Two ECH schemes win first HAPPI design awards

Congratulations go to Heald Farm Court in Newton-le-Willows, St Helens, and Kidbrooke Extra Care in LB Greenwich for impressing the judges at this year’s Housing Design Awards.

Heald Farm Court, a partnership between Helena Partnerships and St Helens Council, designed by DK Architects and built by Cruden Construction, wins the HAPPI completed scheme award. It provides 86 2-bed apartments for sale, shared ownership and rent among three blocks of accommodation which envelop two outdoor areas, a public plaza and private gardens. The impressive scheme, which hosted a NW Housing LIN regional meeting earlier this year, was part funded by the Department of Health’s Extra Care Housing capital fund and balances people’s need to feel independent, but also the sense of belonging to a group, with access to on-site care and support when it is required.

The Kidbrooke Extra Care scheme is still in planning stages but won the best HAPPI conceptual project award. The development of 170 homes, by Berkeley Homes and designed by PRP Architects, is a model HAPPI project which is anchoring the regeneration of nearly 4,000 new homes at the Farrier Estate in Greenwich. The scheme includes a new village hub and a string of facilities such as gym and cinema. Well done to both schemes for putting Extra Care Housing firmly on the design map!
Another winning extra care scheme

Mill Rise Village in Staffordshire, a 60 unit ECH scheme managed by Aspire Housing has won The LIFT Exemplar Award at this year’s Local Improvement Finance Trust Awards for health and social care. For more information read the Housing LIN case study report at: www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=6240

POLICY & FUNDING UPDATE

The Emergency Budget

On 22nd June, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne MP, made a budget statement, the main points of which included:

- Confirming tackling the fiscal deficit and departmental spending plans, including £6.2 billion savings in 2010/11 as set out in the pre-budget report
- An announcement that the government’s Spending Review will be presented on Wednesday, 20 October 2010
- Changes in future welfare benefit spending, including DLA medical assessment and HB Local Housing Allowance arrangements (further info published by the DWP at www.dwp.gov.uk)
- VAT increases to 20% (though note building for disabled people remain zero rated) from 4 January 2011
- Local governance arrangements. The abolition of the Regional Development Agencies and removal of regional strategies
- Establishing Local Development Orders to simplify local planning arrangements

The Chancellor’s statement can be viewed online at: www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/junebudget_speech.htm

Commission for Long Term Care

As laid down in the Coalition Agreement, the Government have announced the establishment of an independent Care Commission to investigate and report within a year on sustainable funding models to meet the growing cost of long term care in England. Full details are available at: http://carecommission.dh.gov.uk/

NHS White Paper

Secretary of State for Health, Andrew Lansley, set out the Government’s plans to reform the NHS this month in the White Paper, Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS.

The headline news are that groups of GPs will be given freedom and responsibility for commissioning care for their local communities. Providers of services will have new freedoms and will be more accountable. There will be greater competition and cooperation in the NHS. Services will be more joined up, supported by a new role for Local Authorities to support integration and partnership working across health and social care, especially post hospital discharge, the delivery of community services and wider public health functions that support prevention and reablement. To view the White Paper, visit: www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_117353

£4m boost to give patients control of their health care

Hot off the heels of the NHS White Paper, Care Services Minister, Paul Burstow, has injected £4m to support a pilot scheme that offers patients more choice and control over their healthcare. The money will be used to support the personal health budget pilot sites set up and run their pilot schemes.

Accompanying the announcement, the DH have released new learning resources and a DVD to help councils educate staff and health partners to encourage them to introduce social care personal budgets to existing service users. The DVD includes an introduction from former GMTV presenter Fiona Philips whose father’s care was transformed by having a personal budget to meet his social care needs.

