



Housing LIN

Connecting people, ideas and resources

2025-26

Year in Review



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“ Housing LIN is an invaluable partner to Coastline Housing. Through its insight, thought leadership and national network, it consistently challenges our thinking, sparks innovation and creates opportunities to collaborate with peers across the sector.

As an Executive leader, I have greatly benefited from the expertise, connections and practical learning Housing LIN provides. It plays a vital role in bringing together housing, health and care leaders to shape solutions to shared challenges. Our partnership with Housing LIN has strengthened our approach to creating homes and communities that enable people to live independently, safely and thrive in Cornwall.

Louise Beard,
Deputy Chief Executive, Coastline Housing

Image credits: (Cover) Coastline Housing; Buttress Architects; HTA Design; Melfield Gardens, Phoenix Community Housing, Levitt Bernstein and Tim Crocker; Ebbsfleet Development Corporation; Haysom Ward Miller Architects and Richard Fraser; Chris Powell (Right) Chris Powell

Welcome

To our members, sponsors, and partners,

As we reflect on an impressive 2025-26, I am immensely proud to lead such a dedicated and passionate team and to showcase their achievements.

This year saw a series of significant successes: from influencing the policy arena and producing ‘must read’ knowledge sharing tools and resources, to advising members on latest practice developments and innovations, to shaping local markets for better housing and services for older and disabled adults.

This ‘Year in Review’ highlights the impacts made, from growth in membership and engagement to new publications, influencing activities, research projects, consultancy work, and sector leading events. Through infographics, case studies, and key data, you will see the tangible ways our network is driving change and improving housing options for all. It’s in our DNA.

Looking ahead, we are leading on a range of influential programmes – creating opportunities to participate in testing out and shaping sector innovation and improvement, building the evidence to support making the case for more age-friendly homes and communities and helping our members better understand the policy landscape and funding envelope for specialist and supported housing.

Thank you to our members, clients, sponsors, and partners for your support, which makes everything we do possible and contributes to the success of our unique network.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Porteus
Founder and CEO of Housing LIN



Our year at a glance



Social media reach



Connecting People,

“A brilliantly organised and genuinely motivating day, full of valuable shared learning, meaningful networking and a clear focus on creating people-centred homes for all!”

2025/26 conference delegate



days of expert consultancy, research and advisory support delivered

- Research projects partnered:
- Intersectional Stigma of Place-based Ageing (ISPA) University of Stirling
 - Benefits and Costs of Domiciliary Care study University of Kent's PSSRU
 - Amar Bari, Amar Jibon The Open University / Bangla Housing Association



& resources



“My previous perception of leadership was largely based on high-pressure and isolated roles reserved for people already confident in their abilities, but the Housing LIN's Future Leaders Programme challenged this. The speakers highlighted that leadership can be a vibrant, exciting experience in which you can work with others and make a real impact both within and beyond the workplace.”

Honor Westlake, Policy, Research and Projects Officer, National Care Forum and 2025/26 Future Leaders Participant

Timeline of key achievements

APRIL 2025

Housing LIN visits Elim Housing Association's Elizabeth Close



JUNE 2025

Housing LIN hosts roundtables with Pozzoni Architects and Invisible Creations in Manchester



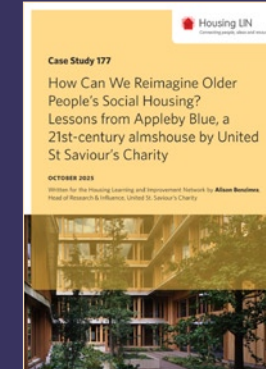
AUGUST 2025

Supported and Specialist Housing and Accommodation Needs Assessment For Essex County Council



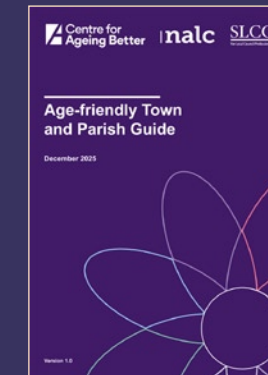
OCTOBER 2025

Housing LIN celebrates Appleby Blue's Stirling Prize win with Case Study and Viewpoint



DECEMBER 2025

Age-friendly Town and Parish Guide



FEBRUARY 2026

Amar Bari, Amar Jibon report launch



FEBRUARY / MARCH 2026

Two Annual Conferences in Newcastle and Bristol



MAY 2025

Applications open for the 2025/26 Future Leaders programme

JULY 2025

Future Leaders Programme 2025 kicks off with an inspiring first session in Wembley



JUNE 2025

Why intergenerational housing matters: Reflections from our roundtable with Pozzoni Architects



NOVEMBER 2025

Remembering 30 years of the Disability Discrimination Act with blog series and HAPPI Hour webinar



FEBRUARY 2026

Final session of the 2025/26 Future Leaders Programme



MARCH 2026

APPG Report: Creating Intergenerational Communities



Age-friendly Built Environment Quick Guides



Launch of the SHAPE website



Consultancy in focus

Supporting clients

In 2025/26, our small Housing LIN team provided the staggering equivalent of approximately 920 days of consultancy, research and advisory support to organisations across housing, health and care.

