MINISTER CONFIRMED AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT HOUSING LIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE - NOT TO BE MISSED!

Following the success of last year’s inaugural conference, we are delighted to advise you that our 2nd annual conference and exhibition, Investing in Solutions, Making it Happen, will be taking place in London on Wednesday, 12 December.

With the recent announcement by the Department of Health of up to £300 million for specialist housing (see policy and funding news overleaf), this event is extremely timely and promises to be a great success. We are pleased that Norman Lamb MP, Minister of State for Care at the Department of Health, has agreed to be our keynote speaker and to set out the government’s vision on stimulating investment that meets the housing with care choices for older and disabled people. He will be joined by Sarah Pickup, ADASS President; Julia Unwin, Chief Executive of the JRF; and Nick Abbey, Chief Executive of ExtraCare Charitable Trust.

The free event will also provide an opportunity for delegates to attend an impressive array of knowledge and innovation exchange sessions and two highly topical panel debates. We are grateful to all our partners for their support and helping us to make this happen. Thank you.

Registration for the 300 places are on a ‘first come, first serve’ basis. However, be warned, last year the event was completely booked within 72 hours and we expect a similar demand again this year. If you haven’t already done so, reserve your place now at: www.housinglin.org.uk/Events/HousingEventDetail/?eventId=749

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POLICY & FUNDING NEWS

Policy and funding news across housing, health and social care since our last enews includes:

The Care and Support Housing Fund

Further details have emerged about the scope, arrangements and timetable for the first phase of the £300m Fund announced in July of this year in the White Paper Caring for our future: reforming care and support. In a number of places, the new Framework signposts to several key Housing LIN publications and online resources that are essential reading for prospective bidders.

Furthermore, successful bidders will be required to supply the Housing LIN details of their completed developments so that they can be showcased on our directory of Department of Health funded schemes and local innovation shared across housing, health and social care communities.

Speaking at the National Children and Adult Services conference in Eastbourne last week, Norman Lamb MP, the Minister for Care, explained that the primary aim of this fund is to support and accelerate the development of the purpose-built specialised housing market over the next five years, particularly at a time when macro-economic factors may place limitations on the growth of the market. Administered by the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), he stated that he wants to stimulate the market, for both affordable and private units of accommodation, and the Fund will provide financial incentives to the sector and help overcome obstacles that have limited supply. In particular, he outlined that The Fund will stimulate the specialised housing market across the country by:

- Improving the appeal of specialised housing options available to individuals by increasing the variety, quality and number of housing units available, particularly for sale or shared ownership.

Future of housing benefit for supported housing

The NHF have reported that following the DWP Select Committee hearing on 17 September, the government has clarified that,

- Additional housing costs for supported and specialist housing, ‘exempt accommodation’, will be managed outside the Universal Credit (UC) when it is introduced in 2013.

- In the short-term, there will be an interim system that is broadly similar to current arrangements. People in supported and specialist accommodation with higher housing costs will continue to be eligible for housing benefit from their local authority.

- In the medium term, DWP will design, develop and potentially pilot a more localised system for managing these costs outside the Universal Credit.

The Housing LIN will be keeping track of developments, as members have expressed concern about the definition of ‘exempt accommodation’ and what it means for the future delivery of person-centred care and support. In the meantime, for more info, go to: www.housing.org.uk/policy/welfare_reform/welfare_reform_news/government_announcement_on_fut.aspx
£50 million for dementia-friendly communities

Jeremy Hunt MP, the new Secretary of State for Health announced at the National Children and Adult Services Conference 2012 last week dedicated funding to create care environments for people with dementia. Up to £50 million will be available to NHS Trusts and local authorities working in partnership with social care providers to help tailor hospitals and care homes to the needs of those with dementia. More at: http://mediacentre.dh.gov.uk/2012/10/25/50-million-investment-to-give-people-with-dementia-specially-designed-care-homes-and-wards/

To view the Housing LIN viewpoint and checklist on dementia-friendly communities, go to: www.housinglin.org.uk/pagefinder.cfm?cid=8525

Heathwatch England launched

The new national, statutory consumer champion for health and social care in England, Healthwatch England, has been launched by the Department of Health. It will seek to ensure that people have a stronger voice and greater influence through the experiences they share about their care, to drive improvements. For more, go to: www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/10/healthwatch-england-launched/

NEW HOUSING LIN PUBLICATIONS

Keeping you informed on latest policy, practice and thinking, we are pleased to bring you an excellent range of new viewpoints and case studies from the Housing LIN.

