advice on their care choices. The work will extend the scope and functionality of EAC's current website so that older people have easy access to a 'trusted' site with the latest up-to-date information on housing and care in their area.

<http://www.housingcare.org>

Linking homelessness and health

Homeless Link, the national umbrella organisation for homelessness agencies in England, has been awarded funding to deliver a project to improve access to healthcare for homeless people. The project will develop an audit tool which will enable agencies to evidence the health needs of a group often marginalised from mainstream healthcare, which as a result experiences acute health inequalities. The evidence provided by the audit tool will enable agencies to inform commissioning of future services, through local strategies such as the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNAs).

Falls prevention – taking extra care

The ExtraCare Charitable Trust have been awarded funding to run a pilot to reduce the number of fractures sustained as a result of falling by residents living in schemes and villages. Residents will be offered an annual risk assessment for undiagnosed osteoporosis to enable preventative treatment and early intervention to be tailored to the individual and their lifestyle.

For general information on the DH's 3rd Sector Investment Programme, visit

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Managingyourorganisation/Financeandplanning/Section64grants/index.htm>

Supporting People: Select Committee Announcement

The CLG Committee has decided to undertake an inquiry into the Government's "Supporting People" programme. The Committee is inviting written submissions on the programme, particularly on the points raised below.

The Committee's inquiry will consider the extent to which the Government has, so far, delivered on the commitments it made in Independence and Opportunity: Our Strategy for Supporting People. The Committee will also consider the implications of the removal of the ring-fence, asking what needs to be done to ensure that the successes of the programme so far are not lost, or services cut, following the change; and what opportunities this change in the funding mechanism will offer for innovation and improvement in the delivery of housing-related support services.

Guidelines on submitting evidence. Each submission should:

- be accompanied by a covering letter containing the name and contact details of the individual or organisation submitting evidence,
- begin with a short summary in bullet point form; and
- have numbered paragraphs.

Submissions should be emailed, preferably in MS Word format, to clgev@parliament.uk and marked 'Supporting People'.

Read the full press release at:

http://www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/clg/clgpn090331.cfm

Personalisation project on resource allocation

In December 2008, ADASS and 18 councils began work on a personalisation project to develop a common approach to resource allocation. A summary of progress so far on the project is available at the ADASS website on the link below.

www.adass.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=326

If you work for a council not taking part in the project you are welcome to join the online reference group: www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/Personalisation/discuss/forum/?forumID=46

More information about resource allocation is at:

www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/Personalisation/Topics/Browse/Resourceallocationssystems/ and www.in-control.org.uk

NEW HOUSING LIN PUBLICATIONS

A FOCUS ON HOUSING AND DEMENTIA

This month sees the launch of three new resources:

- [The Housing LIN briefing](#) on the National Dementia Strategy, *Living Well with Dementia*
- A special edition of the *Journal of Care Services Management* on housing and dementia
- The revamped housing and dementia pages on the [Housing LIN website](#)

The briefing analyses the strategy from a housing perspective. It summarises key elements of the strategy, detailing those of relevance to the housing sector, and explaining the contribution that the sector can make. A number of examples are used to illustrate these points. More information on most of these examples can be found in the website and special issue of the Journal.

The briefing can be found at:

<http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=5216>

The Housing LIN has collaborated with the professional journal, the *Journal of Care Services Management* to produce a special edition of the Journal. It focuses specifically on the opportunities and issues facing the housing and care sectors in helping people with dementia and their carers to live well in their own homes. The issue is due for publication on the 21st April.



The Journal includes papers on extra care, floating support, end-of-life care, special care, commissioning practical support, sight loss and dementia, partnership working in sheltered schemes, assistive technology and design. Research reports are included alongside analysis, opinion pieces and service descriptions.

A copy of the Journal can be purchased from Henry Stewart Publications by going to http://www.henrystewart.com/care_services_management/special.html or phoning 020 7404 3040

The Housing LIN have also updated their [Housing and Dementia webpages](#), bringing together

information on all aspects of meeting the needs of people with dementia and their carers in housing settings – particularly, but not exclusively, extra care housing. They contain many Housing LIN resources, as well as presentations from conferences and links to other sites. Materials include commissioning, housing provision and assistive technology, design and the built environment, workforce and training and legislation and regulation.

<http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/HousingAndDementia>

We are always on the lookout for good practice examples. If you have any, please share them with us. Email info.housing@dh.gsi.gov.uk

Dementia – new section on the Suffolk Design and Management guide

The Extra Care Bolt On for People with Dementia must be read in conjunction with the Design and Management Guide as many of the features pertaining both to design and the way schemes are run are referenced in that document.

