HOUSING WITH CARE MATTERS

POLICY NEWS:

An Election Update

Further to the recent general election, the new Ministerial team at the Department of Health is:

- Andrew Lansley - Health Secretary;
- Simon Burns MP - Minister of State for Health;
- Paul Burstow MP - Minister of State for Care Services;
- Anne Milton MP - Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health;
- Earl Howe - Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Quality.

In particular, Paul Burstow MP - Minister of State for Care Services, portfolio includes Long Term Care Reform; Adult Social Care; Carers: Personal Health Budgets; Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults; End of Life Care; Long Term Conditions, including cancer and diabetes; Dementia; Mental Health; Physical Disabilities; Autism; and Learning Disabilities.

In addition, on 20th May 2010, the main policies for the Conservative/Liberal Democrat coalition government were published in The Coalition; Our programme for government. This includes proposals on:

- promoting shared ownership and social tenants to own/part buy
- helping older people to live at home for longer through solutions such as home adaptations and community support programmes
- putting patients in charge about making decisions about their care
- establishing a commission on long term care and expanding the role of personal budgets

For a copy of the Coalition document, go to: www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/409088/pfg_coalition.pdf

If you have promotional material, articles or features you would like us to include in future editions of Housing with Care Matters, please send details to info.housing@dh.gsi.gov.uk

We welcome your contributions
Local Government Savings
Details of savings and removal of the ring-fence on some specific revenue and capital grant programmes, including a reference to extra care housing, have been announced by the CLG. Full details of these and the end of Comprehensive Area Assessments are available at:
http://www.communities.gov.uk/statements/corporate/localgovernmentsavings/

DH FUNDED ECH NEWS
Two DH funded schemes have recently had their official openings. They are:
Downlands Court in Peacehaven, a partnership between East Sussex County Council, Saxon Weald Housing Association and Housing 21, the care provider, was opened by Jeremy Porteus from the Department of Health.

Waverley Gardens in Bristol, a partnership between Bristol City Council and Brunelcare, was opened by Aggie MacKenzie, TV presenter and HAPPI panel member.

PRACTICE NEWS
Registration with Care Quality Commission
If you are a commissioner or provider of Extra Care Housing, please note that the Care Quality Commission is introducing a new system of registration for all providers of social care (and health) services under regulations set out in the health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2009 and the Care Quality Commission (Registration) Regulations 2009. The same set of standards of quality and safety will apply to all social care (and health) services including long term care in residential and nursing homes and care in people’s own homes, including extra care. Providers of social care must be registered under the new system from 1st October 2010 and can apply for registration from now until 1st August 2010.

The regulations include a definition of extra care housing:
‘These services cover many different arrangements. Usually, they consist of purpose built accommodation in which varying amounts of care and support can be offered, and where some services and facilities are shared. The care the people receive is regulated by the Care Quality Commission, but the accommodation is not.’

For more information see: www.cqc.org.uk

NEW HOUSING LIN RESOURCES
This section covers new resources commissioned by the Housing Learning and Improvement Network and now available at our website.

Technical Brief – Care and Support in Extra Care
This revised and updated technical brief is now available and has a new section on personalisation and extra care, including 9 new case studies which illustrate different approaches to the procurement and configuration of care and support.

It has updated sections on the legal relationships in relation to care and support in ECH, as well as the delivery and levels of care. Furthermore, information on the legislative framework has also been updated and extended. Amongst others, this covers charging for care in ECH, registration issues, and the new regime introduced by the Health and Social Care Act. For a copy go to: http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/IndependentLivingChoices/Housing/Topics/type/resource/?cid=1647

Neighbourhoods with the Resilience to Care
This Viewpoint from Contact Consulting explores the contribution of housing services for adults at risk of exclusion. Available at: www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=7709
OTHER USEFUL PUBLICATIONS

This section features a number of relevant new publications on housing and housing related care and support that may be of interest to commissioners and providers of housing, care and support for older people and vulnerable adults.

Telling the story of Hartfields: A new retirement village for the twenty-first century

In 2008 the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust, in partnership with Hartlepool Borough Council and other local agencies, opened the DH funded Hartfields retirement village in Hartlepool. This study tracks key decisions made and challenges faced as the scheme developed. It found that:

- It is crucial to develop realistic expectations and an understanding of what these schemes can offer residents.
- Locating GPs and specialist nurses in the scheme provides opportunities to promote healthy living and well-being in later life, both for residents and the wider community.
- It is important for planners to understand how the local community and culture will shape the new community that evolves.

www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=7690

A Journey through Extra Care” - the people, the places, the future

This event organised by Bramall Construction and Greenwoods Solicitors was held at The Belfry, Cambridge on 27 & 28 April 2010. Powerpoint slides are available on our website under:
http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/IndependentLivingChoices/Housing/HousingEvents/ArchivedEvents/ArchivedHousingEventDetail/?eventId=592

Living well in the South East – planning homes and services for our lifetime

This report is a summary of the South East region housing conference ‘Living well in the South East - Planning homes and services for our lifetime’, held on 25th March 2010. The event brought together representatives of older people’s forums and carers groups with a range of professionals involved in housing from across the South East region of England.

