‘A FESTIVAL OF IDEAS’ BREAKS ALL RECORDS

With a general election on the horizon, there was certainly a buzz created by those attending last month’s Housing LIN annual conference, ‘Housing for Older People: A Festival of Ideas’ and those following on social media.

Chaired by Shaun Ley, BBC World at One, the conference room at the Riverside Park Plaza - across the Thames from the Houses of Parliament - was packed with a record 300+ housing with care leaders who had had the fortune to secure a place to learn about a range of new innovative ideas and practices. All places had been taken within hours of registration opening in early January!

There were an impressive 600 tweets/retweets during the day creating over 1.6m twitter impressions! Copies of all the keynote speakers and 22 knowledge and innovation exchange sessions’ slides are now available at: www.housinglin.org.uk/ECHConference2015

The occasion also marked the launch of Phase Two of the Department of Health’s £155m Care and Support Specialised Housing Fund (see p.2 for details) and the role the Housing LIN supporting the HCA and GLA in sharing the lessons from successfully completed projects.

With thanks to our sponsors & exhibitors, keynote speakers, panellists, session presenters and everyone who made our annual conference such a success. We are already planning next years! Stay networked with the Housing LIN for details.
POLICY & FUNDING NEWS

Relevant policy and funding news across housing, health and social care since our last newsletter includes:

Budget 2015 - save to spend

This month’s Budget, the last of the Coalition Government, contained very little that will give immediate cheer to the housing with care sector. The Chancellor outlined public expenditure will continue to be reduced over the term of the next Parliament, at the same time, introducing a couple of popular measures for the grey vote and younger people seeking to get a foot onto the property ladder. 5m pensioners are to be given access to sell their annuity for a cash lump sum and a new ‘Help to Buy’ ISA is being introduced to tackle the high deposits needed by 1st time buyers.

We will be following the greater pension freedoms and the accompanying tax changes with interest and whether this might become a new ‘Help to Move’ initiative, seeing those in retirement with savings using these to spend on their future housing and care needs. More on the Budget at: www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/budget-2015

Care & Support Specialised Housing Fund

Phase 2 announced

As announced by Richard Heaton, Permanent Secretary at the Cabinet Office, at the Housing LIN annual conference last month, the Department of Health have launched Phase 2 of the £155million Care and Support Specialised Housing (CASSH) Fund. Deadline for HCA submissions is noon, 29 May 2015.

Administered by the HCA (and the GLA in London – see their details below), this Phase gives particular focus to providing specialised housing for those living with mental health conditions and learning difficulties, as part of fulfilling the Government’s “Closing the Gap” commitments. In addition, Phase Two seeks to stimulate the development of mixed tenure provision to increase the range of housing options available to older people.

The HCA’s Phase Two Prospectus and submission details can be found on our dedicated funding pages at: www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/browse/HousingExtraCare/FundingExtraCareHousing/DHCapitalFundingProgramme/CASSHF2013-15

For more information on tenure diversity, including PRS, check out the Housing LIN mixed tenure technical brief at: www.housinglin.org.uk/MixedTenure_TechBrief and PRS briefings www.housinglin.org.uk/PRSsandolderpeople_briefing

And finally, along with the emphasis on mental health problems and learning disabilities, the Housing LIN again will play a role in raising awareness on the benefits of specialised housing and is responsible for collating information on all completed schemes under both phases of the fund at: www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/ECHScheme

Mayor’s Care and Support Specialised Housing Fund

The Mayor of London’s prospectus for Phase 2 of the Department of Health’s capital fund was launched on 24 March 2015. The £40million fund aims to stimulate the private market and encourage private developers to supply additional options for older persons and disabled adults. These will be available to existing homeowners who may wish to downsize into more appropriate housing that better meets their needs in later life, whilst still representing good value for money.

In addition, it looks to encourage the development of homes for those who may wish to purchase a specialised home that better suits their physical disability or mental health needs. Deadline for bids is 30 June 2015. More at: www.london.gov.uk/priorities/housing-land/increasing-housing-supply/the-mayor-s-care-and-support-specialised-housing-fund

New fund to improve the health of homeless people

The Department of Health has announced a new £55 million homeless fund administered by the HCA and GLA over 2 years to upgrade existing accommodation and provide new housing. The money will be used for the Homeless Change project (upgrading hostel accommodation to improve physical and mental health outcomes for rough sleepers and to help reduce A&E attendances) and the Platform for Life project (new low-rent shared accommodation for young people who want to work, but are struggling to hold down a job or attend college because of a lack of stable housing). View the Prospectus at: www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/412047/150309__homelessness_change_prospectus_full.pdf
Affordable Housing - Welsh funding
The Welsh Finance and Government Business Minister, Jane Hutt, has allocated £5.8m from the government's 2014/2015 Supplementary Budget to build more homes for rent in the social housing sector. In the first phase, funding was secured to finance the development of 70 projects delivering affordable housing across Wales, including extra care housing for older people. A second phase is expected to begin in 2017-18. More at: www.housinglin.org.uk/link.cfm?lid=1477

What's important to me. A Review of Choice in End of Life Care
This report and the accompanying annexes by the independent Choice of End of Life Care Review Programme Board identify the issues people face approaching the end of their lives and offers a blueprint for how greater choice in end of life care can be achieved. With recognition to the importance of a dignified good death at home, there is acknowledgement of the role of housing, housing related services, adaptations and equipment in making the home environment as suitable as possible. More at: www.housinglin.org.uk/link.cfm?lid=1483

Also, read the new Housing LIN practice briefing on End of Life Care on p.4.

Helping people at home grants
The Department of Health has allocated £25 million to the 65 councils in England with the highest level of delayed discharges from acute hospitals due to social care. The focus of this money is to provide additional social care packages which both help people move out of hospital and support them in regaining their independence and avoiding future hospitalisation. For a breakdown by authority, go to: www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/400050/Helping_People_Home_Grant_payments__2_.pdf

DCLG Planning update March 2015
Habinteg report that, amongst a raft of planning measures announced as Parliament breaks for the election, was the long awaited ministerial announcement on new housing standards for England which will govern the design and supply of accessible and adaptable homes from now on. In future, planning authorities will be able to specify only housing standards provided in the 'New National Technical Standards' which provide specifications for accessible homes in three categories, ranging from a base line largely aligned with the existing Part M of the Building Regulations to optional categories designed to meet the needs of wheelchair users as occupants, including Lifetime Homes.


