DH launches next round of PARTNERSHIPS FOR OLDER PEOPLE PROJECTS (POPP)

More older people are to be helped to live independently in their own homes for longer, thanks to a £18.5m government project.

Coming just weeks after the launch of the ‘Our Health, Our Care, Our Say’ White Paper, which pledged to give people more choice with their services, these Partnerships for Older People (POPP) projects will help shift funding away from institutional and hospital-based crisis care towards earlier, targeted interventions, giving more older people the choice to live at home for longer.

This is the second phase of the POPP programme, which was launched in 2005. Successful applicants from phase one included mental health cafes with open door access for older people, telephone advice services and befriending schemes.

In this stage of the programme, councils are to be asked to work with older people to develop innovative proposals that will help people in their area live healthy active lives and remain independent for longer.

The Department of Health launched the Partnerships for Older People Projects (POPP) initiative in March 2005 with the publication of ‘Partnerships for Older People Projects – A prospectus for Grant applications’. The new guidance note updates the 2005 Prospectus and invites applications for funding during 2006 for the second wave of POPP pilots, due to be operational from 1st May 2007. The second wave of pilots is referred to throughout this guidance note as the Round 2 POPP pilots.

The Guidance note for application for 2007/2008 for Partnerships for Older People Projects Grant is now available on the Department of Health website under ‘Publications and Statistics’, or by using the following URL:

Notes on the POPP grant

The pilot funding was announced in the Spending Review 2004. It provided ring-fenced funding of £60m. In phase one £41,049,000 was announced in 2005 for projects running from 2006-8. In phase two, £18.5m is available for projects running from 2007-8.

The pilots are aimed at large-scale system reform across health and care services to deliver improved outcomes for older people. This is in direct support of two key Public Service Agreement targets (long term conditions and supporting vulnerable older people).

The Health and Social Care Information Centre figures show that all councils in inner London and 90% of councils in outer London are already meeting the 2007/08 target rate set out in the Department of Health’s Public Service Agreement. This PSA states that by 2008, the proportion of older people being supported intensively to live at home should be at least 34 per cent of the total of those being supported at home or in residential care.

Currently, across England, 65 local authorities (43%) are meeting this March 2008 target - a rise of 13 (9%) on the previous year.

HOUSING LIN RESOURCES

There is a bumper crop of new on-line learning resources and information from the Housing LIN this spring. These include:

New DVD on housing with care and diversity

The Housing LIN launched its latest DVD at the Guardian’s Managing New Realities conference this month. Entitled Embracing Diversity: a look at housing with care, the DVD offers an insight into a selection of current housing with care options that have been developed in England to meet the hidden needs of diverse older populations. The DVD includes a look at work in Middlesborough with Chinese Elders: in Swindon with the older Polish community; in Bristol on the deaf community in Extra Care, and people with a learning disability in South Tyneside.

Copies of this free DVD are available while stocks last by emailing us at housinglin@cat.csip.org.uk

A companion CD Rom will also be available in 3 or 4 weeks from the same email address, containing the training resources, case studies, video clips, etc.

New LIN report on prevention and sheltered housing

The report Preventative Care: the Role of Sheltered / Retirement Housing by the Sussex Gerontology Network (SGN) at the University of Sussex gives an overview of the way sheltered housing for rent and sale can promote the health and well-being of older people and prevent move on to more expensive care. The report is available on the LIN website www.changeagentteam.org.uk/housing (under its title in “Reports” in the A-Z index) and will also be discussed at the next SGN workshop at the University on 6 April (For information on this workshop, look on our website under “Events” in the A-Z index).

New LIN report on Extra Care Housing & BME Elders

Developing Extra Care Housing for BME Elders: an overview of the issues, examples and challenges by PRIAE (the Policy Research Institute on Ageing and Ethnicity) provides essential information for commissioners and providers of housing with care on the housing, care and support needs aspirations of BME elders. It draws on a survey of Housing LIN members and provides a useful self-assessment checklist for those interested in developing extra care housing for specific black and minority ethnic communities of older people. Also, see relevant case studies on the Housing LIN website.

Find this report in its alphabetical position on our website www.changeagentteam.org.uk/housing under “Reports” in the A-Z index.

Two new LIN case studies

As part of our growing “bank”of case studies, we are pleased to release our latest case studies on the website www.changeagentteam.org.uk/housing (under “Case studies” in the A-Z index):

Case study No 22: The Generation Project - A sure start for older people in Manchester

looks at how Manchester Care & Repair are actively engaging with older people to foster social inclusion in the regeneration of local communities and to help inform the development of local low-level preventative services.

Case study No 23: Developing Extra Care Housing in Cheshire - the PFI route

focuses on private/public finance and provides an
overview of Cheshire County Council’s Private Finance Initiative to develop 2000 new units of extra care housing. This is based on a presentation given by Mick Howarth and Paul Jackson at a recent NW regional Housing LIN meeting.

Two new LIN viewpoints can be downloaded from our website www.changeagentteam.org.uk/housing (under “Viewpoints” in the A-Z index)

Viewpoint No. 5 Extra Care is not just for older people - Supporting people with physical disabilities in Bradford.

This article by Jim Ledwidge of Bradford Social Services highlights how Extra Care Housing can best meet the accommodation and care needs of people with physical disabilities. It first appeared in Community Care magazine and draws on work by the Council and Hanover Housing

Viewpoint No 6 on Telecare: More than just a Home: Changing Expectations.