Through this work, we helped local authorities, housing providers, charities, research partners and sector bodies across the UK respond to changing operational requirements, address strategic priorities and shape sustainable, inclusive housing solutions for the future.

Our focus ranged from supported housing needs assessments, accommodation reviews and market analysis to older people's housing strategies, rightsizing research, extra care housing assessments, age-friendly guidance and service improvement reviews. Across these commissions, we combined evidence, sector insight and practical recommendations to help partners make informed decisions, strengthen services and plan with confidence.



In 2025, Housing LIN and Essex County Council won the Essex Housing Award for Specialist Housing for the Essex Supported and Specialist Housing and Accommodation Need Assessment.

The assessment provided robust evidence to inform specialist accommodation planning and support Local Plans across Essex. The award recognised the strength of the partnership with Essex County Council and the value of evidence-led planning in creating inclusive housing that supports independence and wellbeing.

“The work Housing LIN produced, assessing long-term need for Supported and Specialist Accommodation in Essex, is something I reference week in week out. They worked patiently to refine a robust forecasting methodology, and have gone the extra mile at every stage of the process. Thank you.

Jonathan Schifferes, Head of Housing Growth and Garden Communities at Essex County Council

What we helped clients achieve

Plan supported and specialist housing

Needs assessments, accommodation reviews and market analysis to support better commissioning and future provision.

Improve housing choices for older people

Rightsizing research, extra care assessments and service reviews to help partners respond to ageing populations.

Strengthen accommodation pathways

Work on homelessness, substance use, complex needs and recovery-focused accommodation models.

Create age-friendly and inclusive communities

Guidance and research supporting age-friendly practice, rural and coastal communities, and intergenerational approaches.

Review and improve services

Independent reviews and practical recommendations to strengthen delivery, improve outcomes and plan for the future.

Talk to us about consultancy

consultancy@housinglin.org.uk

Researched and written by the Housing LIN's Lois Beech, this report distils the key findings from the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Housing and Care for Older People's Inquiry into 'Creating Intergenerational Communities', providing strategic, operational and technical recommendations for policymakers, planners, investors, health and adult social care commissioners, designers, mainstream and specialist housing providers and developers.

“We look forward to supporting the sector in turning these insights into practical, mixed-age communities that bring different generations together.

Lois Beech, Assistant Director of Commercial and Partnerships, Housing LIN



About Housing LIN

The **Housing Learning and Improvement Network** is a dynamic community of over **15,000 housing, health, and social care professionals** across England, Wales, and Scotland.

Our mission is to provide **sector leadership through the lens of an ageing population**, helping organisations design, deliver, and manage housing and support services that promote independence, inclusion, and wellbeing. We work with partners to improve outcomes for residents while driving **innovation and operational excellence** across the housing, health, and care sectors.



Image credits: (Back cover) Triangle Architects; Belong Villages and Ready Generations; HTA Design and Nick Harrison; Kirsten Stevens-Wood; Melfield Gardens, Phoenix Community Housing, Levitt Bernstein and Tim Crocker; Chris Powell
(Below) Haysom Ward Miller Architects and Richard Fraser; Morley von Sternberg

“Winckworth Sherwood LLP is proud to have worked with the Housing LIN since its inception. The LIN is always an advocate for the sector, and at the forefront of campaigns, actions, policy, and advice.

The work that it does to ensure that an often marginalised section of society is advocated for, protected, and most definitely lauded, is second to none. Working with and supporting the LIN means that we are kept up to date, in touch, and informed in a way which is of fundamental importance to our work.

Charlotte Cook, Partner, Winckworth Sherwood LLP

Get Involved

Join a vibrant professional community shaping the future of housing, health, and social care.

Membership is free – gain early access to events, weekly sector news, research updates, and funding opportunities.

Connect and share ideas with peers through our **online community**.

Follow us on **LinkedIn**, **Bluesky**, and **YouTube**, and subscribe to our **free weekly newsletter HLINKs** to stay informed and inspired.

www.housinglin.org.uk/register

Sign up today



Our Mission and Values

At Housing LIN, our work is guided by four key principles that underpin everything we do:

Connect: We link you with the right people, ideas, and information on mainstream and specialist housing to help older and disabled people live independently and well.

Showcase: We highlight sector innovations and best practice, accelerating learning and driving meaningful organisational improvement.

Inform: We deliver thought leadership, insights, and market intelligence to expand knowledge, deepen understanding, and build confidence in applying new approaches.

Support: We act as a trusted partner, helping organisations evaluate and enhance services or explore alternative solutions that meet evolving customer needs.

Closing note

We would like to thank all our **members, partners, sponsors, and stakeholders** for their continued support, collaboration, and commitment. Your engagement makes our work possible and helps us share the latest knowledge, innovation, and best practice across the sector.

As we look ahead, the **Housing LIN** remains the **go-to network in England, Wales, and Scotland** for professionals working across housing, health, and social care. We will continue to work with you — our growing community — to **champion innovation, influence policy, and shape better housing and care solutions** for the future.



YouTube: @HousingLIN