MARKET NEWS
In this section we capture key news affecting growth and investment in the world of housing with care. For local information on extra care housing developments, check our regional updates.

Review into the local authority role in housing supply
The Elphicke-House Report calls on councils to become ‘Housing Delivery Partners’, taking primary responsibility for creating conditions for new housing in their area. With passing reference to HAPPI and citing examples of where councils are working in partnership to develop specialised housing, one of the report’s recommendations is for councils to take robust approaches in housing demography, mobility of tenure, economic growth and business needs as well as broader choice for residents, including the impact residents’ wellbeing, and affordability and financial inclusion (paragraph 3.15). Read in full at: www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398829/150126_LA_Housing_Review_Report_FINAL.pdf

English Housing Survey
The latest English Housing Survey (2013-14) reveals that there are an estimated 22.6 million households in England. Overall, 63% or 14.3 million are owner occupiers, of which 33% (7.4 million) owned outright and 31% (6.9 million) buying with a mortgage. Of the outright owners, 61% are over 65 years of age. Whilst in the social housing sector, 28% (1.1 million) households contain a householder over 65, the largest single age profile of social housing tenants.
As has been described in the press, young households (aged 25-34) are fast becoming the "generation rent" with the proportion in this age group living in the private rented sector more than doubling from 21% in 2003-04 to 48% in 2013-14.

HCA market bulletin

The housing market bulletin by the HCA provides the latest information on the housing market, the economy and the housebuilding industry. Read the latest issue at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/housing-market-bulletin

NEW HOUSING LIN PUBLICATIONS

Keeping you informed on latest policy, practice and thinking, we are pleased to bring you an excellent selection of new and diverse publications from the Housing LIN. Keep them coming in!

NEW HOUSING LIN BLOGS

We bring you 5 new blogs that offer personal views on a wide range of housing and housing related health, care and/or support issues

Lighting up the Health and Housing agenda

After the most recent reorganisation of the NHS in which Public Health was largely transferred to so called ‘upper tier’ authorities, it became increasingly clear that the bulk of public health was in fact delivered through the environmental health, housing, development control and leisure services of District Councils and Unitary Authorities. Bryan Stoten explores some of the issues at: www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/type/resource/?cid=9451

Extra care housing vs nursing homes for disabled older people

This blog by Jo Moriarty shows a high degree of satisfaction amongst older and disabled people for extra care housing. While most residents were comparatively satisfied with their care, scores among those living in alternate housing developments were higher overall. A key difference was that alternate housing was seen as more comfortable and spacious with greater privacy. These residents were also more satisfied with their relationships with other professionals and the way their support was organised. Download at: www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/type/resource/?cid=9482

The challenge of a generation

Written by Matthew Fox, this blog claims that social landlords have in general failed to recognise what a massive strategic issue and ageing population is for their organisations. Given that one third of all housing association residents are already over the age of 65, this is not an issue that can only be left to the few associations that specialise in older people’s housing, at a minimum, every social landlord needs to engage with the age agenda. Read at: www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/type/resource/?cid=9500

Is digital the new black? Technology-enabled housing with care – why aren’t we further ahead?

Written by Ali Rogan, the author of a new paper ‘Unleashing the power of digital communications’ (see p.10), this blog outlines how technology is a fantastic support to integrating housing with health and care delivery and providing a better quality of life to residents and discusses the current challenges for housing with care providers. Read at: www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/type/resource/?cid=9505

Better care, better lives: A personal perspective on integrating housing, care and health

Written by Hannah Miller, recently retired as Executive Director of Adult Services, Health and Housing at LB Croydon, this blog captures the presentation she gave at this month’s All Party Parliamentary Group on Housing and Care for Older People on the need for a greater emphasis locally on integrating housing with health and social care. Read at: www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/type/resource/?cid=9514

NEW HOUSING LIN TECHNICAL & PRACTICE BRIEFINGS

We feature a couple of new briefings coproduced with the Housing LIN

Practice briefing on End of Life Care: Information for housing & care providers

To coincide with the publication of the independent review of choices in end of life care (see p.3), this practice briefing from the Housing LIN (supported by the National Council for Palliative Care (NCPC), the National Care Forum and NHS Improving Quality) is written for those managing housing with care so that you can demonstrate and/or develop...
your role improving the experience of people approaching the end of life locally within a housing setting. It updates Action Sheet 6 in the National Council for Palliative Care’s ‘Influencing Toolkit’ and now also includes useful examples of where housing organisations have improved the way they deliver their services for people at end of life and their carers. Find on our new consolidated end of life care pages at:

www.housinglin.org.uk/HousingandEndofLifeCare

Key legal and regulatory areas applicable to land acquisition, development and operation of retirement communities

This new Technical Brief prepared by Trowers & Hamlin (solicitors) for the Association of Retirement Community Operators, supported by the Housing LIN, is designed to provide an initial starting point for retirement community operators in understanding the main areas of law which apply to the land acquisition, development and operation of those communities. Find at:

www.housinglin.org.uk/ library/Resources/Housing/OtherOrganisation/ARCO_Tech_Briefing.pdf

NEW HOUSING LIN CASE STUDIES

We highlight a couple of new case studies published by the Housing LIN

Older under-occupying owners, will they ever move?

