



## Providing An Alternative Pathway

### Notes from the Round Table 11 January 2013

NATIONAL  
HOUSING  
FEDERATION

*“I want great pioneering things to happen because of the system, not despite it”*

*Norman Lamb MP*

#### Amy Swan, National Housing Federation:

- We envisage a system where GPs, Health Professionals and social workers all know how to access the appropriate housing options information for their clients
- We want to see more commissioning of services through the home not just in the home
- We welcome increased joint working between government departments
- Housing needs a stronger role in Health and Wellbeing Boards



#### Major points from the discussion

- Additional DFG funding is welcome but Councils are pulling back their funding so there is often no net increase in provision
- Pooled budgets should be a default position and savings genuinely shared to stop gaming
- More providers (Councils and HAs) need to improve how they sell services to self funders including telecare, adaptations, support/care services and equity release options
- Some welfare reforms are having a negative impact on services and disabled people with definitions of exempt accommodation and bedroom tax particular concerns
- Good practice is possible now and another major structural change in health will not help
- Large extra care models should be explored, whole villages not just individual schemes
- Important to get to people in their 70s to help with personal retirement planning, rather than wait for frailty and crisis
- Certainty of care costs will help with financial planning, social impact bonds can contribute
- Integrating OTs into adaptations services has positive results

#### Highlights from Norman Lamb's comments:

- “Institutional Fragmentation” rewards services for the wrong things and is a barrier to integrated preventative working
- There are artificial separations between:
  - Health and Social Care
  - Mental Health and Physical Health
  - Primary Care and Secondary Care
- National imperative to focus on ageing society, build community resilience and move to personalisation
- Providing the right support is often cheaper than providing the wrong support
- Case studies in the report show how people can live well in the right circumstances
- Housing plays a critical role in getting the right care and support
- We need more emphasis in spatial planning on the housing needs of an ageing population
- Clinicians need to work alongside politicians to communicate structural changes
- Good practice is possible now and the Health & Social Care Bill should help move from a paternalistic to a personalised system
- Long term placements for people with learning disabilities are often inappropriate and better solutions are needed
- Local Authorities should re-engineer services before cutting the front line