<http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=1699>

Briefings and Reports

Marketing Extra Care Housing – getting it right

[This comprehensive report](#) by Michael McCarthy provides an insight into how extra care housing is marketed – to consumers, funders, planners, commissioners, other key stakeholders and to the community. It examines what we mean by a ‘market’ The report explores the techniques deployed by Extra Care Housing (ECH) developers/providers in the marketing of ECH across all sectors, establishes what providers view as ‘successful’ marketing and how they gauge this and assess and review performance and determines which factors/criteria/conditions make for effective marketing.

It also describes the tools/resources/knowledge/assets/personnel/training deployed, identifies good ideas and best practice and sets out a strategy for wider dissemination and education to ease/lower barriers to market entry. It includes examples of failed marketing and assesses lessons learned, including areas of ‘Marketing Deficit’ where the case for ECH has not been made. It also sets out how marketing can adapt to recession and the credit crunch.

Learn more about marketing and the impact of the credit crunch at future Housing LIN regional meetings. Copies are available at:

<http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=5396>

Handypersons – that bit of help

Further to the CLGs announcement of additional funding for handyperson services in England, the Housing LIN has produced a new briefing paper about Handyperson services. It can be found at:

http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/library/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/Briefings/Briefing30_handypersons.pdf

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Housing: Report of a study based on the South East region

[This report](#) was commissioned by the Department of Health South East, the Department of Health’s Housing Learning and Improvement Network (LIN) and the South Central and South East Coast Strategic Health Authorities.

The report is based on a study of documents produced in the South East of England as part of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) process and examines the extent to which housing needs are covered within the JSNAs produced during 2008. The report includes key themes relating to housing needs and suggests ways to increase housing coverage, which we believe local areas may find helpful in future development of the JSNA.

It is available at:

<http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=5448>

Forthcoming Housing LIN papers

We are working on refreshing three existing factsheets. These are:

Factsheet 11 - ‘An Introduction to ECH and Intermediate Care’

Factsheet 13 – ‘Eco Housing: taking care with environmentally friendly design’ and

Factsheet 18 – ‘Delivering End of Life Care in Housing with Care Settings’.

We will also publish a new briefing paper ‘Carers and Housing’ which looks at housing issues specifically from a carer’s perspective. More details to appear on all of these in our next enews.

OTHER USEFUL PUBLICATIONS

The Future of Regulation for Health and Adult Social Care in England

Published by the DH in March, this includes a response to the consultation (held during Spring 2008) on the framework for the registration of health and

adult social care providers and consultation on the draft regulations. The new framework is to be introduced from 2010 and provides standards and a registration framework for the Care Quality Commission. The latter was established on 1st April 2009 and takes over from the Healthcare Commission, Commission for Social Care Inspection and the Mental Health Act Commission.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_096991

CLG Household Projections to 2031

This report published on 11th March 2009 includes national and regional data.

Key points are:

- By 2031, 32 per cent of households will be headed by those aged 65 or over, up from 26 per cent in 2006.
- The number of households in England is projected to grow to 27.8 million in 2031, an increase of 6.3 million (29 per cent) over the 2006 estimate, or 252,000 households per year.
- Population growth is the main driver of household growth, accounting for nearly three-quarters of the increase in households between 2006 and 2031.
- One person households are projected to increase by 163,000 per year, equating to two-thirds of the increase in households.
- By 2031, 18 per cent of the total population of England is projected to live alone, compared with 13 per cent in 2006.

For further national, regional and local data, visit <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/2031households0309>

Age Friendly Communities in the North

The Northern Housing Consortium has been working on a 2 year multi-disciplinary project to build a holistic picture of what an 'Age Friendly Community in the North' might look like in the year 2020 and beyond. Outputs from the project include a discussion paper on the concept of Inclusive Design and the role it can play in responding to and capitalising on the North's changing markets. A paper on International Approaches and an Early Findings Report based on consultation with over 400 older and younger people is now available from the NHC website at:

<http://www.northern-consortium.org.uk/Page/QualityOfLife/briefingreports.aspx>

Future Communities: Reshaping our society for Older People

Help the Aged's new research report considers how society is changing and what impact these changes could have on older people. Key themes include increasing use of new technologies, improved engagement of older people and a trend towards inclusivity in the way we design, plan and deliver services. Copies are available from:

<http://www.helptheaged.org.uk>

Visual impairment and lighting

RNIB and Thomas Pocklington Trust have published a practical booklet 'Make the most of your sight: Improve the lighting in your home'.. Copies are available from www.pocklingtontrust.org.uk