This case study by Gail Lincoln considers these decision-making processes. It examines whether FreeSpace schemes have the scope to facilitate and support older home owners in moving if they so wish, in ways that would enable them to retain their initial home, without the responsibilities attached to owning or letting. Under the scheme, councils arrange for elderly people to move into rented homes or sheltered housing and then take responsibility for maintaining and letting their property at an affordable rate. Find out more at:

www.housinglin.org.uk/FreeSpace_CaseStudy

Strategic Housing Market Assessment: Housing with Care for Older People in Kent

This case study by the Kent Housing Group (KHG) reports on the findings from a ‘Future of Older Persons Housing’ stakeholder workshop held towards the end of last year. In particular, it explores the barriers to delivering specialist housing for older people, specifically, housing with care to align with the delivery of the Kent Accommodation Strategy and identifies possible solutions to overcome any obstacle and enable this market to grow, including via the SELEP. Download at:

www.housinglin.org.uk/KentHousingGroup_CaseStudy

And finally, to view the two Welsh case studies published this quarter, go to the Housing LIN Cymru section of this newsletter at p.15.

NEW HOUSING LIN VIEWPOINT

We offer a new insightful viewpoint from the Housing LIN

Building in Inclusive Design: A modern housing perspective

In this viewpoint for the Housing LIN, Habinteg Chief Executive, Paul Gamble, restates the case for inclusive design in housing and the wider built environment. As the innovators behind the Lifetime Homes Standard and the Wheelchair Housing Design Guide, Habinteg has a rich history in implementing inclusive design in housing for over 40 years. Here he sets out some of his thinking on inclusive design based on Habinteg’s experience of providing inclusive homes and supporting both Lifetime Homes standards and Wheelchair Housing Design Guide. Read in full at:

www.housinglin.org.uk/InclusiveDesign_Viewpoint
Housing for Older People

In this section we bring you details on other new resources on a range of themes related to ageing and housing for older and disabled people.

Making the case – for integrated, impartial information and advice about housing, care and related finance for older people

This new report from the leading national organisations which provided such information and advice, and endorsed by the ADASS Housing Policy Network, makes the case for the delivery of independent information and advice for older people which brings together housing and care options and related financial advice. It sets out how integrated housing, care and financial advice can enable local authorities to meet their new duties and requirements under the Care Act and includes model clauses for commissioners. It also shows how integrated information and advice provision meets specific adult social care, NHS and public health outcomes framework measures. It highlights not only the cost benefits but as importantly, the benefits to older people themselves. More at: http://careandrepair-england.org.uk/?page_id=98

Are Housing Associations ready for an Ageing Population?

This report by The Smith Institute and commissioned by Genesis Housing Association considers whether housing associations are ready for the challenges presented by our ageing population and addresses the future housing needs of older people and the role of housing associations in providing supported accommodation and care. More at: www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/housing-associations-and-ageing.pdf

ABCD in Practice: Connecting Older People and Communities

This report by Sitra takes a look at Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) for older people. With a growing interest in building resilient, strength-based community involvement, the report includes examples of local practices, such as Vintage Communities, to examine achievements and challenges in building sustainable communities within the current economic climate, and to make recommendations commissioners and local community groups for the future delivery of programmes using ABCD techniques. Find at: www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/OtherOrganisation/abcd-in-practice.pdf

Design for an Ageing Population

The RIBA has released an excellent collection of resources into ‘Design for an Ageing Population’ to help built environment professions access relevant and information they need to create buildings and places that meet the needs of an ageing society. At the end of 2013, they opened a call for evidence on design for an ageing population. This resulted in a collection of over 450 items of research, guidance and case studies which have been collated into an online bibliography. Access at: www.zotero.org/groups/riba_research/items/collectionKey/ITFIKCH2

In addition, the RIBA have published an impressive selection of other useful documents available for download at: www.architecture.com/RIBA/Professionalsupport/Researchandinnovation/Projects/DesignforanAgeingPopulation2014.aspx

Action Plan for Inclusive Environments

The Design Council have launched an Action Plan for Inclusive Environments with industry partners that seeks to make specific commitments to promote the planning, design, construction, development and management of inclusive environments. Find at: www.designcouncil.org.uk/sites/default/files/asset/document/Inclusive-Environments_Action-Plan.pdf

And to find out more about inclusive design and an ageing population, visit the Housing LIN’s dedicated online resources at: www.housinglin.org.uk/Design
Building Sustainable Homes
This report from the JRF looks at the opportunities and constraints for building sustainable homes. It highlights the organisational and structural constraints that prevent significant changes in the number and sustainability of homes – and whether these can be overcome. More at: www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/sustainable-homes-full.pdf

An Age Friendly City—How far has London come?
This study by King’s College has found that London has become more adapted to an ageing population in the last seven years, but there is still some way to go before the city can be called ‘age friendly’. With regard to housing, the report identifies the persistent shortage of affordable homes for older Londoners as well as the poor quality of much housing has a profound effect on the housing choices are necessary. Recommendations include: a need for a mix of housing sizes and tenures and options such as co-housing and home sharing, and more new homes built to Lifetime Standards are required and more specialist housing such as extra care. Read at: www.kcl.ac.uk/newsevents/publications/Age-Friendly-London-Report.pdf

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

Surplus NHS land: A best value alternative
This NHF briefing explains various approaches to joint ventures with housing associations that can assist service transformation. It includes several case studies on partnership working that resulted in making use of surplus NHS land.
Find along with other resources on NHS Estate on the Housing LIN ‘Health Intel’ page at: www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/OtherOrganisation/Surplus_NHS_land_-_a_best_value_alternative_briefing.pdf

The cost of poor housing to the NHS
This briefing from the Building Research Establishment (BRE) has calculated that the annual cost of poor housing to the NHS is at least £1.4bn. This is more than double the £600m estimate in their 2010 report. It provides a strong case for achieving significant public health gains through focusing on the most cost-effective improvements to the homes of the most vulnerable people and indicates that the health impact of poor quality housing is on a par with smoking.

