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MARTINEAU

Cutting the Gordian Knot: Housing solutions to the health and social care crisis

A
**Festival
of Ideas**
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Housing LIN
virtual
summit

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Introduction

Why is this an important subject at present?

- the coincidence of crisis in housing, health and social care
- the fragmented, partial and inconsistent way in which such matters have been organised

This reflects

- divisions of responsibility in central and local government
- a reliance on private sector providers, and poor funding
- a lack of 'whole system', long-term thinking which requires active partnership

The consequences

- poor patient flow in hospitals, high-cost care home provision
- poor housing stock usage
- Delayed transfer of care cost £5.7 m a day!





What a waste

- Of financial and other resources
- Of opportunities to improve quality of life for older and vulnerable people, scarce health and social staff, and housing stock

Waste has increased over past decade with an absence of integrated working and poor strategic policy that has dealt with consequences rather than causes

Failings are exacerbated by the impact of poor and unsuitable housing on the health and welfare of older people

A root cause analysis reflects what we know, from existing research such as the HAPPI work, the 'thinking ahead' study and Fiona Boyles' work for Radius and other





Especially when we have solutions

The problems are not unknown and they are not without tested solutions

These solutions:

- are cost-effective
- represent a better quality of life
- vary in size, type and responsibility

They include:

- Extra Care provision
- Sheltered and supported housing
- Retirement communities
- Active stock management
- Linked to adaptations if required
- And many others as outlined in the Shakespeare Martineau and other reports





Cutting the knot

Requires:

- Better things and action by the central government
- 'silo-busting' and the adoption of 'total costing'

Means innovation such as:

- Cross-funding of housing associations by health funders – some CCG-funded extra care, this can be taken forward by ICBs
- Learnings from wider projects such as 'in one place' involving the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, local councils and housing associations
- Integrated workings as encouraged by Northern Ireland, supporting people, programme of NIHE

Outcome:

- reduced delayed transfers of care, better patient flow, more appropriate housing and care, better use of scarce professionals and enhanced quality of life.... and saving money!





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Connecting people, ideas and resources



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Thank you!



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