The DVD is available on the new Putting People First website: www.puttingpeoplefirst.org.uk/

Vetting and Barring – Care and Support in Extra Care Technical Brief

Since publishing the updated Housing LIN Care and Support in Extra Care Technical Brief, requirements to register with the Independent Safeguarding Authority have been suspended pending a review of the Vetting and Barring Scheme. The first phase of registration was due to commence on 26 July 2010. However, the regulations introduced in October 2009 regarding the employment of someone who has harmed a vulnerable person continue to apply. For more information, visit the ISA website at: www.isa-gov.org.uk/
Rough Sleeper's Count: Have your say

CLG have published latest estimates of rough sleeping in England, showing that actual figures could be as high as 1,247 rather than the official count of 440. Views are now being sought over the summer on proposed changes to guidance to evaluate the extent of rough sleeping. Details at: www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/evaluatingroughsleeping

PRACTICE UPDATE

Get involved in the National Housing for Older People Awards 2011

Supported again by the Housing LIN, the Elderly Accommodation Counsel has launched its appeal to managers of all sheltered, retirement and extra care housing schemes in the UK to encourage their residents to nominate their schemes by playing the familiar card game successfully developed last year to capture the views and experiences of those playing the game.

Promotional material, including a poster, on-line film clips and DVD explaining how to play the game, and an application form that needs to be returned by 31 October 2010, are now available at: www.housingcare.org/providers/eac-housing-for-older-people-awards.aspx, or email: housingawards@eac.org.uk for further details.

Winners will be announced at a national awards ceremony to be held at Ascot Race Course in early February 2011. Be the first past the post!

Breaking the Mould: Opportunities of an ageing population

This year is the National Housing Federation’s 75th anniversary and to mark this they are running a high profile programme to set out a vision on older people’s housing, care and support.

Building on their report In your lifetime, published earlier this year, (available at: www.housing.org.uk/default.aspx?tabid=288&mid=835&ctl=Details&ArticleID=2672) this project will look at the aspirations of older people (and future older people) and use this to highlight the range of housing and service products, which could be developed. For further details, contact amys@housing.org.uk

Housing for the Third Age

Earlier this month, Dame Joan Bakewell shared her views about the role that architecture plays in our lives as we grow older with housing providers, local residents, professionals and interested members of the public at an event organised by Pollard Thomas and Edwards architects.

The gathering was PTEa’s contribution to this year’s London Festival of Architecture. In conjunction with the talk, an exhibition showcased their projects and sought to raise awareness and encourage debate about housing design and an ageing society.

Commenting on policies that most older people prefer to stay put in their family homes as they age, rather than move to extra care or sheltered accommodation, she said: “the policy sounds idyllic but if you live on your own you become isolated.”

Echoing the ‘ten components for the design of housing for older people’ identified in HAPPI’s recommendations, Bakewell fleshed out the case for a better fit between the social needs of older people and the spaces provided to meet these needs. The idea of older people taking charge of their own housing decisions was also strongly represented during questions from the floor, with support for initiatives such as access to advice and information and building ‘social capital’ to enable groups to collectively ‘own’ the housing process and create the housing product.

For a copy of the HAPPI report, go to: www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=6893

FOCUS ON HOUSING & DEMENTIA

Housing & Dementia papers

Further to the Housing LIN’s sponsorship of the Journal of Care Services Management special edition on Housing and Dementia last year, Maney Publishing have kindly agreed to make half of the articles available free of charge for six months. Thereafter, those papers listed below will be for purchase only, and replaced by the remaining papers
from the edition for a further six months. The first set of papers include:

Moore’s, *Partnerships create dementia care synergies in sheltered housing*, and Hough & Brim’s, *Partnership working for a healthy ageing café*, illustrate vividly how the housing sector can contribute to improving the lives of people with dementia by working in partnership with specialists such as local branches of the Alzheimer’s society.

Available respectively at: www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=7926
www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=7925

Whitham and Adams, *Home improvement agencies, dementia and older people*, explore the potential of home improvement agencies to provide practical support that enables owner-occupiers with dementia to remain in their own homes for longer, and goes beyond services traditionally offered. Available at: www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=7924

Torrington, *Extra Care housing – environmental design to support activity and meaningful engagement for people with dementia*, outlines a strategy for designing extra care schemes which specifically support activities that people enjoy in order to improve the quality of life for people with dementia, not simply overcome problems. Available at: www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=7927