The hazards of cold homes and falls are identified as those which have the greatest impact on NHS costs, whilst reducing falls hazards has the fastest payback because of the relatively low remedial cost. More at: www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/87741-Cost-of-Poor-Housing-Briefing-Paper-v3.pdf

Integration that works: An evaluation of Tile House
This paper evaluates One Housing Group’s Care Support Plus model at Tile House, Camden, a scheme providing care and support to people with complex mental health problems in conjunction with Camden & Islington NHS Foundation Trust. Download from: www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/OtherOrganisation/THExecsummaryweb.pdf

Getting Home, Stay Home
The Riverside Group have published a useful brochure that sets out how they respond to people remaining in hospital longer and returning to urgent care more frequently than should be necessary. With a long track record of providing care and support services in community settings, Riverside have developed a range of community solutions that can be purchased individually as well as adapted to the needs of a particular group of patients. They state that this modular approach allows commissioners to adapt the range of service offers to the local health economy and ensures best fit with existing infrastructure. More at: www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/Healthcare_brochure_-_Riverside.pdf
Briefing for the housing support sector - The Care Act 2014 and its Statutory Guidance

Foundations has produced a useful briefing which aims to unpack the Care Act Guidance to the housing support sector. This briefing provides a summary of the Care Act and its attendant statutory guidance for the Home Improvement Agency sector in England. Available at: http://foundations.uk.com/media/257722/The%20Care%20Act%202014%20and%20its%20Statutory%20Guidance%20a%20Foundations%20Briefing.pdf

For other helpful resources on housing and the Care Act 2014, check out our dedicated page at: www.housinglin.org.uk/pagefinder.cfm?id=9366

Delivering Care & Support Planning

This guide from TLAP has been developed with people who use services to show what good care and support planning looks like in practice. With examples from councils across England, it describes the principles for what people want in a care and support planning process, the elements that need to be in place and recommendations for councils so they can be both Care Act compliant and person-centred in their approach. Available from: www.thinklocalactpersonal.org.uk/Latest/Resource/?cid=10464

Securing a health and social care system that protects older people

A new report by think tank Localis for Anchor Trust explores the failures of the health and social care system, which is resulting in sub-standard care for the older population. The study involved extensive interviews with local health experts, a survey of more than 100 senior local government figures and a number of case studies. More at: www.localis.org.uk/article/1900/Unblocking--Securing-a-health-and-social-care-system-that-protects-older-people.htm

Fit for Frailty

This new practice guidance from British Geriatrics Society in association with the Royal College of GPs and Age UK, sets out how to enhance the lives of older patients to remain at home for as long as possible. It provides helpful guidance to GPs, geriatricians, health service managers, social services managers and commissioners of services on developing, commissioning and managing services for people living with frailty in community settings. View at: www.housinglin.org.uk/pagefinder.cfm?id=9502

Excess winter deaths and morbidity and the health risks associated with cold homes

This guideline from the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence is for commissioners, managers and health, social care and voluntary sector practitioners who deal with vulnerable people who may have health problems caused, or exacerbated, by living in a cold home. It makes a number of recommendations on how to reduce risk of death ad ill health associated with living in a cold home so that excess winter deaths can be prevented, the health & wellbeing of vulnerable people improved, fuel poverty and energy efficiency alleviated and the pressures on health and social services reduced. View at: www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/OtherOrganisation/excess-winter-deaths-and-morbidity-and-the-health-risks-associated-with-cold-homes-51043484869.pdf

The links between social connections and wellbeing in later life

This ILC-UK report summarises research by UCL that looked into how our rapidly ageing population could potentially lead to greater numbers of lonely and socially isolated older people. It found that people should better prepare themselves for their old age by building up and sustaining a range of friendships and consider how their accommodation choices may affect their ability to maintain links. Read at: www.ilcuk.org.uk/files/SOCIAL_NETWORK_WELLBEING_final.pdf

Getting Better Outcomes for Older People using personal budgets

This report by TLAP brings together the latest information about personal budgets for older people, including the work in Gateshead Council piloting the introduction of Individual Service Funds in its extra care housing schemes working in conjunction with their contracted housing provider. Download from: www.housinglin.org.uk/pagefinder.cfm?id=9502
HOUSING & DEMENTIA

Prime Minister's challenge on dementia 2020

Since the launch of the Prime Minister's Challenge on Dementia significant progress has been made in improving health and care for people with dementia and carers, creating dementia friendly communities, and boosting dementia research. Coupled with this report, an additional £300m has been pledged, including more research to inform effective service models and the development of an effective pathway to enable interventions to be implemented across the health and care sectors.

In relation to housing and the built environment, there is reference (p30) to the recent health and housing Memorandum of Understanding on the Housing LIN website and an aspiration for "increased numbers of people with dementia being able to live longer in their own homes when it is in their interests to do so, with a greater focus on independent living." More at: www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Dementia/OtherOrganisation/Dementia_vision_2020.pdf

For further detailed information on the links between housing, the built environment and dementia, visit the dedicated Housing LIN 'Focus on Dementia' webpages at: www.housinglin.org.uk/HousingandDementia

APPG on Dementia

The group have published a manifesto which identifies five dementia priorities for the next government. These include: research; diagnosis and post-diagnosis support; the dementia workforce; carers; and dementia-friendly communities. More at: www.alzheimers.org.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?fileID=2492

Dementia Leaders Programme for the Housing Sector – May course announced

Sitra, the Association of Dementia Studies (ADS), at the University of Worcester, and the Housing Learning and Improvement Network (LIN) have come together in a learning partnership to deliver an innovative dementia leaders programme specifically for the housing sector. The next 2 day course is being held in Bradford on 11 and 12 May.

For more information, visit: www.sitra.org/training/dementia-leaders-programme-for-the-housing-sector-bradford

HOUSING & SAFEGUARDING

Housing engagement with Safeguarding Adults Boards

This paper has been added to the Housing and Safeguarding Adults Alliance webpage. It will be useful in your preparations for the implementation of relevant parts of the Care Act 2014’s Statutory Guidance from April 2015. The paper is aimed at all those involved in the work of Safeguarding Adults Boards (SABs) and senior staff of housing organisations and outlines:

- The case for housing engagement in adult safeguarding
- Barriers to housing engagement with Safeguarding Adults Boards (SABs)
- The benefits of housing representation on SABs
- Housing related work by SAB Chairs and Members
- Options for addressing issues of representation by housing on SABs.

View at: www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/OtherOrganisation/Housing_engagement_with_Safeguarding_Adults_Boards_jan_2015_final.pdf

How to …promote good adult safeguarding practice

This briefing from the Chartered Institute of Housing explores the policy and practice within a housing setting of protecting adults with care and support needs from neglect or abuse.

