Care Services Improvement Partnership

HOUSING WITH CARE MATTERS

The Department of Health announces the 2007/2008 Extra Care arrangements

Extra Care Housing Fund 2007-2008

£40m is available for 2007 –2008 to develop new extra care housing places in England in areas where need has been demonstrated (as reflected in relevant strategies, particularly local Supporting People strategies and regional housing strategies) and which:

a) Provide a significant and demonstrable health impact for older or other people with long term conditions
b) Provide independent housing with access to on-site 24 hour support and care
c) Contribute to the range of solutions to prevent unnecessary admissions into hospital or residential care; and/or assist in reducing delayed transfers of care from hospitals
d) Demonstrate an inclusive approach as although the fund is primarily focussed on older people, bids for extra care housing for adults with long term conditions including learning disabilities, physical disabilities, dementia, mental health and other conditions are eligible for consideration

Timetable:

· July 2006 invitation to bid and supporting documents issued
· 3 October 2006 – bids to be received by the Department of Health. Bids will be accepted electronically from Monday 25 September 2006 to midnight Tuesday 3 October 2006.
· Spring 2007 – results announced

The Bidding Guidance and the other bidding and reference documents can be found on our website www.changeagentteam.or.uk/housing on the Extra Care Housing Fund page.
FUNDING
Other funding streams from the DH

Tier 4 Funding for drug rehabilitation services

Capital development programme for inpatient and residential rehabilitation substance misuse (drug and alcohol) services 2007/08 and 2008/09 - Application guidance notes

This document sets out the priorities and processes for capital development of inpatient and residential rehabilitation (drug and alcohol) services.

This guidance is to outline the strategic bidding process for resources to facilitate the capital development of inpatient and residential rehabilitation substance misuse services (collectively Tier 4) in 2007/08 and 2008/09 - see section 1.5. Definitions of these treatment modalities are detailed in ANNEXES 1 and 2.

The total capital fund available is £54.9 million. The capital will be allocated to Strategic Health Authorities with recommendations for spend based upon the outcome of a strategic bidding process.

This guidance is designed to assist Strategic Health Authorities and NTA regional teams in convening Regional Forums to inform their strategic role in assessing and prioritising bids as well as statutory and voluntary sector providers and Local Drug and Alcohol Partnerships in developing capital proposals.

Funding new Community Hospitals

The DH has made £750m available over the next years to PCTs to invest in new Community Hospitals. The arrangements are set out in guidance and in the accompanying policy paper, Our health, our care, our community: investing in the future of community hospitals and services. It states that £150m will be available per year in each of the next 5 years for the development of a new generation of community hospitals. Details of the arrangements can be downloaded at www.dh.gov.uk.

Further information on community hospitals and the links with housing and wider regeneration issues are set out in the CSIP guide on community hospitals www.changeagentteam.org.uk/communityhospitals.

In addition, the Housing LIN has commissioned a case study on community hospital and housing with care for older people; this will be featured in a future newsletter.

NEW RESOURCES

New report from the Housing LIN Extra Care Toolkit

The Institute of Public Care is refreshing its guide on implementing and developing extra care strategies for the Housing LIN. The new toolkit is aimed at commissioners and providers tasked with producing an Extra Care Housing strategy. It offers a series of practical steps to develop local actions plans. Local authorities will find this helpful in finalising their bids, and also in the long term planning and development of Extra Care.

Copies of the toolkit will be available for download at www.changeagentteam.org.uk/housing at the beginning of September.

Homelessness and mental health services

Improving the Effectiveness of Rent Arrears Management for People with Mental Health Problems is a new good practice guide.

In June 2005, the Department for Communities and Local Government (formerly the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister) published guidance on ‘Improving the Effectiveness of Rent Arrears Management’.

The National Social Inclusion Programme decided it would be helpful to produce a briefing document which was specific to supporting people with mental health problems as they are thought particularly liable to accumulate arrears. The briefing document outlines why it is important for housing staff to support people with their mental health problems and the need for mental health staff to support people with their housing situation. It also shows in brief the key points from the DCLG guidance.

Copies of the guide are available for download at www.socialinclusion.org.uk.

OTHER USEFUL REPORTS

Housing Choice for Older People

This discussion paper from Help the Aged gives an interesting overview of some of the current policy.
issues impacting on older people’s housing in England. It provides a range of policy and practice recommendations to help improve the housing choices for older people. For example, from staying put and the role of Home Improvement Agencies to meeting the changing needs and aspirations of older people in the 21st century including extra care housing.

Copies of the paper can be downloaded at www.helptheaged.org.uk.

Older People, Decent Homes and Fuel Poverty

Every winter over 20,000 older people die as a result of cold. This report explains that one of the reasons for this is the number of cold, damp homes around the country and the need for more effective strategies to tackle fuel poverty and to implement energy efficiency measures.