Brooker et al’s paper, *The mental health needs of people living in extra care housing*, reports on data from 268 residents in ten extra care schemes who were judged to be at risk of exclusion because of mental health problems. The findings suggest that a proactive approach to people’s mental health is needed to enable a good quality of life in ECH. Available at: www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=7929

In *The Role of extra care housing in supporting people with dementia*, Darton et al report findings on the levels of physical and cognitive impairment of entrants to Department of Health funded ECH schemes which aimed to house people with dementia, compared with those moving to residential care. The paper provides commissioners with food for thought regarding extra care housing’s position within a spectrum of service provision for people with dementia. Available at: www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=7928

**ECH and Dementia Commissioning Checklist**

The National Dementia Strategy Implementation Group has published a checklist of areas that need to be addressed to ensure that Extra Care Housing developments are suitable for people with dementia. Topics include:

- Putting the building blocks in place
- Legislation and regulation
- Location, built environment and assistive technology
- Model to be adopted
- Entry criteria
- Assessments, preparation and support planning - individuals and carers
- Workforce issues
- Care, support and meaningful engagement
- Policies and procedures
- Communication and marketing
- “Home for life” issues
- Monitoring and review

Within each is a series of questions against which commissioners and providers can select “in place”, “under review” or “needs attention”. Notes alongside each question provide relevant advice and additional sources of information. The checklist is available at the Dementia Strategy portal at: www.dementia.dh.gov.uk/objectivesAndResources/housing_telecare/

**USEFUL HOUSING WITH CARE PUBLICATIONS**

There are several new reports relating to extra care housing, personalisation and accessibility worth viewing. These include:

**Extra Care Accommodation Management Guide**


The Guide outlines Sunderland’s requirements; aspirations; policies and procedures relating to the set up and management of extra care housing. It also provides an effective training tool for the council and for its partners, particularly for those teams working within operational services. It should also
be referenced alongside Sunderland City Council’s recent Accommodation with Support Design Guide, published by the Housing LIN
www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/housing/.

To view the Management Guide, go to:
www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=7902

**Personalisation - What’s housing got to do with it?**

Practical steps for involving housing and communities within programmes for extending personalised services are explored in depth in a new publication produced by the ADASS Housing Network and the National Directorate for Social Care Transformation.

The useful booklet goes on to explore some ‘paradigm shifts’ that need to occur in relation to governance, finance and the workforce, seeking to bring local authority strategic commissioners of housing, adult care and housing support, together around a common understanding of the lead roles they need to play.

View the booklet at: www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=7895

**Mind the Step: An estimation of housing need among wheelchair users in England**

Habinteg Housing and London South Bank University, supported by the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), have undertaken new research on housing for wheelchair users in the UK. The research findings aim to encourage local authorities, housing providers and their respective strategic partners to prioritise the issue of wheelchair housing and take action in developing effective strategies at national and local level.

In particular, the research:

- Demonstrates the extent of need for homes that are designed to full wheelchair standard or can be easily adapted for residents who are wheelchair users;
- Sets out the legislative and policy context for developing more accessible homes;
- Explores the significance of accessible housing in facilitating national strategies relating to inclusive communities, independent living, preventative services and personalisation;
- Produces a national estimate for England of the shortfall in wheelchair accessible homes;
- Provides a readily applicable method for estimating the shortfall at both regional and local authority level, taking account of specific demographic factors (e.g. age and income profile);
- Makes recommendations on ways of reducing the shortfall and meeting priority needs for wheelchair user homes.

The research findings are available at: www.habinteg.org.uk/main.cfm?type=MINDTHESTEP

**NMHDU publishes Factfiles on key issues in mental health.**

The National Mental Health Development Unit has published a suite of Factfiles on a range of key issues in mental health, including on housing (No2). They can be downloaded from the NMHDU website at: www.nmhdu.org.uk/factfiles

**Meeting the psychological and emotional needs of homeless people**

Also, this new interactive guide from the NHMDU and the CLG, describes effective ways of recognising and meeting the psychological and emotional needs of people who have experienced homelessness.