TELECARE UPDATE

This section is the last to be supported by the Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN) at Innovate UK. It highlights relevant Telecare and Telehealth items that may be of interest to Housing LIN members. Going forward, the Telecare LIN is looking to ‘crowd funding’ to sustain its sector leading monthly bulletin. To help support our efforts and for more details, contact: info@telecarelin.org.uk

Unleashing the power of digital communications: Revolutionising housing with care with life enhancing technologies

This White Paper, supported by Tunstall Healthcare, looks at how technology may be used to support the ambitions of delivering first class housing, care and support. It sought the opinions of Housing LIN members on the future of housing with care with a specific focus on the use of technology and how it may be used to support the ambitions of delivering first class housing, care and support. The resultant short paper summarises the results from an online survey and lively workshop held with the South West Housing LIN leadership set last month. In particular, it looks at:

- The art of the possible – innovations in technology enabled housing with care
- What can be achieved by doing it well
- The housing sector challenges
- The barriers to deployment of technology enabled housing with care
- How to break down the barriers – keeping it simple

To find out more about what can be achieved by doing technology enabled housing with care well, check out the White Paper along with our ‘visionaries’ document and infographic at: www.housinglin.org.uk/pagefinder.cfm?cid=9467

And lastly, we are interested to hear about your best practice in the area of technology-enabled housing with care so that we can develop a bank of visionaries and case studies. Send your examples of practice directly to TECS@housinglin.org.uk

Have we got even more news for you!

The final Telecare LIN newsletter and supplement under our current arrangements is now available. Packed with everything you need to know about latest policy, practice and product developments, we are sad to announce that this is draws to a close our affiliation with KTN, the former Assisted Living Innovation Platform at the Technology Strategy Board. Digest at: www.telecarelin.org.uk

We hope to secure funding shortly to be able to continue to bring you this well respected newsletter from our sister network, the Telecare LIN. Offers of financial assistance welcomed.

CALL FOR INFORMATION / RESEARCH UPDATE

National Institute for Health Research School for Social Care Research

The NIHR SSCR are looking for innovative, high quality proposals to address key priorities for adult social care in England over the next 5 - 10 years in a new £2.6million research programme. With reference to housing, the deadline for submission is 27 May 2015. Further details at: www.sscr.nihr.ac.uk/news.php

Survey on access to housing for people with TB

Public Health England are developing practical resources to help enable patients with TB to access appropriate housing so they are more likely to successfully complete treatment, and to enhance the role housing can play in the diagnosis and prevention of TB in at risk groups.

- Do you have experience of working with people with, or at higher risk of TB
- Do you have experience of working with health professionals on raising awareness about TB or other communicable diseases?
- If not, would you like to know more about this issue?

Please help us to understand the issues and what resources will be post helpful by completing this short survey, which should not take more than 5-6 minutes to complete: https://surveys.phe.org.uk/TakeSurvey.aspx?PageNumber=1&SurveyID=820Kmm8K&Preview=true
Are you involved in an interesting housing and health project? NHS Alliance would like to hear about it

Supported by the Housing LIN, the NHS Alliance is producing web-based resource to give information and insights into housing for GPs, CCGs and other community-based professionals. They are looking for some compelling case studies relating to housing-and-health projects to be included on the site. If you have a project you would like to put forward, please go to this link: [www.nhsalliance.org/news-policy/documents](http://www.nhsalliance.org/news-policy/documents), cut and paste the form into a word document and complete. The form is called Housing, GPs and CCGs.

Please use a separate template for each project, and forward to merron@newrealities.co.uk once complete. We look forward to promoting on the Housing LIN ‘Health Intel’ pages later this year.

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

As always, there is extensive networking going on amongst Housing LIN members. This section has updates from our regional leads on recent developments. We are grateful to Keepmoat for sponsoring our regional pages. 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 your news!

**Eastern**

Sue has announced that she is stepping down as Housing LIN regional lead for the East of England. However, she is not leaving altogether as she remains our lead on dementia and adult safeguarding. Taking her place, we are pleased to welcome Dan Gaul as our new regional lead. In the meantime, Sue reports that all the presentations from the December regional meeting are available from: [www.housinglin.org.uk/Events/ArchivedEvents/ArchivedHousingEventDetail/?eventID=826](http://www.housinglin.org.uk/Events/ArchivedEvents/ArchivedHousingEventDetail/?eventID=826)

In Saffron Walden, East Thames Group were granted planning permission to develop a 73 unit extra care housing scheme - the first scheme of its kind in Uttlesford. Comprising of 40 affordable rented and 33 units for shared ownership and private sale, each of the self-contained flats will have their own balcony or terrace space and communal facilities will include a resident lounge, restaurant and roof garden.

**North West**

Jean and Libby report that Cheshire West and Chester Council are planning to open 3 new schemes with Your Housing and Wulvern Housing this spring. They are Kingswood in Newton (82 apartments) and The Windings in Helsby (74 apartments), both Your Housing schemes are due to open April 2015, along with Deva Point in Blacon, Chester (64 apartments), developed by Wulvern Housing.

Later this year will see the completion of the first phase of properties at The Watch Factory site in Prescot. The site will initially offer 70 properties, including 6 bungalows offering care and support on site to help people live independently.

In Huyton, Knowsley Housing Trust have also announced the completion of Bluebell Park Extra Care Scheme at Alamein Road. This will provide 122 one and two bedroom apartments.

In Littleborough, Rochdale Boroughwide Housing (RWB) have announced the completion of Harehill Court. A new extra care scheme offering 43 apartments, café and hair and beauty salon and a sensory garden is a new flagship scheme for RWB developed on the site previously occupied by Hare Hill Court Sheltered scheme.

In Walkden, City West plan to add to their extra care scheme Amblecote Gardens completed late last year with a further development at Ninian Gardens site of a sheltered scheme. Following planning and HCA funding approval, Ninian Gardens new development will offer 56 apartments and associated facilities.