The report draws on the findings of the English Housing Conditions Survey and the requirements for all social and private sector housing to meet Decent Homes standards by 2010. If you are interested in this area of work, the Housing LIN has published several related documents. These include:

- A toolkit on Assessing Health Risks and Health Inequalities in Housing
- A report on Good Housing and Good Health, (in conjunction with the Housing Corporation, and
- A case study (no.8) on the Kent Health & Affordable Warmth strategy

Copies of the Help the Aged report can be downloaded at www.helptheaged.org.uk

Choices in retirement housing - Your guide to all options

This book by Elderly Accommodation Counsel (EAC), the Association of Retirement Housing Managers (ARHM) and Advice Information and Mediation Service of Age Concern (AIMS) is designed to guide older people, their carers and professionals through the many choices, and offers simple, impartial advice on every aspect of retirement housing.

To obtain this book, send your cheque for £9.99 payable to ‘EAC’, 3rd Floor, 89 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TP.

Housing and the Disability Equality Duty

This guide from the Disability Rights Commission explains the new rights and duties introduced by the Disability Discrimination Act 2005, which amended the 1995 Act. It outlines the duties of social and private landlords on making "reasonable adjustments" and goes on to set out the requirements under the Disability Equality Duty which only applies to social landlords. Importantly, the guide offers a strategic approach to improving housing services for disabled people and how to comply with the new Duty. Indeed, the Housing Corporation have stated that they will expect and encourage housing associations to improve their own performance on disability equality.

The Housing LIN will be producing a briefing for members on the Disability Equality Duty. In the meantime, copies of the guide can be downloaded at www.dotheduty.org.

NEWS

Supporting People: Next Steps

The Department for Communities and Local Government have issued a brief summary of the preliminary conclusions from the consultation exercise undertaken earlier this year. Supporting Independence: Next Steps in our Supporting People Strategy sets out some key actions in relation to:
E-news from the Housing Learning & Improvement Network, Change Agent Team - August 2006

more effective support and prevention
- a focus on the service user
- a focus on achieving outcomes
- funding issues (see grant allocation announcement below)
- ensuring effective administration
- supporting the voluntary and community sector
- e-supporting people

A copy of the summary document is available at www.communities.gov.uk.

Supporting People grant allocations

The Department for Communities and Local Government has announced the final allocation of Supporting People grant to Administering Authorities for the year 2007-08.

We had already been advised last year that the total allocation for the year would be around £1.7bn. At that stage 95% of the total pot was allocated between authorities with the final 5% being held back pending consultation on the draft Distribution Formula.

Overall, the total pot falls just short of the £1.7bn and will come in at over £1,693 million. The redistribution of the remaining 5% portion has resulted in decreases of no more than 2% for 44 authorities, no change in 17 authorities, and increases for the remaining 89 authorities (with 5 authorities receiving the maximum increase).

The full details are on the DCLG website at www.communities.gov.uk.

TELECARE News

Telecare material, information and resources which were housed on the Integrating Community Equipment Services (ICES) website and on the Housing LIN webpages are being consolidated and transferred to new Telecare webpages at www.cat.csip.org.uk/telecare.

Enquiries are now to be directed to telecare@csip.org.uk.

RESEARCH UPDATE

Enriching Opportunities

This report, Unlocking potential: Searching for the keys, on the research undertaken by the Extra Care Charitable Trust and the Bradford Dementia Group, attempts to better provide a step change in our thinking on the well-being and activity of people with dementia living in long-term care. It focussed on five key elements, including:

- specialist expertise in schemes, acting as a “locksmith”
- individualised assessments and case work to unlock people’s potential
- levels of activity and occupation in the community
- staff training and skill development, and
- management and leadership to achieve sustainable outcomes

Copies of the findings are available at www.bradford.ac.uk/acad/health/dementia

EXTRA CARE HOUSING PROJECT

Raising the stakes: Promoting Extra Care Housing

Elderly Accommodation Counsel (EAC) has received an IGP grant from the Housing Corporation for new research on Extra Care Housing to be carried out in partnership with the Centre for Urban & Regional Studies (CURS), the Institute of Public Care and Peter Fletcher Associates.

The project, supported by the Housing LIN, aims to create a common platform of researched information about Extra Care housing for older people, commissioners and providers, so as to ground all stakeholders in a common understanding of what ECH can offer.

The project aims to deliver a series of specific and inter-linked outputs:

Making accessible a wide body of existing work, much of it commissioned by the CSIP Housing LIN and/or funded by HC IGP grant:

1. A comprehensive, practical and accessible online knowledge resource for commissioners and providers, providing detailed information on all aspects of commissioning, funding, designing, building and managing ECH

Drawing on and consolidating existing material, combined with new research designed to test the claims made for ECH and provide an evidence base for what appears to work well and what does not.