VIEWPOINTS

Our three new viewpoints build on different aspects of other recent Housing LIN papers and make an extremely useful contribution to our new design webpages. In particular, they focus on accessible housing registers, designing for inclusivity and age-friendly communities.

Access point: Improving housing choice for disabled people

This viewpoint for the Housing LIN by Claire Wise explores the role of accessible housing registers in ensuring that accessible homes are let and managed effectively, ensuring that disabled people are supported to find accommodation that meets their needs and maximises their independence. For more, go to: www.housinglin.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=8638

If you are interested in this, have a look below at our new case study on the review of adaption services in Bristol.

Is now the time to review provision for special needs?: Lessons from the Olympics

As the Olympic gold dust settles the real treasure of inclusive design may lie in a better understanding of our existing local infrastructure and amenities. This viewpoint for the Housing LIN by architect David Bonnett chronicles how public policy has addressed ‘special needs’ provision over the years but asks whether, following the Olympics and Paralympics, the time is now right to make better use of what exists and what can be improved with advantage for all. View at: www.housinglin.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=8639

Developing age-friendly cities: Policy challenges and options

This viewpoint for the Housing LIN by Professor Chris Phillipson provides a ‘tour de force’ on the development of age-friendly cities within a global urban context. Launched at the Age-friendly Manchester conference this month (see NW regional update for more), it suggests that the approaches adopted in the UK require better understanding and elaboration at both a conceptual and operational level to ensure that we provide meaningful improvements to the quality of life for older people living in our cities. Read at: www.housinglin.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=8640

CASE STUDY

This new case study will be of interest to those working in commissioning and managing adaptation services and making best use of accessible housing.

From Home Adaptations to Accessible Homes: Putting people at the heart of redesigning the adaptation service in Bristol

To coincide with Foundation’s 2012 home improvement agency and handyperson conference,
this case study for the Housing LIN by Sheila Mackintosh gives a comprehensive account of the service review and resultant change management applied by Bristol City Council to redesign and deliver a more focused person-centred, cost-effective and efficient adaptation and accessible housing service that enables people to access a greater choice of independent living. With a backdrop of an increasing demand, it describes the changes made to the service, the benefits they have brought, the challenges of altering service provision and the lessons that can be learned by other authorities. Read at: www.housinglin.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=8623

OTHER USEFUL REPORTS / RESOURCES

HOUSING FOR OLDER PEOPLE

If you are interested in long term trends and demography, evidence of cost effectiveness or how to reform accessibility design standards, the following reports will be of interest:

Housing our Ageing Population

This report by the Housing Partnership UK provides a useful overview of the housing issues facing older people and signposts to how organisations should focus on people and property to design services and buildings that meet the housing needs and aspirations of older people. Available at: www.genesisha.org.uk/pdf/Housing%20our%20ageing%20population%20report%20-%20HPUK%20-%20Sept%202012.pdf

Adult Social Care in Housing with Care Settings: A review of the literature

ASSET (Adult Social Care Settings and Environment) is an independent research project commissioned and funded by the Department of Health through the NIHR School for Social Care Research programme. This 2 year project is being led by the Association for Dementia Studies at the University of Worcester in partnership with the Housing LIN, the Personal Social Services Research Unit at the University of Kent, the School for Policy Studies at the University of Bristol and

Housing 21. The project’s first major output is a review of the academic, policy and practice literature on care and support in housing with care settings. This report is now available on the Dissemination page of the project website at: http://assetproject.wordpress.com

Making it work for us: A resident’s inquiry report into sheltered and retirement housing

This new report from Age UK concludes that we need greater investment in affordable, attractive housing options – integrated with housing support services and in the right locations. Both the residents involved in this inquiry and Age UK point to the need for a fundamental review of the future role of sheltered and retirement housing, with greater certainty about what it can offer and stronger leadership from government. To find out more, go to: www.housinglin.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=8642

Creating Strong Communities

This report commissioned by Berkeley Homes takes an in-depth look at how to measure the social sustainability of new housing developments. Read at: www.berkeleystaff.co.uk/media/pdf/k/o/9441_002_BG_Social_Sus_essay_LR.pdf

