Providing An Alternative Pathway
Notes from the Round Table 11 January 2013

“I want great pioneering things to happen because of the system, not despite it”
Norman Lamb MP

Amy Swan, National Housing Federation:
- We envisage a system where GPs, Health Professionals and social workers all know how to access the appropriate housing options information for their clients
- We want to see more commissioning of services through the home not just in the home
- We welcome increased joint working between government departments
- Housing needs a stronger role in Health and Wellbeing Boards

Highlights from Norman Lamb’s comments:
- “Institutional Fragmentation” rewards services for the wrong things and is a barrier to integrated preventative working
- There are artificial separations between:
  o Health and Social Care
  o Mental Health and Physical Health
  o Primary Care and Secondary Care
- National imperative to focus on ageing society, build community resilience and move to personalisation
- Providing the right support is often cheaper than providing the wrong support
- Case studies in the report show how people can live well in the right circumstances
- Housing plays a critical role in getting the right care and support
- We need more emphasis in spatial planning on the housing needs of an ageing population
- Clinicians need to work alongside politicians to communicate structural changes
- Good practice is possible now and the Health & Social Care Bill should help move from a paternalistic to a personalised system
- Long term placements for people with learning disabilities are often inappropriate and better solutions are needed
- Local Authorities should re-engineer services before cutting the front line

Major points from the discussion
- Additional DFG funding is welcome but Councils are pulling back their funding so there is often no net increase in provision
- Pooled budgets should be a default position and savings genuinely shared to stop gaming
- More providers (Councils and HAs) need to improve how they sell services to self funders including telecare, adaptations, support/care services and equity release options
- Some welfare reforms are having a negative impact on services and disabled people with definitions of exempt accommodation and bedroom tax particular concerns
- Good practice is possible now and another major structural change in health will not help
- Large extra care models should be explored, whole villages not just individual schemes
- Important to get to people in their 70s to help with personal retirement planning, rather than wait for frailty and crisis
- Certainty of care costs will help with financial planning, social impact bonds can contribute
- Integrating OTs into adaptations services has positive results