The conference offered an opportunity for older people and organisations interested in improving our homes and enabling independence in later life to come together, share ideas and take forward learning from the event that will help to shape the future in our localities and the South East of England. The report focuses on key messages and highlights improving housing for older people in the region over the coming years.

www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=7712

A Guide to making Complaints for Sheltered Housing Residents

This guide commissioned by the CLG Ministerial group on sheltered housing was published by CIH and is available on their website. It is in response to concerns expressed by sheltered housing residents about changes to their service and in particular the removal of warden services. One cause for concern is confusion over where to go when complaints addressed to landlords are considered unresolved.

There are a number of agencies that have a role and this guide seeks to explain their respective roles. Copies are available at:

In addition, copies of other documents commissioned by the CLG Ministerial Working Group for Sheltered Housing on: “Effective Resident Involvement and Consultation in Sheltered Housing”, produced by the Centre for Housing and Support and TPAS and “More than just a few kind words!” produced by the National Housing Federation are now available at:
www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=7688

CIH briefing on the Coalition Agreement: our programme for government

This briefing includes the main measures for housing with comments from the CIH. For further information go to: www.housingfutures.cih.co.uk
Homeless Link webpages

Homeless Link have extended their webpages to include useful new information and related guidance on Preventing Homelessness in Older People. For details, visit http://www.homeless.org.uk/Prevention-of-homelessness-in-older-people

Involving users in commissioning local services

This study by Age Concern London published by the JRF brought commissioners and service users together to discuss how service users can be involved in shaping local services. The project found that:

- The involvement of service users in shaping local services is still in its infancy.
- The definition of 'user involvement' varies from one-off consultations to equal partnerships

There are more good practice examples of user involvement in Social Care than in Health. www.jrf.org.uk/publications/users-local-services

HAPPI days: new and creative ideas for age-friendly housing

Housing Quality Network’s Ageing Communities Excellence Network (ACEnet) recently invited key speakers to address its annual conference – with the upbeat title of HAPPI days: new and creative ideas for age-friendly housing, based on the HAPPI report. For a copy of the post conference report, go to http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/IndependentLivingChoices/HousingTopics/type/resource/?cid=7694

Making HAPPI Happen

Making HAPPI Happen was a recent "Question Time" style debate that took place at the Building Centre on 26 May 2010. Organised by Pollard Thomas Edwards architects, Levitt Bernstein Associates and Design for Homes the event brought together leading figures to discuss the challenge of implementing the vision framed by HAPPI - Housing our Ageing Population: Panel for Innovation.

For a Bulletin of the event noting key speakers and highlighting "hotspots" of debate, click here: Making HAPPI happen

Age UK report

Age UK have released a report sharing ‘Older People’s Experiences of Renting Privately’ looking at older people's experiences of living in the private rented sector. The report is part of a project that aims to encourage a greater focus on the private rented sector and explore the experiences that older people have whilst living in privately rented housing. The research looked at older people in assured tenancies and regulated tenants, and considered issues such as affordability, security and quality. For a copy, go to: http://policy.helptheaged.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/C39B08DE-B437-4C62-94F2-B4AB695A0AB1/0/OPexpofrentingprivatelyFINAL.pdf

The Housing LIN has also commissioned a viewpoint on ECH and private rented accommodation. For details, see Calls for Information on p.5 of this enews.

Health Profile of England

The Department of Health have released the Health Profile of England for 2009. This provides national and regional data, which local areas can compare against their own Health Profiles. It includes details on the quality of housing stock and reports it as having an impact on local health profiles. To download go to: www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsStatistics/DH_114561

Innovating with People - The Business of Inclusive Design

Inclusive design is an approach to design and a business strategy. It aims to design mainstream products, services and environments that are accessible and attractive to the largest possible number of people. http://www.norskdesign.no/design-for-all/new-book-innovating-with-people-article14956-8530.html

Also, see the recent Housing LIN Viewpoint, Putting Inclusive Design into Practice at: http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/IndependentLivingChoices/HousingTopics/type/resource/?cid=7382
CALLS FOR INFORMATION

Private Rented ECH

The Housing LIN has commissioned Trimmers to produce a Viewpoint on Extra Care Housing and private rented accommodation. This will address:

- private and intermediate renting in different ECH settings eg. village communities
- developments in private sector market renting
- barriers and opportunities to private rented ECH

If you have information you would like to contribute, please email: info.housing@dh.gsi.gov.uk

Fire safety in ECH

In addition, Faithful + Gould are in the process of researching and writing a technical brief on Fire Safety in Extra Care Housing and would like to hear from you in relation to:

- Details of non standard Extra Care Housing designs (i.e with atria, winter gardens, open plan foyer etc) and how the design team approached the Fire Engineering aspects when applying for Building Regulations approval together with any special arrangements related to smoke and fire detection and controls.
- Details of any design relaxations obtained due to the inclusion of sprinkler and misting systems in Extra Care developments.
- Examples of Fire Evacuation Strategies for Older Persons and Extra Care Housing and dialogue held with the landlord, design teams and Building Controls Officers in order to arrive at an acceptable outcome.