2. A steps to success guide, communicating an understanding of what has worked in schemes so far, for providers/commissioners and for residents

3. An ECH appraisal tool to assess success against objectives in current and future schemes
Focusing strongly on dissemination to all stakeholders, including older people themselves and their families

4. An industry-owned, independently-managed, kitemarking system to tie providers into agreed minimum standards and ongoing use of the appraisal tool and pooling of results

5. A series of targeted communication tools, including website modules, audiovisual productions and media presentations to introduce older people & their families, social care professionals and future care staff to ECH, the kitemarking and the ongoing learning process planned

6. A short, punchy printed publication to introduce all stakeholders to the above – eg. “Making housing with care work – a challenge and an opportunity for all of us”

7. Further promotion & dissemination – to be devised with stakeholders during the course of the project.

Extra Care Housing Survey
The first step for the above project has been the dispatch to some 350 providers of a total of 750 questionnaires, asking for updates on details of schemes held on the National Database of Housing for Older People. Please make sure that your latest schemes are included in this survey.

If you wish to know to whom, in your organisation, the questionnaires were sent, please email alex.billeter@eac.org.uk.

Help run the Housing LIN
The Housing LIN and EAC are looking for someone to assist with administrative support to the network and contribute to EAC’s ongoing research into extra care and other forms of housing for older people.

The position will initially be a modestly paid one, but the role offers an opportunity to gain a unique insight into the evolution of extra care housing across England in the public, voluntary and private sectors.

Much of the detail of the role is yet to be worked out, and we would enjoy to explore different possibilities: a fixed term contract, freelance consultancy or a secondment arrangement.

EAC’s office is located in London, adjacent to Vauxhall tube station.

If you know likely candidates, please ask them to contact Alex by email or telephone at alex.billeter@eac.org.uk or 020 7820 1682,

CSIP Network news

Readers may not be aware that CSIP has four primary networks. These are for Housing, Telecare, Integrated Care and Better Commissioning. During the summer these will be consolidated (whilst keeping their own very clear identity) as part of a central function under the auspices of a National Network Manager. It is likely that CSIP will expand its networking approach over the next year and, once we have analysed the feedback from the on-line questionnaire, the web based information will move to an integrated network site which will be badged as such using the existing branding for ICN.

We believe that this will improve the service we can offer and not only support those who seek our assistance but also help us to respond to the increasing number of requests from other organisations to comment on their developments. Further developments will be announced soon.

EVENTS

Inaugural Health & Homelessness Conference
Securing services in an insecure world - the future provision of effective health care for people experiencing homelessness, 18 September, Oxford. See our website under Events in the A-Z index

Autumn LIN regional meetings
19 Sept North West Region LIN (Frodsham, Cheshire)
21 Sept West Midlands Region LIN (B’ham)
5 Oct NE Region LIN (Hartlepool tbc)
9 Oct Eastern Region Housing LIN (Cambridge)
12 Oct Yorkshire & Humberside, (Bridlington)
18 Oct London & SE Region Housing LIN (Tonbridge, Kent)
2 Nov SW Region Housing LIN (Plymouth)

To register your place, contact housinglin@cat.csip.org.uk
Other LIN associated events

9 Aug  A Sure Start to Later Life: the preventative role of sheltered/ supported housing, London Olympia
Email: cshs@cornwall.ac.uk

10/11 Aug  CIH Sheltered Housing conference and exhibition, Harrogate

6 Sept  Mainstreaming Housing with care & support, London (full)

13/14 Sept  Housing and Dementia conference, Commissioning for Quality, Nottingham

18 Sept  Health & Homelessness conference, Keble College, Oxord

27 Sept  Sheltered Housing: who is it meant for? A workshop by the Sussex Gerontology Network, Brighton

18-20 Oct  Association of Directors of Social Care Annual Conference (tbc)

7-8 Nov  Home Improvement Agency Annual Conference 2006, Coventry

A few CD-Roms and DVDs still available free from HousingLIN@cat.csip.org.uk
- That’s My Home – Housing Needs for Older People with Dementia (CD Rom)
- Strategic Moves – Thinking, planning and delivering differently – Strategic Commissioning of Services for Older People (CD Rom)
- Telecare – Living with Independence (CD Rom)
- DVD Embracing Diversity - A look at housing with care
- CD Rom Embracing Diversity - Housing LIN Resources related to the Embracing Diversity DVD and reviewed on page 2.

PROMOTE YOUR WORK

The Housing LIN is keen to promote examples of good practice, reports and other events that relate to housing with care for older people. 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 housinglin@cat.csip.org.uk

We welcome your contributions

For further information, contact the Housing Learning & Improvement Network tel: 020 7820 1682; or email housinglin@cat.csip.org.uk
or write to Housing LIN c/o EAC, 3rd Floor, 89 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TP