

National Dementia Declaration Action Plan

## **National Dementia Declaration Action Plan**

**Name of your organisation:**

**Housing Learning and Improvement Network (LIN)**

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### **Template for organisations to set out what they are doing to support delivery of the National Dementia Declaration**

This template is for organisations supporting the National Dementia Declaration to set out what they intend to do by 2014 to transform quality of life for people with dementia. This will be published online.

## **What do organisations signing up to the National Dementia Declaration commit to?**

Separate to this Declaration, each signatory organisation will be setting out what it intends to do by 2014 (the date when the current National Dementia Strategy comes to an end) in order to deliver better quality of life for people living with dementia and their carers. These plans are being published separately. Each organisation is committed to the following principles:

1. Ensuring that the work they do is planned and informed by the views of people with dementia and their carers and showing evidence for this
2. Being an ambassador for the National Dementia Declaration and securing commitment from partners for the second phase of the Declaration
3. Reporting publicly on their progress against the plan they have set out to support delivery of the National Dementia Declaration
4. Working in partnership with other organisations to share knowledge about best practice in dementia
5. Improving understanding about dementia.

**1. The National Dementia Declaration lists a number of outcomes that we are seeking to achieve for people with dementia and their carers. How would you describe your organisation's role in delivering better outcomes for people with dementia and their carers?**

*With a dedicated membership of around 5,600 organisations and individuals from a range of sectors and disciplines across housing, social and health care, and a database of 46,000 people in receipt of our regular newsletters, the Housing Learning and Improvement Network (LIN) is a leading 'knowledge hub' for promoting and supporting good practice in housing with care for older people, including raising awareness on home environments and neighbourhoods that support people to live well with dementia.*

*Previously responsible for administering the DH's £227m Extra Care Housing Fund, we will also be working closely with government and industry to cascade the learning from the Department of Health's £300 million Care and Support Specialised Housing*

*Fund to enhance housing choices for older and vulnerable people, including specific guidance on housing for people with dementia.*

*As recognised in the Prime Minister's Challenge on Dementia report on progress, we have built up one of the most comprehensive websites on innovative practice in housing and care/support for people with dementia in the UK at:*

*[www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/browse/HousingandDementia](http://www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/browse/HousingandDementia)*

*We are well networked in the specialist housing sector and involve ourselves in forums and partnerships to raise the profile of extra care housing – both as an environment and a resource – for supporting those with dementia and their carers achieve the Declaration outcomes. For example, we are represented on the Prime Minister's Health and Social Care Champion's Group. In addition, we are founding members and active participants of the Housing and Dementia Research Consortium and the Housing & Ageing Alliance, and contribute to the National Housing Federation housing and dementia working group.*

## **2. What are the challenges to delivering these outcomes from the perspective of your organisation?**

*The biggest challenge is delivering effective integrated care by maximising the contribution of the housing sector and overcoming silo thinking and planning at a macro and micro level within health and social care economies. The Housing LIN, in partnership with ADASS has published a Resource Pack, 'Strategic Housing for Older People: Planning, designing and delivering housing that older people want' to encourage local authorities and their partners develop Market Position Statements (MPSs).*

*Our MPS work supporting local commissioners, planners and developers helps:*

- Raise awareness on the needs and aspirations of older people*
- Identify and forecast the demand and supply for specialist housing, and*
- Provide local commissioners with the skills and competence to procure new and innovative housing for people, including for people with dementia.*

## **3. What are your plans as an organisation to respond to these challenges between now and 2014?**

*Housing and dementia is one of the Housing LIN's key work priorities. To this end, we continue to:*

- Influence housing policy and funding mechanisms that support dementia-friendly communities and attract inward investment and development*
- Produce cutting-edge case studies and reports that highlight innovative approaches in housing for people with dementia*
- Maintain our website as a 'centre of online excellence' on housing for people with dementia*
- Include dementia-related items in our bi-monthly newsletter*
- Provide support and sounding board to others on housing and dementia issues via our 'learning lab'*

*We will also provide a channel to the Dementia Action Alliance for conveying key messages to our members and newsletter recipients*

4. The next stage of the Dementia Declaration project will be a launch in 2011 which would seek to develop partnerships with a range of organisations that can help us to deliver the Declaration, such as civic organisations and employers. What networks or communication channels are available to your organisation that could help us to spread the word about the next stage of the Declaration? For example through newsletters, websites and new media

**Please write your answer to question 4 here**

*We are known for our networking capability and, as a result, can help cascade information about the Declaration to our extensive networks through a variety of distribution channels. In particular, our:*

- *Comprehensive innovations in housing and dementia webpages*
- *'Housing with Care' Newsletter*
- *Well-attended regional network meetings and conferences*
- *Connections with government and leading industry players and*
- *Participation through our network members*

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