Examples of Sustainable Homes

The CLG have published the Code for Sustainable Homes Case Studies. The case studies feature examples of designing sustainable

housing in both private and public sector. At the time of writing, the Housing LIN is also updating its eco-housing and extra care housing factsheet so that it covers the latest guidance and practice for architects, commissioners and developers. For information on extra care housing design, see the Housing LIN factsheet No 6

<http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=1629>

For a copy of the CLG case study report, visit <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/1161997.pdf>

Older People having more say

A new report from the DWP, *Empowering engagement: a stronger voice for older people*, announced that a new national UK Advisory Forum on Ageing will be set up to allow older people to comment direct to government on new policy ideas, services, legislation and the areas they want to be addressed. To download the report visit:

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/resourcecentre/indreviewolderpeoplesengwithgovt.asp>



Individual budgets and carers

A new study has shown that individual budgets can greatly improve carers' quality of life when compared with carers of people using conventional social services, giving carers more control and flexibility in their daily routines. The study by the SPRU at York and PSSRU at Kent Universities investigated the impact of individual budgets on carers in terms of assessment, support planning, costs and outcomes. To download the report, visit the Social Policy Research Unit of the University of York website:

<http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/spru/>

Managing resources in later life

A new 'Findings' from the JRF explores the changing lives of older people and highlights the importance of advice and information, awareness and access to services and support to help in later life. Copies from: www.jrf.org.uk

FEATURE ON THE CREDIT CRUNCH

Crunch times?

Prior to the current financial problems the older persons' housing market had seen an expansion, increasing development of extra care models, including retirement villages, assisted living, PFI and remodeling of sheltered housing amongst others. Private and public sector models were becoming more aligned around 'Quality of Life', offering older people greater choice including choice of tenure, more two bedroom accommodation, increased space standards and on site facilities and services.

Whilst the credit crunch has not stopped development, it is having an impact, specifically:

- Completions of sales of retirement housing are down in line with the general housing market. There are a number of reasons for this, including difficulties selling family houses because buyers down the chain are finding it difficult to borrow; uncertainty around falling property values and reduced interest on savings and investments resulting in reduced income
- Transferring properties for sale or shared ownership to rent, particularly in mixed tenure developments
- RSL's and private developers finding it harder to renegotiate loans and/or raise new finance

However on the positive side, construction costs are reduced; rented and to a lesser extent shared ownership for older people is more secure than mainstream housing for sale because of secure capital and revenue funding streams and there are some signs of increasing availability of sites for example where plans for private sector housing for sale have been abandoned.

It is predicted that the current problems will be felt across the older persons housing care and support market for many months to come and will test the innovation and ingenuity of RSL's and the private sector alike to continue to develop.

For more information, see Extra Care Housing and the Credit Crunch: Impact and opportunities - Housing LIN Factsheet No. 30:

<http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=5039>

Other related information

The House of Commons, Communities and Local Government Committee published a report on 'Housing and the credit crunch' on 24th February 2009. It considers how government targets for delivering affordable housing will be affected by the recession and includes formal minutes and oral and written evidence. For the full report, visit:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmselect/cmcomloc/101/101.pdf>

Weathering the Downturn, Lifetime Neighbourhoods: What is the Future?

This new ILC-UK report brings together analysis of recent developments, specifically the impact of the downturn in the economy on lifetime neighbourhoods and if the original agenda set out in the government's national housing strategy for an ageing society can survive intact. It was launched at a recent discussion event on the 1st April 2009 at ARUP, London.

Copies of the report are available from the Housing LIN website at:

<http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/IndependentLivingChoices/Housing/Topics/type/resource/?cid=5406>

and a further edition will be uploaded by ILC-UK on their website shortly featuring additional points from this month's debate at www.ilcuk.org.uk

RESEARCH UPDATE

Enriching people's lives – building up the evidence base

People living in extra care housing have a variety of mental health needs. This research programme, recently completed a 2 year cluster randomised controlled trial, the Enriched Opportunities Programme (EOP), led by a senior member of staff called a 'Locksmith'. Five extra care housing schemes were randomly assigned to receive the EOP Locksmith for an 18 month period. A further 5 housing schemes were randomly assigned to receive a placebo intervention for the same time period. The programme followed the lives of the 268 most vulnerable residents living in these schemes. Early findings show that the process of implementing EOP and the impact on people's lives has been very positive and residents were:

- Half as likely to have to move out into a care home
- Spent far less time in hospital as an in-patient
- More likely to have a GP visit
- More likely to see a community physiotherapist, occupational therapist and a chiropodist
- More likely to have their mental health problems diagnosed
- Rated their Quality of Life more positively
- Decreased symptoms of depression
- Feelings of social support and inclusion were greater

For a fuller summary of the EOP programme, visit the Housing LIN website

<http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/IndependentLivingChoices/Housing/Topics/browse/HousingandDementia/Practice/Workforce/?parent=5154&child=5357>



New model for service user involvement to launch in Stoke

Stoke-on-Trent City Council is working with purchasing consortium Independent Healthcare Procurement (IHP) to launch an assessment framework which surveys how local health and social care users make choices about the services they purchase.

