**NEW RESOURCES FROM HOPDEV (Housing and Older People Development Group)**

**Older People’s housing strategies: key policy drivers**

This new publication from the Housing and Older People Development Group provides a useful summary of the key drivers in developing local and regional housing strategies for older people. Copies of the report can be downloaded from [http://hopdev.housingcare.org](http://hopdev.housingcare.org) or ordered from enquiries@eac.org.uk

The Housing LIN will shortly be issuing a complimentary tool for local authorities and their partners on producing housing for older people strategies and a series of case study examples.

**At Home (CD Rom)**

Audit Tool for housing and related services for older minority ethnic people. This tool is included in the Housing LIN CD Rom on Embracing Diversity referred to on page 2 of this e-news. However you can order it as a stand alone CD Rom directly from enquiries@eac.org.uk

**Other materials from HOPDEV**

Two brochures:

*Age Equality in Housing* - a guide to tackling age discrimination for housing providers, commissioners, planners and builders

*Delivering Housing for an Ageing Population* - informing housing strategies and planning policies

and two complementary leaflets:

*Older People’s Housing Strategies*: tacking account of older people’s views

*Housing Advice and Information* for Older People

All these documents and leaflets are also available on HOPDEV website [http://hopdev.housingcare.org](http://hopdev.housingcare.org) or can be ordered from enquiries@eac.org.uk
New HOUSING LIN RESOURCES

We have several new learning resources and information to announce in this issue of Housing with Care Matters. These include:

New policy briefings from the LIN

Two new policy briefings are now available on our website for Housing LIN members. These include an in-depth review of the Telecare Annex, recently published by the Kings Fund following the Wanless Review, and a briefing on Long Term Conditions and Self Care. The latter focuses on the housing with care aspects of the recent Department of Health guidance, Supporting people with long term conditions to self care, and the White Paper – Our health, our care, our say: a new direction for community services – and the Social Exclusion Unit report, A Sure Start to Later Life: ending inequalities for older people.

Download these briefings from our website, under ‘Policy Briefings’ in the A-Z index.

If you would like to make suggestions on topics for other policy briefings you feel would benefit our 1800 readers or would like to write a briefing for the LIN, email us at housinglin@cat.csip.org.uk.

New LIN report on making the links with health and housing

To accompany the LIN toolkit, Assessing Health Risks and Health Inequalities in Housing, we have teamed up with the Housing Corporation to publish Good housing and good health? This report highlights the research evidence of the links between housing and health, provides up to date example of practice and makes key recommendations for housing and health policy makers and practitioners.

New LIN report on Extra Care Housing and learning disabilities

Our report New initiatives for people with learning disabilities explores the role of extra care housing models and similar provision of housing care and support for adults of all ages with learning disabilities, with examples and ideas for commissioners and providers.

New CDrom and DVD on Embracing Diversity

Following the launch of the LIN DVD Embracing Diversity: a look at housing with care earlier this year, we have compiled a collection of related materials on an accompanying CD Rom. This includes the HOPDev report, AT HOME, a toolkit on housing for older people from black and minority ethnic communities. The DVD/CDroms are available from housinglin@cat.csip.org.uk.

Forthcoming resources from the Housing LIN

The LIN has commissioned a range of new materials to support commissioners, providers and users of housing with care for older and vulnerable adults. These include:

- a review of Tier 4 funded services and supported housing for people with severe substance misuse
- a technical brief on charging arrangements in Extra Care Housing
- a review of practice of floating support services
- in conjunction with the Royal Town Planning Institute, an advisory planning note on planning for housing for older people,
- with Gateshead Primary Care Trust and the local authority working to hold a workshop to identify how telecare can increase independence for individuals with acquired brain injury, and
- three case studies; i) on telecare and working with community matrons; ii) on partnership working and commissioning Extra Care in Leicester; and iii) a review of Essex County Council’s housing strategy for older people.
**POLICY UPDATES**

**Department of Health funding for Extra Care Housing**

I am afraid that we still do not have any news on the arrangements for the DH’s £40m extra care housing fund programme for 2007/2008. As soon as details are available we will notify readers.

