**PRESS RELEASE**

**APPG ON HOUSING AND CARE FOR OLDER PEOPLE LAUNCHES INQUIRY INTO “HOUSING FOR THOSE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA”**

Housing for those living with dementia is the subject of a new Inquiry launched today by the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Housing and Care for Older People.

Supported by Anchor Hanover, the Inquiry will hear evidence over the coming months and make recommendations to Government early next year on how to ensure housing policy reflects the needs of the rapidly rising number of people with dementia. There are currently around 850,000 people with dementia in the UK, according to the Alzheimer’s Society. This is projected to rise to 1.6 million by 2040. Two thirds of these are not living in residential care but in their own accommodation, and our study will consider the policies and practices that can enhance independence and quality of life.

The APPG is seeking evidence covering:

* the links between housing, health and social care to improve the journey of people affected by dementia;
* the design of new homes;
* ways to increase supply of specialist dementia-friendly properties;
* changes and adaptations to existing properties to enable people to live well with dementia at home; and
* the role of innovative technology to improve the delivery of better care and support.

It is also seeking written submissions of to inform its report, which will make recommendations to central and local government and provide guidance for housing providers. These are being collated by the Housing LIN, Secretariat to this APPG inquiry. The Inquiry welcomes submissions by Tuesday, 30 June 2020. These should be emailed headed ‘APPG Inquiry’ to: dementia@housinglin.org.uk.

The APPG membership of Parliamentarians will include: Peter Aldous MP and Lord Richard Best, Co-Chairs, APPG on Housing and Care for Older People, Rt Hon Damian Green MP, Baroness Kay Andrews, Baroness Liz Barker, Ruth Cadbury MP and Lord Ben Stoneham

The APPG will also be supported by a panel of specialists:

* Jane Ashcroft CBE, Chief Executive, Anchor Hanover
* Sarah Pickup, Deputy Chief Executive , Local Government Association
* Professor Dawn Brooker, Director of the University of Worcester, Association for Dementia Studies, University of Worcester
* Kate Lee, Chief Executive, Alzheimer’s Society
* Bruce Moore, Chief Executive, Housing 21
* Damian Utton, Architect, Pozzoni architecture

APPG and Inquiry Chair Lord Best said: “Our APPG sits at the nexus of Housing, Health and Social Care. From this perspective we hope to contribute to the thinking of policy-makers and practitioners – with particular relevance in the context of the Social Care Green Paper – to support older people with dementia living in their own homes.”

Anchor Hanover Chief Executive Jane Ashcroft CBE said: “As England’s largest provider of older people’s housing and care, we know that appropriate housing can radically improve the wellbeing of those with dementia and have significant benefits for the wider community. The inquiry will make an important contribution to this urgent debate.”

**For more information contact:**

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**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Housing and Care for Older People** was established in July 2009. It aims to highlight the importance of the role of housing alongside social care and health.

**Anchor Hanover** is England’s largest not-for-profit provider of care and housing for people in later life, with more than 60,000 residents in 54,000 homes across almost 1,700 locations, supported by more than 10,000 colleagues. Anchor Hanover provides retirement housing to rent and to buy, retirement villages and residential care homes, including specialist dementia care, operating in more than 90% of local councils in England. For more information visit: [www.anchorhanover.org.uk](http://www.anchorhanover.org.uk)

**Housing LIN** is a sophisticated network bringing together over 25,000 housing, health and social care professionals to exemplify innovative housing solutions for an ageing population. The Housing LIN has been Secretariat to four APPG inquiries, including writing HAPPI reports. For more background information on the APPG inquiry on housing and dementia, visit: <https://www.housinglin.org.uk/APPG-Housing-and-Dementia>