It contains extensive information on the overarching issues, supported by a range of useful case studies and signposting to further resources and links. To find out more, go to: www.nmhdu.org.uk/complextrauma

**NEW HOUSING LIN PUBLICATION**

Can Extra Care Housing funding needs be met with funding from Institutional Investors?

At a time of reduced public subsidy, this new Viewpoint (Housing LIN Viewpoint no.16) considers the potential for institutional investment in extra care housing. It looks at different funding models and highlights a Social Finance case study approach developed in partnership with a well known provider.

www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/housing/pageFinder.cfm?cid=7951
USEFUL HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE PUBLICATIONS

There are several new reports covering end of life care, telecare, personal health budgets and the NHS Operating Framework worth viewing. These include:

A social care framework for End of Life Care

This new document from the National End of Life Care programme illustrates social care’s key role in supporting people nearing the end of life by working more closely with the NHS. It includes key recommendations and examples of how closer working can improve end of life care whilst using resources efficiently, including useful references on how extra care housing can offer dignity at home.

www.endoflifecareforadults.nhs.uk/publications/supporting-people-to-live-and-die-well-a-framework

Sustaining innovation in telecare and telehealth

This new briefing paper from the Whole System Demonstrator Action Network, gives a detailed look at how telecare and telehealth innovations are being adopted in health and social care and highlights the barriers to and strategies to sustain innovation in this field. View at:


NHS Operating Framework revised

The NHS Operating Framework has been updated including the section on re-ablement and post-discharge support. The tariff covering re-ablement and post-discharge support, including social care, will also be changed. The Department of Health states that this new focus will require the full engagement of the wider health and care economy before discharging patients and encourages the use of services such as community health services, social care, home adaptations (including telecare), and extra-care housing (paragraph 29). These services should contribute to improved patient outcomes and significantly reduce the risk of emergency re-admission into hospital. For details, visit:

www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/DH_091445

DH consultation on NHS outcomes

Further to the White Paper on the NHS, DH has launched a consultation and engagement process on the development of the NHS Outcomes Framework. The consultation document explains and asks for views on:

• the principles that should underpin the NHS Outcomes Framework;
• a proposed structure and approach that could be used to develop the framework;
• the potential outcome indicators (existing and future) that could be presented in the framework, including the proposed rationales for selection;
• how the proposed NHS Outcomes Framework can support equality across all groups and can help reduce health inequalities; and
• how the framework can support the necessary partnership working between public health and social care services needed to deliver the best possible outcomes for patients.

The consultation closes on 11 October 2010. To view a copy, go to: www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_117583

Commissioning for personalisation: from the fringes to the mainstream

This report examines how personalisation is reshaping public services. It first takes stock of how far the personalisation agenda has advanced, highlighting its penetration into a wide range of services and identifying common themes across these sectors. Second, the report reflects on the issues thrown up by the implementation of personalised public services, with a focus on commissioning as a key site of transformation.

Much of the discussion here focuses on personal budgets in social care as the best developed example of new commissioning practices, although with some discussion of the importance of other aspects of personalisation (including tailoring universal services and building social capital).

For a copy, go to:

www.cipfa.org.uk/pmpa/publications/download/Commissioning_for_personalization_-_from_the_fringes_to_the_mainstream.pdf
**Citizenship in Health: Self Direction Theory into Practice**

This new report from In Control, supported by the Integrated Care Network, considers personalisation in transforming community health services. To access a copy of the report and find out more about personal health budgets, visit: [www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/PHBLN/](http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/PHBLN/)

**Direct Payments for Health Care: Information for pilots sites**

This document is to assist primary care trusts to meet the requirements of direct payments. It is written to reflect the requirements in the National Health Service (Direct Payments) Regulations 2010. View at: [www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_117477](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_117477)

**MEDIA WATCH**

**Panorama**

This week Panorama featured New Oscott Village in Birmingham (managed by ExtraCare in partnership with Midland Heart, Birmingham City Council) as part of a challenging programme about the current provision of care for older people in the UK.