The proposed survey will involve 200 service users in Stoke and, if successful, the research model will be rolled out to local authorities across the UK. The results will help councils become more sensitive to the needs of users, supporting vulnerable people to exercise choice and control over the services they want. Beginning in May 2009, the proposed survey will be conducted via a series of face-to-face interviews, phone calls and e-surveys throughout Stoke-on-Trent. Focus groups will be used to gain more detailed information. Results will be published in late summer 2009.

CALLS FOR INFORMATION

Developing extra care

The SW Housing LIN is about to commence an Innovation and Improvement Programme looking at the development of housing for older people in the South West. The purpose of this Programme is to support commissioners and providers in exploring and tackling the challenges facing them with a particular focus on the development of extra care housing.

The programme is looking, in particular, to answer the following questions:

- a) What is the most effective way to meet the needs of people with dementia through extra care housing?
- b) Can sheltered housing and care homes be successfully remodeled into ECH?
- c) What are the right service models and are there funding solutions for them?

Contact: jbligh@brookes.ac.uk

Acquired Brain Injury

We will also shortly be publishing a Factsheet on housing for individuals with an acquired brain injury. If you have any examples of housing based services and/or supported housing schemes please get in touch by email to info.housing@dh.gsi.gov.uk

EVOLVE: a call for research participants

EVOLVE is a three year research project funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and being carried out by an interdisciplinary team from The University of Sheffield and PSSRU, The University of Kent, with the aim of developing an evidence-based tool for evaluation and assessment of extra care housing design, and assessing the wellbeing of the people living and working there.

A pilot version of the EVOLVE tool is being used between now and September in a nationwide survey of 25 extra care housing schemes of all types (villages, smaller new build schemes and remodelled schemes in both the public and private sectors), alongside scheme resident interviews, in an evaluation of the building design. The research team are currently recruiting schemes to join the research, and would welcome offers of participation. If your organisation would like to take part in the survey please contact Alison Orrell; a.orrell@sheffield.ac.uk

We are also interested to hear Housing LIN members's views on the design of extra care housing, particularly examples of 'what works' in design terms, and what should be avoided. Please contact Judith Torrington; j.m.torrington@sheffield.ac.uk if you would like to contribute.

The EVOLVE tool will be refined and modified in the light of the survey findings, and a final version will be produced. A web-based version of the tool will also be made freely available to Housing LIN members to download. Research participants will be invited to attend feedback days when the results will be summarised and the final version of the EVOLVE tool will be presented.

REGIONAL LIN MEETINGS

The regional LIN leads have regular meetings to review current and forthcoming policy, research and events that will be of interest to members and to ensure we keep improving regional meetings.

Our regular regional meetings are:

West Midlands Region Housing LIN

30th April 2009, Wolverhampton

North East Region Housing LIN

20th May 2009, Sunderland

South West Region Housing LIN Annual Conference - 'Tools for Change'

10th June 2009, Axbridge

NATIONAL EVENTS**Valuing People: Having your own home - London, 5 June 2009**

<http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/IndependentLivingChoices/Housing/HousingEvents/HousingEventDetail/?eventID=477>

CIH Annual Conference – Harrogate, 16 to 18 June 2009

Housing LIN will hold its session and a stand

<http://www.cihhousing.com/story.aspx?storycode=6502101&navCode=121>

NHF Development and Regeneration Conference and Exhibition 2009 – University of Warwick, 6 to 8 July 2009

<http://www.housing.org.uk/default.aspx?tabid=1046>

MULTIMEDIA**A few CD-Roms and DVDs still available free from info.housing@dh.gsi.gov.uk**

- Healthy Homes, Healthier Lives (DVD / CD Rom and support material)
- Strategic Moves – Thinking, planning and delivering differently - Strategic Commissioning of Services for Older People (CD Rom)
- Housing Now - Choice, control and independence for people with learning difficulties (DVD and CD Rom pack)

PROMOTE YOUR WORK

If you have promotional material, articles or features you would like us to include in future editions of *Housing with Care Matters*, please send details to info.housing@dh.gsi.gov.uk

We welcome your contributions

The next issue will be in June 2009

For further information, contact the **Housing Learning & Improvement Network**

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