This article by Jeremy Porteus at the Change Agent Team addresses the implications of telecare for housing with care providers. It is based on a feature that first appeared in the Telecare Services Association annual report.

OTHER USEFUL REPORTS

Housing with care for later life

A new report by Karen Croucher (York University), Leslie Hicks and Karen Jackson, for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation presents a comprehensive overview of the most recent evidence related to new and emerging models of housing with care for later life. It examines and contrasts existing knowledge about a range of different models of housing and care for later life, including fixed-site housing in which older people live communally and draws out key messages for services providers and commissioners on how best to meet the housing and care needs of older people in an ageing society.

This book is available now as a free PDF download or as a paperback report, priced £14.95, from http://www.jrf.org.uk/bookshop/details.asp?pubID=764. A free summary can also be downloaded from the JRF site (http://www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/socialcare/0076.asp).

Small Things Matter: the key role of handyperson services

This new report from Care & Repair England supported by the Housing LIN gives a good account of how handyperson services can make a valuable contribution to local preventative programmes. Enabling older people to live in their own homes for longer is a key part of the government’s plans for an ageing population. There is also a growing focus on prevention of admission to hospital and care homes and provision of small scale services that can help to prevent problems escalating. The report examines the current provision of small repairs and minor adaptations services, highlighting options for future service development. It is aimed at service planners, commissioners and providers. The report is available from info@careandrepair-england.org.uk and at www.careandrepair-england.org.uk (click on ‘Handyperson’ button).

Building our Futures

This report by the International Longevity Centre (ILC) takes an in-depth look at the housing needs of an ageing population. It aims to assist people involved in the planning for housing and related services predict demand over the next 25 years. For further details visit www.ilcuk.org.uk.
“Opening doors to independence” - Extra Care Housing and Dementia

Housing 21, in partnership with the Housing Corporation, the University of the West of England and Dementia Voice will later this month publish the findings from its research study which explores the advantages and challenges for people with dementia who live in extra care housing.

The publication marks the end of a three year study which tracked 103 older people with dementia who lived in extra care housing. The research aims to look at the role of extra care housing in the long term care and support of older people with dementia, and make recommendations for policy makers and practitioners.

A summary of ‘Opening Doors to Independence’ is available from April 26 2006 from www.housing21.co.uk. There will be a full feature on the report in the summer edition of this enews.

OTHER POLICY UPDATES

Department of Health funding

We have not yet received any information 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.

Housing Corporation funding for Extra Care Housing

At the time of writing we are awaiting information on the successful bids to the Housing Corporation Approved Development Programme for extra care housing for 2006-2008. The results will be announced on www.housingcorp.gov.uk.

Planning Update

The Royal Town Planning Institute are in the process of appointing an officer to undertake the commission on developing good practice guidance to support planning authorities faced with Extra Care Housing planning applications. Further information on the project will appear in a future edition of Housing with Care Matters. However, we are also interested in hearing from you if you have examples of barriers to planning or what may work well in your area or examples of local planning guidance or procedures covering extra care housing. Please send details to housinglin@cat.csip.org.uk.

Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)

Funding and Local Authority Allocations announced a 17% increase in funding for the DFG programme on the 27th January 2006. The government is making £121 million available which will help fund the abolition of the means test for families with disabled children that came into force on 31st December 2005. http://www.odpm.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1002882&PressNoticeID=2065

Local authority DFG allocations have also been announced for 2006/2007 and you can check the figures for your area by visiting the ODPM website. Some regions, for example the North West, are holding some funding back as reserve for excess demand later in the year. Click on link below:

h t t p : / / w w w . o d p m . g o v . u k / p u b / 2 9 4 / LocalAuthorityDisabledFacilitiesGrantallocationsfor200607Excel182Kb_id1163294.xls
EVENTS

Forthcoming LIN regional fora
26 April Yorkshire & Humber (Leeds)
27 April North East (Newcastle)
4 May West Midlands (Wolverhampton)
12 May South West (Westbury Fields, Bristol)
5 June Eastern (Chelmsford)
9 June London & SE (Maidenhead)
19 Sept North west Region (Cheshire tbc)

For details and booking arrangements, look on our website www.changeagentteam.org.uk/housing under “Events” in the A-Z index

Other LIN associated events
29 Mar Modernising Adult Social Care (Kent County Council)
29/30 Mar College of OTs regional telecare conference (York)
6 April SGN workshop on prevention and sheltered housing (Brighton)
11 May Telecare 2006 conference and exhibition (Coventry)
17 May The TAHI Building Smart Homes and Communities; conference (London)
17 May Behind Closed Doors - Abuse of older people in sheltered housing (Leeds)
24 May Behind Closed Doors - Abuse of older people in sheltered housing (London)
8 June Housing for an ageing population - The agenda for the future - HOPDEV national conference (London)
14/15 Jun Session at NHS Confederation conference (Birmingham)
20/23 Jun ‘Embracing Diversity session at CIH annual housing conference (Harrogate)
7-9 Sept The British Society of Gerontology Conference 2006, University of Wales (Bangor)

For details and booking arrangements, look on our website www.changeagentteam.org.uk/housing under “Events” in the A-Z index

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

A few CD-Roms still available free from housingLIN@cat.csip.org.uk

• That’s My Home – Housing Needs for Older People with Dementia
• Strategic Moves – Thinking, planning and delivering differently – Strategic Commissioning of Services for Older People
• Telecare – Living with Independence

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