Orbit Charitable Trust

Following the launch earlier this year of ‘Housing and care for the most vulnerable older people. What can social housing providers and older people’s organisations do together?’, the Trust is now embarking on a follow-up project aimed at small housing associations. For more, visit: www.orbit-research.org.uk

HEALTH & CARE

This section features new papers that have a connection across housing, health and/or social care. They include:

Home from Hospital Resource Pack

This new resource pack from a consortia of organisations, hosted by the Housing LIN, contains an impressive array of information for anyone concerned with delivering home from hospital services.

www.housinglin.org.uk
Launched at the National Children's and Adult Services annual conference last week, the pack includes:

Leaflets on essential information for a range of relevant staff involved in an older patient’s pathway:

• Agencies providing services to support safe hospital discharge
• Community based social workers and occupational therapists
• Hospital based staff
• Senior hospital professionals
• Service commissioners
• Sheltered and extra care housing providers

Useful checklists on:
• Questions for assessing patients’ housing circumstances
• Questions on integrated discharge process

Helpful factsheets on:
• Services to support older people returning from hospital
• Options for older patients needing to move home
• Health and housing links
• Common elements of outcomes frameworks related to older people

To find out more, visit: www.housinglin.org.uk/hospital2home_pack/

Public Health factsheets
The Department of Health has set out the health intelligence requirements for local authorities and the actions local areas may wish to take to support their new public health duties. These can be viewed at: www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/09/health-intelligence
And watch out for our forthcoming briefing on health and wellbeing boards.

Paperying over the cracks
This briefing from the NHS Confederation warns that the £2 billion gap in social care funding will have an impact on health services as more older people turn to the NHS. This in turn will put pressure on front-line health services which are not sustainable in the long run. For more, visit: www.nhsconfed.org/priorities/latestnews/Pages/gap-in-social-care-funding.aspx
View at: www.nhsconfed.org/Publications/briefings/Pages/paperying-over-cracks.aspx

HOUSING & DEMENTIA
This section includes latest innovations and reports that support people with dementia to live well at home.

Creating a dementia-friendly York
This new report from the JRF considers how York can become a more dementia-friendly city. It features thoughts on what York and other towns and cities might do to become dementia-friendly and shows how many of the resources and services in a place can be harnessed for the benefit of people with dementia, provided there is sufficient awareness of what dementia means for them, their carers and families. For more, go to: www.jrf.org.uk/publications/creating-dementia-friendly-york

Personal stories of living with dementia
With thanks to Margaret Edwards and Sue Garwood, a collection of short case studies have been uploaded onto the Housing LIN Innovation in Housing and Dementia webpages that give an account of different people’s experience of living with dementia in a variety of housing settings. They are based on true stories and show what can be achieved to support individuals, families and carers. Available at: www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/browse/HousingandDementia/Personal_stories

Dementia 2013 Survey
The Alzheimer’s Society are conducting a survey to find out more about how dementia affects the lives of the people who live with the condition. The evidence gathered for this survey will be vital for understanding how well people are living in their local area and what they would like to see changed. This will help to provide a more detailed understanding of what a dementia friendly community is. To take part, go to: www.alzheimers.org.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?fileID=1519

TELECARE UPDATE
This section highlights relevant Telecare and Telehealth items that may be of interest

Capability mapping
The UK Assisted Living capability maps are now available and provide a comprehensive regional review of progress on Assisted Living by region and the devolved administrations. They provide extensive market information and analysis of opportunities for growth in Assisted Living products and services. For more, go to: www.healthktn.org/abilitymap
Have we got even more news for you!
If you are switched on to the above items, the recent Telecare LIN newsletters are packed with everything you need to know about latest policy, practice and product developments. To view, go to: www.telecarelin.org.uk

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS
This section contains updates from our regional ‘leads’. For further information of what’s happening in your region, go to the Housing LIN regional pages and, remember, contribute to your regional noticeboard so we can share latest developments!

London
Margaret Edwards reports on the official opening of Roden Court, One Housing Group’s latest extra care scheme in Highgate.

North West
Jean Bray and Libby Spencer report on a successful Housing LIN session at the recent conference organised to celebrate Manchester City Council’s WHO age-friendly city status. For a copy of Professor Phillipson’s viewpoint on age-friendly cities, see p.3.