**Independent Living Bill**

The Disability Rights Commission (DRC) has assisted Lord Ashley of Stoke in preparing an Independent Living Bill which will deliver stronger rights and entitlements to independent living for disabled people based on the principles of freedom, control, choice and dignity. The Bill will get its second reading in the House of Lords probably on the 14th July. This briefing explains why the Bill is needed and what it will do.

To read more about the Independent Living Bill, see this [DRC Briefing](http://www.drc-gb.org) or go to their website [www.drc-gb.org](http://www.drc-gb.org).

**Housing Corporation consultation – tackling homelessness**

This consultation paper suggests how housing associations might work with the Housing Corporation and local authorities to respond to some key challenges including the number of households in temporary accommodation and improving access to affordable housing for rent. Views are sought on:

- how housing associations can support the development and implementation of local authority homelessness strategies
- how to improve nomination arrangements to build mixed income communities
- how homeless policies dovetail with choice-based lettings
- preventing homelessness
- working more closely with private landlords to access empty properties

The consultation period will close on 31 July. Copies of the paper are available at [www.housingcorp.gov.uk](http://www.housingcorp.gov.uk).

For information on older homelessness by the Housing LIN, visit our webpages [www.changeagentteam.org.uk/housing](http://www.changeagentteam.org.uk/housing).

**TELECARE UPDATE**

**i) Register early for PASA Electronic Catalogue (NHS eCat)**

High demand is expected for access to the NHS Electronic catalogue, which displays line details of all the NHS PASA national framework agreements. **Product lines for telecare will be available from 30 June 2006.** The electronic catalogue will list entries for equipment and services for use by a wide range of organisations that can access the National Framework Agreement for Telecare (further details are provided in the NFA update below).

Organisations not currently accessing NHS eCat in particular non-NHS services will need to follow the simple registration procedure and return a confidentiality agreement. It is important to register **NOW** as it could easily take up to two weeks to set up the appropriate user names. If you wait until 30 June to register, you may not receive your user name(s) until the week of 10 July.

For the agreement, we strongly suggest that the first named contact in any organisation is a senior manager, commissioner, procurement officer or telecare project lead who will be co-ordinating telecare purchasing activities and implementation.

Use the link to the ‘What’s New’ section of the PASA web site [http://www.pasa.nhs.uk/whatsnew/](http://www.pasa.nhs.uk/whatsnew/).

**ii) PASA National Framework Agreement for Telecare - update**

Over the past six weeks, the NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency (PASA) has evaluated the shortlisted suppliers for the telecare National Framework Agreement (NFA).

Commercial (Led by PASA) and technical evaluations (led by the Centre of Evidence-based Purchasing with input from CSIP and NHS Connecting for Health) have been undertaken on the offers received. PASA has now completed the analysis.

Prior to issuing the final recommendations to the Project Management Group established for this project, PASA held a Stakeholder Engagement Forum with a number of service organisation representatives on 23 May 2006 to discuss the outline recommendations to see if the proposed supplier offering would meet their needs. The group has provided positive feedback on the offerings presented, and the Project Management Group has agreed the recommendations brought forward at its meeting on 25 May 2006. The recommendations have now been signed off within PASA and the final recommendations have been approved by the Department of Health.

Suppliers are now being notified if they are successful or unsuccessful. PASA is then legally
required to follow the Alcatel procedure – this is a ten day cooling off period for suppliers to consider if they still want to be on the National Framework Agreement (NFA) or if unsuccessful suppliers wish to challenge the final recommendation. Following this period, successful suppliers will agree and sign up to the NFA, and the work starts on launching the contract, ensuring people can gain access to NHS-E-Cat (PASA Electronic Catalogue) to view the NFA and also on developing an information pack for users. Following these timescales as indicated previously, the NFA will be available for use by a range of organisations including local authorities, health trusts, housing associations, community equipment services and third sector organisations by the end of June 2006.

Continue to look out for special news alerts over the next few weeks on the National Framework Agreement and how organisations can access the catalogue. The catalogue go live date is currently scheduled for 30 June 2006.