Information can be submitted together with photographs of the Extra Care Housing developments and credits will be given to the designers, landlords and suppliers of all information. Please send responses directly to: roger.standish@fgould.com

REGIONAL NEWS

Commission of Enquiry into closer co-operation between Housing, Health and Adult Social Care in South Essex

A Commission of Enquiry into closer co-operation between Housing, Health & Adult Social Care is being set up to examine the role housing and housing-related services need to play to deliver personalised services alongside health and social care. The Commission's work will cover the five Councils and two PCTs in South Essex - Essex, Basildon, Rochford, Castle Point, Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock Councils, and NHS South West Essex and NHS South East Essex. It will also need to harness the investment and creativity of the third and private sectors in the delivery of these services in the sub-region.

The Commission’s work is designed to start with the citizen and consider how, through a more collaborative approach between housing, health and adult social care these services can more effectively manage demand for high cost health and social care services whilst achieving a more responsive, personalised offering which supports independence and quality of life. The intention is to drive out duplication of effort, seek more cost effective solutions and reduce reliance on expensive (and often unpopular) provision such as residential care.

For further information about the Commission’s work, please contact Susan Williams, Programme Manager at: suwilliams@thurrock.gov.uk

HOUSING LIN MEETINGS

This section lists the next round of regional network meetings.

South-West Region LIN
30th June 2010, Swindon

Eastern Region LIN Joint Meeting with NHF Care and Support Group Housing
2nd July 2010, Ely

To register for these events, visit our events page at www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/housing under Events.

To receive an automatic alert of forthcoming meetings in your region, register at www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/userAccount/register
OTHER EVENTS

CIH Annual Conference and Exhibition
If you are at the Chartered Institute of Housing annual conference and exhibition in Harrogate on 22-24 June, come and visit the joint DH, ADASS and National Mental Health Development Unit stand in The Link between Halls B and Q.

Housing, Care and Support conference
30 June 2010 at the Manchester Conference Centre, Sackville Street, Manchester:
http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/IndependentLivingChoices/Housing/HousingEvents/HousingEventDetail/?eventID=598

‘Going Green in Yorkshire & the Humber’
8th July 2010 CIH www.cih.org

National Housing Federation – Housing Care and Support Conference and Exhibition 2010
8th – 9th July, University of Warwick, Coventry.
www.housing.org.uk

Home Improvement Agency Annual Conference
10th and 11th November, Holiday Inn, Birmingham.
Booking forms on Foundations website:
www.foundations.uk.com/events/sea_change_for_services_local_markets_new_responses

HAPPI study tours in July

More information can be found under:
http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/IndependentLivingChoices/Housing/HousingEvents/HousingEventDetail/?eventID=658

A list of all the forthcoming events are available on our website under:
http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/IndependentLivingChoices/Housing/HousingEvents/

PROMOTE YOUR WORK
If you have promotional material, articles or features you would like us to include in future editions of Housing with Care Matters, please send details to info.housing@dh.gsi.gov.uk

We welcome your contributions

STAFFING NEWS

In memory of Trevor Edwards
Sadly, Trevor Edwards, who many Housing Learning and Improvement Network (LIN) members will know worked on the DH's extra care housing grant programme, died unexpectedly last month. He will be sorely missed by us, his immediate family, close friends, work colleagues and all those who knew him.

Since taking early retirement from his former local authority employ, Trevor worked in a freelance capacity for the Housing LIN and helped us project manage the extra care grant allocation arrangements and monitor the conditions of grant against the agreed milestones for local authorities. He did this enthusiastically and passionately as he believed that our programme 'made a difference' to the housing with care needs of older people.

More recently, Trevor was working on an on-line directory of all the Department of Health funded extra care schemes since 2004, including those 'pipeline' schemes in the recent funding round. We aim to launch this shortly on our website.

Should you have any further queries on the above or more generally on the Department's extra care programme, please email us from now on at: info.housing@dh.gsi.gov.uk

Denise and Yvonne are leaving
Can I also take this opportunity to wish Denise Gillie and Yvonne Maxwell well as they both move on from the Housing LIN. They have both had key roles in developing our Extra Care Housing programme and work on equalities, social inclusion and homelessness. I am sure that they will continue to link in with the regional groups and related work areas in the future. Keep networking!

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For further information, contact the Housing Learning & Improvement Network
tel: 020 7972 1330
or email: info.housing@dh.gsi.gov.uk
or write to Housing LIN,
Wellington House,
133-155 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UG