North East
Denise Gillie reports that following the successful meeting at McCarthy and Stone’s scheme, Henderson Court, Pontelands, the next meeting will be at the DH funded scheme Linkshill Park in North Shields
She also reports that work is underway in Newcastle to prepare a Market Position Statement for the development of specialist housing for older people. This is due for publication at the end of the year.
Denise has learned that in Sunderland, work has started on the site of a former orphanage in Hendon to provide 38 one and two bedroom apartments for rent for people diagnosed with dementia. The scheme called Seafarers Way has been designed in accordance with the HAPPI principles providing open plan living space in apartments and communal areas and easy access to the garden. And staying with Sunderland, planning permission has also been granted for two extra care schemes, one at the coast in Roker named Springtide Cover where construction is due to start early in 2013. This scheme will provide 53 one and two bedroom apartments for rent. The second scheme is in Doxford Park and will provide 40 mixed tenure two bedroom apartments. To read about Sunderland’s strategic approach, view the Housing LIN case study at: www.housinglin.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=6906

East
Sue Garwood reports that Future East held its Autumn Conference in Cambridge on 19th October. The conference focus was “Living well at Home” and combined presentations and group work. Of particular interest was the Debenham project, a community-led initiative providing a range of support services for family carers of those living with dementia in Suffolk. www.the-debenham-project.org.uk

East Midlands
Debbie Waldron reports that the Joint East and East Midlands event was held in Peterborough on the 25th September, sponsored by Willmott Dixon. The programme included an overview of capital funding options, a couple of case studies, sharing risk, a developer’s perspective, making the most of health estates and community land trusts. The event was well received. Presentations may be found at: www.housinglin.org.uk/Events/ArchivedEvents/ArchivedHousingEventDetail/?eventId=744

West Midlands
Anne Bailey reports that work is under way on a £20 million retirement development in Malvern. The extra care housing scheme, called Clarence Park Village, is being built by Festival Housing and will consist of 101 ‘extra care’ apartments, plus a wide range of leisure and fitness facilities including a restaurant, bar, and wellness centre.

Yorkshire and Humber
Paula Broadbent reports on the new report from the JRF on creating an age-friendly York and the forthcoming regional network meeting on 19th November (details below)
South East
Sue Terry reports that Flowers House, Bletchley Park, Milton Keynes, a specialist £3million extra care scheme for people with dementia, was visited by Kevin Whately of Morse and Lewis fame. The 34 unit affordable rented scheme has a mix of one and two bed apartments with on-site care and support. For more, go to: www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-beds-bucks-herts-20100985

South West
Pat Palmer reports that next week’s regional network meeting in Exeter is fully booked. It will be held at McCarthy and Stone’s new HAPPI-styled accommodation, Isabel Court. However, you do not have to miss out as presentations will be available under the Archived Events’ section of our website soon after the event.

REGIONAL ‘LEARNING LAB’ MEETINGS
Registrations for our regional meetings are open to members of the Housing LIN. Details of those confirmed for your area are listed below, or go to: www.housinglin.org.uk/Events. To receive an automatic invite, register your interest by region at: www.housinglin.org.uk/userAccount/register

South West HLIN, 7th November, Exeter
Yorks & Humber HLIN, 19th November, Elland
North East HLIN, 6th February 2013, North Shields

FORTHCOMING EVENTS
This section lists major events supported by the Housing LIN that will be of interest to network members.

Investing in Solutions: Making it Happen
Registrations are now open for the Housing LIN’s annual conference in London on 12th December 2012. To book your place while spaces are still available, go to: www.housinglin.org.uk/Events/HousingEventDetail/?eventID=749

PROFILE YOUR WORK
If you have promotional material, articles or features you would like us to consider for future editions of Housing with Care Matters, please send information to: info@housinglin.org.uk

We welcome your contributions.

ABOUT THE HOUSING LIN
Now with over 46,000 registered subscribers, the Housing LIN is the leading ‘learning lab’ for a growing network of housing, health and social care professionals in England involved in planning, commissioning, designing, funding, building and managing housing, care and support services for older people and vulnerable adults.

We welcome news items for consideration in our next issue. Please email these to: info@housinglin.org.uk

We are grateful to Willmott Dixon for their support of Housing with Care Matters