The NHS PASA framework for telecare was announced on 28 June at http://www.pasa.doh.gov.uk/eat/telecare.stm

iii) Telecare is transforming patients lives - new publication from FHN and CSIP

On 14 June 2006, the Future Healthcare Network at the NNH Confederation and CSIP launched a report looking at how telecare can transform the lives of NHS patients by using new technologies to support people living in their own homes.

People living with long term conditions and the elderly are amongst those who will benefit most from telecare initiatives.

The report predicts that as technology develops, telecare devices for disease management such as those that measure glucose, peak-flow, oxygen and blood pressure, will become as common as the TV set-top boxes you see in most homes today.

Through partnership working with health trusts, local government, the voluntary sector and other agencies, telecare is responding to the needs of an ageing population and enabling an increasing number of people to continue to live in their own homes.

At the NHS Confederation’s Annual Conference, CSIP’s Jeremy Porteus chaired a session with guest speaker Professor Heinz Wolff who demonstrated the pioneering work being carried out at Brunel University which puts simple daily living and health management ideas into practice using current technologies with user involvement.

We have a limited supply of hard copies available on a first come first served basis. Email housinglin@cat.csip.org.uk.

USEFUL REPORTS & RESOURCES

End of life care in care homes

This introductory guide from the Department of Health and the National Council on Palliative Care is aimed at care home managers staff interested in improving care for those residents in the final stages of life. It provides useful information on services available, how to plan for end of life care and signposts to further resources. Copies are available at www.endoflifecare.nhs.uk.

The Housing LIN has commissioned Karen Croucher at the University of York to produce a factsheet on end of life care in Extra Care housing. What do we mean by a “home for life”? If you have examples of your current policies, practices or procedures, email us at housinglin@cat.csip.org.uk.

The Housing Support Needs of Older People in Rural Areas

This report recently published by the Commission for Rural Authorities summarises research commissioned by the Countryside Agency and the Housing Corporation. Visit the Rural Communities website to read the full report and see the Housing LIN factsheet on Extra Care Housing in Rural Areas on our website.

Housing Wealth: First Timers to Old Timers

This report from the Institute of Public Policy Research looks at how government and others should respond to the increasing amount of housing wealth. Amongst its findings are:

- promoting a “savings ladder” to incentivise savings in lower-income households
- a review of current means-testing arrangements and the development of equity release products
- the creation of more advice outlets for older people, and
- stronger emphasis on housing for older people in planning policy

To order a copy of the report, please visit www.ippr.org/assets

**LEARNING DISABILITIES – UPDATE**

**DH Extra Care Housing Fund for people with learning disabilities**

The winning bids for £2.3m Extra Care Housing Fund 2005-2006 for people with learning disabilities were announced in March 2005. Details of these projects and contact names can now be found on our website under ‘Learning disabilities’ in the A-Z index.

The 10 successful extra care sites are focusing on people who are living with older family carers. Most of the sites are using assistive technology in some form to support independence. Most of the sites are for younger people with learning disabilities. The models funded are varied.

**Gadgets, Gizmos and Gaining Independence – Assistive Technology and people with learning disabilities**

This is one of the first studies of the potential of assistive technology specifically in relation to people with learning disabilities. It is intended to give real, practical advice and help. The report concentrates on readily available telecare to give more independence, and on devices to help communication addressing the needs of people with a learning disability.

The report answers some of the questions most commonly asked by individuals, families and workers directly involved in support or care. It looks at what different devices cost, where to get them, what different applications do and some of the limitations, also how to get the most out of some specialist software.

The report sets out a variety of ways of funding different types of assistive technology and concludes that unusually money should not be a barrier to gaining independence. It shows through seven case studies how assistive technology really can change the lives of people with learning disabilities sometimes in quite dramatic and unexpected ways.

One of the most commonly identified barriers to making assistive technology more readily available is uncertainty and inexperience in assessing and specifying assisted technology to fill this gap the report includes a model pro-forma to help this process.

This report is on our website under ‘Learning disabilities’ in the A-Z index.

