

## LINCOLNSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Open Report on behalf of the Housing, Health and Care Delivery Group

Report to	<b>Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board</b>
Date:	<b>11 December 2018</b>
Subject:	<b>A memorandum of understanding to support joint action in Lincolnshire on improving health through housing</b>

### Summary:

The role of housing in achieving and maintaining good health, and the need to connect housing services with health and social care agencies, is well recognised nationally and locally. Lincolnshire's Health and Wellbeing Board has included housing as one of seven priorities in its Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) and established the Housing, Health and Care Delivery Group (HHCDG) to now oversee the Housing Delivery Plan.

The HHCDG identified the need to agree a strategic vision with principles and core values for a Lincolnshire approach to working across the housing, health and care sectors. This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) articulates the benefits of collaborative working and creates an opportunity for better understanding the preventive role that housing can play in achieving good health outcomes and sustaining independence.

### Actions Required:

The HWB is asked to:

1. Support and work towards achieving the aims and ambitions in this Memorandum of Understanding.
2. Be the conduit for gaining formal signatures from all relevant stakeholders.
3. Agree to promote this MoU, its aims and ambitions, at every opportunity within individual organisations and relevant partnerships.

## 1. Background

The right home environment is essential to good health and wellbeing, throughout life. Our homes are the cornerstones of our lives. We need warm, safe and secure homes to help us to lead healthy, independent lives and to recover from illness. Poor housing increases the risk of ill-health and disease, potentially increasing demand on health and care services.

In 2014 a national Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) called "Joint Action to Improving Health through the Home" was agreed between a number of government bodies and other key national stakeholders. It shows a shared commitment to action, principles for joint working and a shared action plan. This was updated in 2018, with commitments to:

- Better strategic planning;
- Better understanding of the preventative role of housing;
- Greater collaborative care;
- Better use of resources;
- Improved signposting;
- More shared learning;
- Wider sector engagement.

In March 2017, Lincolnshire's Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) recognised the need for a strategic housing group, establishing the Housing, Health and Care Delivery Group (HHCDG) to bring together a large group of stakeholders from across a range of public sector organisations.

Lincolnshire is one of only fourteen (out of 151) HWB areas across the country to have a Housing and Health Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) topic. The JSNA information led to housing being included as a priority in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS).

This MoU brings a focus to housing, health and care through an agreed set of joint principles and aims. It is based on the national MoU, with slight alterations to make sure it is relevant to Lincolnshire. The Lincolnshire MoU sets out:

- A shared commitment to joint action across local government, health, social care and housing organisations;
- Principles for joint working for better health and wellbeing outcomes, and reducing health inequalities;
- A framework for local organisations and cross-sector partnerships to provide healthy homes, communities and neighbourhoods;
- Conditions for developing integrated and effective services to meet the needs of individuals, carers and families with a range of local stakeholders;
- What shared success might look like.

## 2. Conclusion

In Lincolnshire we should be proud of our achievements so far. To drive forward further action, we HHCDG would like all HWB members and other stakeholders to adopt this

MoU as a set of shared, common aims and principles for housing, health and care. Some agencies have already taken this through their own governance arrangements to secure support for this.

### 3. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy

The County Council and Clinical Commissioning Groups must have regard to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

The MoU will help in focussing people on elements identified in the JSNA housing and health topic, and help to support the housing priority in the JHWS across a range of stakeholders.

### 4. Consultation

All members of the HHCDG were invited in June / July 2018 to comment on a draft MoU to create this final version. Feedback was received from Council Officers (both District Councils and Lincolnshire County Council) and elected members. All of the responses were broadly supportive of the need for a local MoU. The majority of the comments received were around the need to include statements linked to legislation and policy (both local and national), including:

- Children and Social Work Act (2017)
- Children's Act (1989)
- Homelessness Reduction Act (2017)
- Health and Social Care Act (2012)
- JSNA AND JHWS
- Transforming Care agenda
- Importance of green space

### 5. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	A memorandum of understanding to support joint action in Lincolnshire on improving health through housing

### 6. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were use in the preparation of this report.

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