And Halton Housing Trust are busy too following their very successful Naughton Fields plans are underway for another extra care scheme at Ashley Green. A £6 million development will offer 50 apartments – 32 will be allocated for social housing rent, 12 for shared ownership and six for outright sale, whilst five supported bungalows will also be built on site.

And in Cumbria, the County Council is proposing to save £500,000 by investing up to £6million in Extra Care Housing, which will help people remain independent. The council currently supports 12 schemes around the county with four more expected to be completed during the coming year.
Yorkshire and Humber

Paula reports that in Stocksbridge, Sheffield, Sanctuary Group are developing a new retirement living scheme with Sheffield City Council. Set for completion in March 2015, the £5.5m development will provide 54 one and two bedroom apartments for general rent which will be made available to residents over the age of 55.

In Wombwell, Barnsley, a new development by South Yorkshire Housing Association at Newsome Vale is giving older people better options for ageing in the most independent way possible.

North Yorkshire County Council have also now launched their long awaited procurement to enable the development of a large number of extra care housing schemes throughout England’s largest County, alongside their current successfully extra care housing programme.

More at: www.northyorks.gov.uk/article/26204/Procurement-opportunities-for-adult-social-care-and-health-services

And, in Harrogate, Harrogate Neighbours Housing Association have secured planning permission to build a £7m extra care housing scheme with construction form Keepmoat, comprising 55 one and two bed apartments and studio flats.

In Hull, the Council has signed a £80m DH PFI contract for extra care housing with Riverside Housing Group to 316 new units of accommodation over three new schemes for people in need of additional support to remain in their homes.

In East Riding of Yorkshire, a major new £6.75m development for older people is getting off the ground in Beverley. The scheme at Burden Road will provide 40 apartments of independent living and is due to be open this spring/early summer 2015.

In Thorne, Doncaster, the council has given the green light for the development of 50 new units of extra care housing. And in Pickering, progress at Mickle Hill on the first phase of Methodist Homes’ 90 apartments and 41 bungalows is well underway.

And lastly, in Grimsby, North East Lincolnshire CCG and Inclusion Housing have announced that it will soon be offering apartment based independent living at its first Extra Care Housing Scheme in Strand Court.

South East

Sue has announced that she too is stepping down as the SE Housing LIN regional lead. Our thanks go to her for flying the flag for the Housing LIN in the region. We are delighted that Clare Skidmore, who has just come back to work in the South East has agreed to be our new regional lead.

Clare reports that contractors, Castleoak, are on schedule with topping out ceremony at Austin Place, Anchor Trust’s luxury retirement development in Weybridge, Surrey.

She also highlights that Castleoak have won two design and build contracts worth £15m for new customer Retirement Villages Group Ltd. in Surrey and West Sussex. In Elmbridge Village, Surrey, they will deliver 18 one and two bed apartments of retirement living apartments for sale and a new village centre. In East Grinstead, West Sussex, they are delivering 49 retirement living apartments to form phase two of Retirement Villages’ award-winning Charters Village.

In Brighton, the City Council have published their Housing Strategy 2015 which includes a section on supporting older people and a clear commitment to develop a range of housing solutions for older people, including the development of 45 new extra care apartments at Brooke Mead, More at: www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/housing/general-housing/housing-strategy-2015

In Oxfordshire, building is now underway at four schemes providing 216 new flats in early 2015. The first of these in Witney saw more than 100 prospective homebuyers attended Greensquare’s show home launch last month at Fernleigh, Leys Park, Witney. Fernleigh is an extra care development of 80 homes comprising one and two bedroom apartments – with 10 for shared ownership, 32 for rent and 38 for sale.

And lastly, the other schemes opening in the pipeline include: 44 apartments at Milton-under-Wychwood (also with GreenSquare), and 52 apartments in Kidlington and 40 Abingdon (both with bpha). More Extra Care Housing schemes are also planned to open during 2015/16 at Chipping Norton, Carterton and Kingston Bagpuize.
**South West**

Pat reports that the recent SW Housing LIN leadership set focused on integrated care from a person-centred perspective and were inspired by presentations from Luke O’Shea (NHS England), Helen Joy (BrunelCare) and Ali Rogan (Tunstall HealthCare).

On the development front, completion of Dora Matthews House in Coleford, Gloucestershire, is expected this spring. An innovative joint project between the Homes and Communities Agency, Forest of Dean District Council, Gloucestershire County Council, Rooftop Housing Group and Heritage Care, the scheme will provide 44 self-contained one and two bedroom apartments for those who are 55 years upwards as well as five, two bedroom dormer bungalows for people with Learning Disabilities.

And in Worle, North Somerset, work has started on a new £9m extra care scheme to provide a range of housing, care and support for older people including those with dementia. The 65 unit scheme, which is due for completion in autumn 2016, has been funded by a partnership between Alliance Homes, NHS North Somerset, North Somerset Council and the HCA.

In Swindon, Castleoak report that Fitzwarren Court, Methodist Home’s 37 unit, mixed tenure extra housing scheme is nearing completion.

In Dorset, the County Council have sought approval to develop a new 62 unit extra care scheme with partners in Poundbury, Dorchester.

In Taunton, Knightstone Housing Association have secured planning permission to build 66 Extra Care apartments for over 55s and 12 assisted living apartments for people with learning difficulties, at Parmin Close in Taunton.

And lastly, in Bideford in North Devon, Moreton Court – an 18 unit, mixed tenure scheme by Sanctuary Group – has opened its doors.

**London**

Margaret reports that she is sad to see Clare Skidmore resign as chair of the London Housing LIN Steering Group as she moves to take up a new job in Medway (see SE news above) but is delighted to welcome James Berrington, former Senior Strategy Manager at the Homes and Communities Agency as the new regional Chair.

She also states that the latest version of the London Plan sets out in planning terms how London will be able to manage its unprecedented population growth until 2036. A key alteration in the plan is that housing for older people is one of the most important emerging planning issues for the city. With average life expectancy in London increasing, it is anticipated that between 2011 and 2036, the number of people over the age of 64 will increases by nearly 580,000 to reach 1.49 million – an increase of 64 per cent. During the same time period, the number of over 90s is expected to grow by 89,000.