Led by Dame Joan Bakewell, the piece on extra care considered whether New Oscott offers an innovative care, lifestyle and housing solution in the context of difficult issues facing providers and authorities as government sets out its future policy agenda on elderly care. It includes interviews with residents and with ExtraCare's Chief Executive, Nick Abbey, talking to Joan Bakewell about the village concept as part of a sustainable and affordable housing solution for the future. To access on BBC iplayer or to follow responses to the programme, go to: [http://news.bbc.co.uk/panorama/hi/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/panorama/hi/default.stm)

**Inside Care and Support**

The 16 July issue of Inside Housing has an interesting feature on care and support. There are articles on Housing 21, Accord Housing on dementia (the venue for the West Midlands Housing LIN), Aspire’s approach to integrated care at Mill Rise, and a feature on personalisation.

**REGIONAL UPDATE**

Our 9 regional Housing LINs continue to go from strength to strength. With over 5,500plus registered members, the regional groups meet regularly to share information on latest policy developments and innovative practice around housing with care; forge links with commissioners, developers and providers; and to provide an open environment to share ideas and learning.

If you would like to be more active in your regional Housing LIN, have ideas for learning themes or hosting a site visit, contact your regional lead at: [www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/housing/](http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/housing/) or our business centre at: [info.housing@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:info.housing@dh.gsi.gov.uk)

**RESEARCH UPDATE**

**Private rented ECH: a gap in the market?**

Do you have any experience of private or intermediate rent ECH schemes? Do you provide it, or have you considered providing it? Why is there not more of it? Have you come across situations where it would have met people's needs - better than, say, leasehold ECH or a self funded care home placement? Is the process of property purchase a barrier to ECH for those not eligible for social rented ECH?

We are interested in your experience and perspectives on all these and other questions about ECH for private rent. Please send your comments (or just indicate that you would be willing to be contacted for a discussion) to: lawrence.miller@trimmercs.co.uk (Tel: 020 7395 3650)

**Housing and Dementia Research Consortium**

Sue Garwood, who many readers will know as the lead for housing and dementia with the Housing LIN, has been appointed as part-time project manager for the consortia until the end of March 2011 to:

- secure research funding for priority research into housing with care for people with dementia
- liaise with the consortium’s wider membership
- develop links with research funders and potential research partners.

For further information email Sue at: Sue@SueGarwood.co.uk
Viewpoint on Downsizing

Please send your views, ideas and suggestions to Janet Sutherland, who has been commissioned to write a Viewpoint on enabling older people and those with long term conditions to downsize to more appropriate accommodation.

The Viewpoint will consider:

- the advantages and disadvantages of downsizing and the barriers that prevent the elderly, people who are vulnerable and those living with long term conditions, from moving to accommodation which can better support their needs, and thereby freeing up family sized homes;
- the current challenges of the housing market and the difficulties in navigating vacancy chains;
- how to ensure continuity of social and health care through a move;
- potential solutions to overcome these problems in each sector: social rent, market rent and ownership, taking account of significant regional factors;
- the implications of reductions in key budgets such as the proposed Housing Benefit and Local Housing Allowances ceilings;
- can new models be proposed to address these concerns?

Please email Janet Sutherland with your ideas and suggestions by 6th September to: jehsutherland@googlemail.com

Housing LIN MEETINGS

Details of our next series of regional meetings will be uploaded on our website. To receive an automatic invite, register your interest by region at: www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/userAccount/register

OTHER EVENTS

CIH Older People’s Housing & Support Conference & Exhibition
04 - 05 August 2010, De Vere Staverton Park Hotel, Daventry

More information about this conference and the booking system can be found at: www.cih.org/events/conferences/OlderPeople10/#About

The National Housing Federation's Annual Conference and Social Housing Exhibition 2010
22 - 24 September 2010, ICC, Birmingham

More information and booking at: http://national-housing-fed.msgfocus.com/g/12hlnhlxbNSI/wv

A practical guide to developing cost effective, joined up services: Delivering integrated care
8 September 2010, London

For more information please call Keren on 020 8541 1399, email keren@healthcare-events.co.uk or visit: www.healthcare-events.co.uk

Download Brochure: www.healthcare-events.co.uk/conf/booking.php?action=home&id=501

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We welcome your contributions