See also on page 2 our review of the Housing LIN new report New initiatives for people with learning disabilities

**RESEARCH UPDATE**

**Charging for Extra Care Housing**

The West Midlands Regional Housing LIN has commissioned independent consultants Angela Nicholls and Adie Kean to produce a fact sheet on Charging for Extra Care Housing. The fact sheet will be part of the LIN series, and will cover charges to service users and charges made by the service provider to Social Services and Supporting People. It is intended to inform commissioners and providers about the range of charging options available, and help them make decisions on charging appropriate to their local circumstances. It will also cover good practice in providing information on charges to service users.

We are interested in hearing from commissioners and providers about their experiences of the issues, the charging models they currently use or have considered, the advantages and disadvantages of these, and any information they have found, or would have found, particularly helpful when making their decisions. If you have any information to share, or would be willing to complete a short questionnaire, please email adie.kean@ntlworld.com

**HOUSING LIN WEBSITE**

**Housing LIN website survey: have your say: reviewing the LIN website**

The Housing LIN has appointed an independent consultant to advise on the layout, design and format of the Housing LIN pages on the Change Agent Team website. If you would like to make any comments, please complete the on-line survey at http://www.housinglinsurvey.org . You can also access this survey on the home page of our website www.changeagentteam.org.uk/housing
Questions and Answers:

Your questions may well have been addressed in our Discussion Forum, or they may have been emailed to the membership. Some of these exchanges are summarised on our website www.changeagentteam.org.uk/housing.

Find out more on the Discussion Forum and in our Questions & Answers in the website’s A-Z index.

EVENTS

Advance Notice - Mainstreaming Housing with care and support

To coincide with the launch of the Housing LIN’s forthcoming Extra Care Housing toolkit, we are organising a joint conference with the Department of Communities and Local Government on Thursday, 6 September 2006 at the Novotel Hammersmith to promote the publication of the findings and lessons from the recent Supporting People health pilots.

This conference will provide detailed guidance for authorities, PCTs and housing, care and support providers and an opportunity to showcase the lessons learned from the Supporting People health pilots. To accompany the event, the Housing LIN will also issue the briefing for planners on planning accommodation with care for an ageing population, a joint briefing with the Royal Town Planning Institute.

This free conference promises to put housing with care and support on the map. For advance bookings on a first come, first served basis, email housinglin@cat.csip.org.uk.

Extra Care and Dementia Conference

Extra Care Housing and Dementia: Commissioning for Quality; this conference is taking place on the afternoon of Wednesday 13th September and all day on Thursday 14th September at The Nottingham Gateway Hotel, Nottingham.

The conference is aimed at Commissioners and Providers developing Extra Care Housing which caters for people with dementia, and is organised by Sue Garwood, a specialist in Extra Care, and supported by the Housing LIN.

This conference, extended to a day-and-a-half, will cover some of the same ground as the successful conference on the same topic last November, as well as some additional areas. It is intended for anyone seeking to develop quality services for older people with dementia. It is targeted at those planning, designing, commissioning and managing the services. A contribution to costs by the Department of Health has enabled the delegate charge to be kept low.

For more information on the event, speakers, and how to register for the conference, please look on our website under ‘Events’ in the A-Z index.

Autumn LIN regional meetings

19 Sept North West Region LIN (Northwich)
21 Sept West Midlands Region LIN (Dudley)
5 Oct NE Region LIN (Hartlepool tbc)
9 Oct Eastern Region Housing LIN (Cambridge tbc)
12 Oct Yorkshire & Humberside, Bridlington
18 Oct London & SE Region Housing LIN (Tonbridge, Kent)
2 Nov SW Region Housing LIN (venue tbc)

To register your place, contact housinglin@cat.csip.org.uk

Other LIN associated events

27 June Smart Move (Telecare) Centre for Sheltered Housing Studies, London
11/12 July NHF Housing, Care and Support Conference, Loughborough Email events@housing.org.uk
18 July A Sure Start to Life: the preventative role of sheltered/supported housing, Leeds, Novotel
9 Aug A Sure Start to 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, see article above
13/14 Sept Housing and Dementia conference, see article above
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)

For details and booking arrangements for all the above events, look on our website under ‘What’s new’ and/or ‘Events’ in the A-Z index.
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

- NEW: 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