For the first time, the London Plan includes indicative requirement benchmarks for the delivery of specialist housing for older people for every London borough (Annex 5). The London-wide target is 3,900 specialist units for older people a year until 2025, whilst, in the last few years, delivery in the capital has been around 1,200 units a year.

The plan also highlights the need for more age-friendly environments (also see new KCL study on age-friendly London on p.7) across the capital and the need for improved design quality. View at: www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/London%20Plan%20March%202015%20%28FALP%29.pdf

In addition, as reported on p.2, the prospectus for the Mayor’s Care and Support Specialised Housing Fund was launched on 24 March. More at: www.london.gov.uk/priorities/housing-land/increasing-housing-supply/the-mayor-s-care-and-support-specialised-housing-fund

On the development front, in Haringey and Hackney, One Housing Group are looking to develop a 50 bed extra care housing scheme and 44 one- & two-bed homes respectively and in Lewisham, Phoenix Community Housing have plans to build a new 60 unit extra housing facility.

And finally, a useful Factsheet has been published on the implications and opportunities arising from the Further Alterations to the London Plan in relation to older people’s specialised housing. Produced by iceni projects it illustrates progress against indicative requirement benchmarks for specialist housing for older people in each London borough, highlighting the shortfall in provision especially in units for private sale. View at: www.housinglin.org.uk/HousingRegions/London/discuss/forum/?obj=viewThread&threadID=872& forumID=82
**East Midlands**

Debbie reports the official opening of Potters Place, Chesterfield, a 55 unit extra care scheme took place this week. A partnership between Chevin Housing Association (part of the Together Housing Group), Derbyshire County Council and Chesterfield Borough Council.

Built by Willmott Dixon, this new scheme is one of the three that Derbyshire County Council have procured to expand the local extra care housing offer for older people as part of the strategic plans to develop 600 new extra care apartments across the County. More at: [www.chevinha.co.uk/5-whats-new/0-whats-new/196-council-seals-deal-for-extra-care-developments.html](http://www.chevinha.co.uk/5-whats-new/0-whats-new/196-council-seals-deal-for-extra-care-developments.html)

And in NE Derbyshire, the Healthy Communities and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee received an update on the ‘Older persons housing delivery plan’ this month that 90 new extra care housing apartments are due to be completed late summer and 100 new bungalows are in development in Killamarsh & Eckington.

In Blaby, Leicestershire, a new extra care scheme has received overwhelming demand for its 50 homes prior to completion. Oak Court is being developed by emh group, the Leicestershire-based social housing and care provider, and local builder Westleigh Developments in partnership with Leicestershire County Council and Blaby District Council at a cost of £7.8m.

In Nottinghamshire, the County Council report that several extra care sites are due to open this spring, including St Andrews House, Mapperley, Gedling. This extra care scheme is being developed in partnership with Gedling Homes and will provide 31 new units of accommodation available to people aged 55 years and over.

And lastly, in Bilston, Newark & Sherwood Homes for Newark & Sherwood District Council, with the support of national Care & Support Specialist Housing Fund are developing 25 new bungalows for older adults. More at: [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/caring/adultsocialcare/somewherealive/extracare](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/caring/adultsocialcare/somewherealive/extracare)

**North East**

Denise reports that Keepmoat have secured a contract to create a £6.5m over 55’s development in County Durham. Working in partnership Cestria Community Housing, they have attracted Phase One CASSH funding from the HCA to build 58 one and two bedroom apartments and two bedroom bungalows at The Elms, Chester-le-Street.

And in Sunderland, in partnership with the Council, Housing & Care 21 have been busy with the opening of Keelboat Lodge, a new extra care housing scheme with 85 one and two bedroom apartments and bungalows for rent and for sale and a further 16 units for people with dementia at Dovecote Meadow. And in Southwick, from April, 30 two-bedroom modern bungalows for people aged 55 and over will be ready for residents to move in. More about Sunderland’s strategic approach on enabling independence can be found at: [www.housinglin.org.uk/pagefinder.cfm?cid=6331](http://www.housinglin.org.uk/pagefinder.cfm?cid=6331)

**West Midlands**

Anne reports that in Worcester, Castleoak, the specialist construction and development partner for care and retirement living, has handed over a £7 million extra care development of 57 apartments to Fortis Living four weeks ahead of the construction programme. And in Worcestershire, Wye Forest Community Housing are about to embark with Quattro on an exciting new landmark scheme on the former British Sugar site in Kidderminster. The £13.8m scheme will provide 100 new extra care apartments and 12 specially designed apartments to help adults with learning disabilities live independently.

In Walsall, contractors have started work for Walsall Housing Group on a £5 million development of apartments for older people on Walsall’s Waterfront. And in Stoke, Your Housing Group have begun work on another phase of Stoke-on-Trent’s massive new extra-care programme, delivering 390 new apartments for older residents in Chell on the former Westcliffe Hospital site.
In Cannock, Staffordshire, Chasewood Extra Care has opened. The scheme is the second ShireLiving extra care scheme to be completed by Wrekin Housing Trust (WHT). The building offers 63 apartments for the over 55s, with a core team providing support and care 24 hours a day. The site also comprises a GP Surgery, Pharmacy, Stepping Stones Café and Community Hub. In addition, WHT have recently opened another scheme in Wombourne with a further scheme due to open next month in Stafford. The Stafford scheme is part of the Northfield Village development which also includes a dementia centre, community hub, health centre, pharmacy and supported living scheme. WHT are also just starting on site with a 4th scheme in Newcastle-under-Lyme. And finally, in partnership Wilmott Dixon (under the SCAPE framework), Staffordshire County Council is undertaking feasibility studies on a number of sites; and has set-up a build/manage/care framework of four housing/care providers to generate a pipeline of around 10 new schemes over the new three-four years. In Warwickshire, Well Ellis Court has opened its doors for older people aged 55+ in Hillmorton, Rugby. The Housing & Care 21 extra care scheme, offers spacious apartments for rental and shared ownership, telecare (assistive technology), support and care services on-site 24 hours per day.

And lastly, staying in Warwickshire, the March edition of the County Council’s Extra Care Housing e-bulletin is now out containing information on the show flat at the £9m Housing & Care 21 Bedworth scheme development by contractor Willmott Dixon and listing those already opened and those in the pipeline, including Orbit Group’s Queensway Court in Leamington Spa and Tithe Lodge in Southam.

Wales

Jeremy reports that according to housing group Grwp Cynefin, plans to build a 40-bed extra care residential centre in Porthmadog have been given the go ahead by local councillors in Gwynedd.

In addition, Chris and Kirsty are pleased to report that Housing LIN Cymru have published two new case studies this quarter. They are:

Making the best use of stock and support services at RCT Homes.

This case study explores the way in which Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT) Homes has modernised its sheltered housing and support services for older people. RCT Homes aims to provide excellent quality housing and services to help people remain independent in their own homes and live as part of their community. Read at:

www.housinglin.org.uk/RCTHomes_CaseStudy

Passion for Life at Cartrefi Conwy: Putting Older People in the Driving Seat in North Wales

This case study takes a close look at an approach developed in Sweden, ‘Passion for Life’ and how it has been successful tailored by North Wales Housing Association, Cartrefi Conwy. The transformative programme aims to empower and enable older people to take control of their lives. This has proven to be especially effective in helping older people who have recently been through a life-changing event, such as retirement or bereavement. Find at:

www.housinglin.org.uk/PassionForLife_CaseStudy

A few other resources on the Housing LIN Cymru website that they would like to highlight include:

Review of Independent Living Adaptations in Wales

This review was commissioned by the Welsh Government to improve the delivering and viability of adaptations in Wales for older and disabled people. At present, around £35 million is spend by local councils on Disabled Facilities Grants on an annual basis and another £8 million is spent on Physical Adaptations Grant by social housing providers on adaptations for social tenants. Conducted by Shelter Cymru, the review concluded
that a ‘one system’ approach to adaptations should be a guiding principle for policy development and moving towards a staged adoption of universal provision of adaptations (Minor adaptations up to £1,000 all tenures; Mid-level adaptations between £1,000 and £5,000 (precise level to be negotiated with local government); and Major adaptations above £5,000), without means testing in the long term. More at: http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/review-independent-living-adaptations/?status=open&lang=en

The vital contribution of housing to health outcomes for Wales

This online chapter considers how housing organisations are a key partner in delivering new approaches to health in Wales, as set out in ‘Making prudent healthcare happen’. More at: www.housinglin.org.uk/link.cfm?lid=1476

And finally, the Welsh Housing Research Network e-briefing contains helpful summaries and information on recent and planned research relating to housing in Wales. Find at: www.housinglin.org.uk/pagefinder.cfm?cid=9441

Scotland

Jeremy reports on the creation of a dedicated section on our website that captures a number of Scottish policy documents, research findings, tools and good practice on specialist housing for older people in Scotland. There is also a noticeboard for our Scottish members to post specific questions and/or share information on housing with care matters. If there are any relevant resources missing that you think we should upload, email details to: Scotland@housinglin.org.uk

He also draws attention to a new report, by the University of Stirling, ‘Understanding the housing needs of older owner occupiers in Scotland’. This research report reveals that a significant number of older owner occupiers are applying for and being allocated council housing. The reasons for wanting to move are be many and varied - but include a need for adaptations or unsuitability of the current home. The research concludes that there is a need for older owners in lower value properties to move to more appropriate accommodation, preferably within their own community.


REGIONAL ‘LEARNING LAB’ MEETINGS / EVENTS

We are grateful to Midland Heart Housing Association for supporting these pages.

Registrations for our forthcoming regional conferences and ‘look and learn’ meetings are now open to members of the Housing LIN.

Details of those confirmed in your area are listed below or at: www.housinglin.org.uk/Events.

To receive an automatic invite, register your interest by region at: www.housinglin.org.uk/userAccount/register

North East Regional Housing LIN meeting, 15 April, Middlesbrough
North West Regional Housing LIN meeting, 30 April, Stockport

OTHER FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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

CIH South West annual conference
15-17 April, Torquay
(in partnership with Keepmoat)
More at: www.cih.org/exhibitionsouthwest2015

Commissioning and funding care and support services in extra care housing
28 April (half day from 9.00am), Leeds
(supported by the Housing LIN)
More at: www.northern-consortium.org.uk/ViewEvent?EventID=120

Rethinking support services for older people – from grant cuts to market opportunity?
28 April (half day from 12.45pm), Leeds
(supported by the Housing LIN)
More at: www.northern-consortium.org.uk/ViewEvent?EventID=121

NHF Care & Support Conference & Exhibition
17 June, Birmingham
More at: www.housing.org.uk/events/browse-events/care-and-support2015
CIH Annual Conference & Exhibition
23-25 June, Manchester
(we will have a presence on the Health and Housing 'hub')
More at: www.cihhousing.com

FILMS TO WATCH
Some big and little screen films Housing LIN members might enjoy!

The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel
Care tourism? The follow up to the comedy film where British retirees travel to India to take up residence in what they believe is a newly restored hotel.

Still Alice

Bringing Care Home
And not to be missed, 3 ‘oscar quality’ short films by the Housing LIN and Skills for Care promoting independence through integrated working at: www.housinglin.org.uk/pagefinder.cfm?cid=9104

POETRY CORNER
We are pleased to bring you a new poem by Housing LIN resident poet, Brian Wilks.

Come live with me in Twilight-love
Come live with me and be my love
When we will all the pleasures prove
Of walking sticks and zimmer frames
Of not remembering peoples’ names
Of spilling shaky cups of tea
And slipping out to have a pee.

Come age with me in Twilight-tryst
Where we shall have the utmost fun
In rented buggies briskly run
Between the sluggish walking folk
And hooting shake them into strokes
With a nonchalant wave of an overtaking glove.

Come live with me and be my love
And prove seniority serene
Beyond the glooms of petty youth.

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
With over 40,000 members, the Housing LIN is the leading ‘learning lab’ for a continually 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 items for consideration in our next issue. Drop us an email with your news to: info@housinglin.org.uk

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