

LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGY WORKSHOP

INDEPENDENT LIVING

TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2017– SALUTATION HOTEL, PERTH



Background

As part of our Local Housing Strategy (LHS) Update, a series of workshops were organised for each of our four LHS themes. Stakeholders with a professional involvement in each of the themes were invited to attend workshops on Tuesday 5 September 2017, in Perth, with a view to:

1. Reviewing the key priorities and challenges of each LHS theme;
2. Acknowledging best practice examples and considering whether there was scope for us to be doing anything better; and
3. Reviewing the existing Action Plan and identifying whether any changes were required.

Event Summary

A total of 21 stakeholders attended this workshop (list of attendees can be found in Appendix 1).

Lorna Cameron (Interim Director - Housing and Community Safety) welcomed all delegates to the afternoon session and following a small change to the programme a few short presentations were delivered to all delegates to prompt discussion in workshops. Groups were then split into workshops on Housing and Homelessness; and Independent Living to discuss the key priorities and challenges; any best practice examples and finally the Action Plan for each LHS theme.

At the end of all discussions, delegates from both workshops gathered back together and Eileen McMullan (Planning & Commissioning Manager) provided a summary of the key pieces of information from each workshop and explained that the information from the day would now be written up and taken to Housing and Communities Committee in November 2017.

Delegates were then given the opportunity to provide feedback on the event or any topics they would like to see covered at future LHS events by noting this down on post-it notes contained within their packs. The feedback received included:

‘Very good discussion at Independent Living workshop. Very worthwhile event’.

‘Would like to work with strategic planning to disseminate this information to family carers of those with profound and multiple learning disabilities’.

‘Great day – cannot suggest any improvements’.

‘Excellent – really appreciated the opportunity to be involved in discussions. It has a true Partnership feel to the event. Thank you’.

‘Good mix of stakeholders in the room’.

Presentations

Electronic versions of the PowerPoint Presentations by Elaine Ritchie and Paul Smith will be circulated along with the workshop summaries.

Brian Cowie (CATH) spoke briefly about the challenge for charities to plan ahead when funding cannot be guaranteed as a result of public sector reform. He also spoke about the importance of Health and Social Care Integration and the benefits this can have if good relationships are developed and all agencies are able to work well together to deliver better services.

Peter Jung and Patrick McKay (Turning Point) spoke about the importance that technology can have as a way of supporting people to remain in their own homes. The Housing First Model was also highlighted. This is a model which was developed by Turning Point Scotland in response to high levels of repeat homelessness amongst people with substance misuse problems in Glasgow. It works by providing housing and support to homeless people with multiple and complex needs in independent tenancies without requiring they undergo any programme or treatment beforehand. Tenants are then provided with flexible support in their homes and communities with staff adopting a ‘stickability’ approach to support (during periods of disengagement or times spent in institutional care settings).

Key Discussion Points

Independent Living Priorities and Challenges

- The recent review of housing for people with Mental Health issues indicates that more flexible supported accommodation options are required and it may be that different arrangements are required involving changing the package of care for an individual rather than moving the individual to different accommodation. This would allow support to be more flexible and assist in potentially reducing support in a more staged way.

- The review of housing options for people with mental health problems has also indicated that there is a lack of specialist accommodation and support for at least 10 individuals currently in hospital or inappropriate accommodation.
- Need to have more fully adapted houses in the programme. Larger than design standards for wheelchair users is required since many have larger electric wheelchairs.

Response – it is difficult to match fully adapted housing with need in rural areas. Some of these needs could perhaps be more readily accommodated by making sure houses are more flexible in their design so that specialist requirements could then be met through relatively minor adaptations and technology enabled care.

- Consideration should be given to having extra care housing as in the model in Dundee - care is provided within the development through an 'in house' resource and the number of hours is capped (but within the hours care can be used flexibly between clients).
- Should a responding service be developed to cover what used to require 'sleepover' staff cover?
- Consideration should be given to households with children with disabilities which mean the household needs to move to suitable accommodation – this is not always picked up in the 'system'.
- Address gaps in knowledge of how clients access and progress through the 'housing system'.
- Does Care and Repair assist with small issues such as a wheelchair user replacing a light bulb?
- Experience in getting assistance with adaptation to housing differs depending on the tenure of the house.
- Consideration could be given to best use of adaptations?

Independent Living Best Practice

The following best practice examples were discussed during the workshop session:

- ✓ Involvement of 3rd Sector at a strategic level is welcomed;
- ✓ Core and Cluster models are very successful in meeting the needs of many;
- ✓ Location is crucial for housing to meet needs of PMLD clients – close links with family and services is crucial;
- ✓ Consideration should be given to the accessibility of the wider community in deciding the location for specialist housing;
- ✓ Technology is not just for assistance in caring for older people. Technology enabled care works best the earlier the client starts to use it;

- ✓ Consideration should be given to re-instating trial flats so that clients can 'trial' independent living.

Independent Living Action Plan

The following comments were made regarding the Action Plan for this theme:

- Should there be an action related to transition of 'looked after' young people into housing and making sure that they do get the correct level of support as they progress towards coping with their own tenancy?

Response – there is a target for sustainability of tenancies for 16 – 25 year olds in the Housing and Homelessness section. Perhaps there should be something more specific? Could be covered in actions coming out of floating support review?

- Should there be a target for accommodating people living out of area?

Response – it depends on the reason they are living out of area and whether they do wish to move back.

- Should there be targets for the operation of the Care and repair scheme?
- Numbers for provision of housing for people with dementia, older people etc.

Response – there are no specific action for individual client groups at present

- Actions arising from the review of specialist housing and planning future provision should be incorporated into the action plan
- Targets for technology based care could perhaps take in more than just provision for older people

APPENDIX 1

The delegates who attended the workshop on Independent Living are listed below:

Name	Organisation	Position
Lorna Cameron	Perth & Kinross Council	Interim Director – Housing & Community Safety
Marian Deeney	Scottish Government	Policy Officer – Independent Living
Joy Dunlop	Hillcrest Group	Managing Director – Gowrie Care
Manners Edson	Scottish Autism	Regional Manager
Gillian Edwards	Centre for Inclusive Living	Manager
Paul Edwards	Perth & Kinross Council	Senior Practitioner - Children and Family Services
Paul Henderson	Perth & Kinross Council	Service Manager
Amy Hume	Community Integrated Care	Regional Manager
Peter Jung	Turning Point Scotland	Operations Manager
Hannah Kettles	Perth & Kinross Council	Research Assistant
Callum MacGregor	Capability Scotland	Operations Manager (Upper Springland)
Donna McIntosh	Murray Royal Hospital	Senior Charge Nurse
Eileen McMullan	Perth & Kinross Council	Planning & Commissioning Manager
Avril Alexander Parr	Perth & Kinross Council	OT Team Lead
Maureen Phillip	PAMIS	Tayside Co-ordinator
Marliese Richmond	Perth & Kinross Council	Planning & Policy Officer
Norma Robson	Perth & Kinross Council	Team Leader – Planning & Policy
Paul Smith	Perth & Kinross Council	TEC Development Officer
Gill Sutherland	Vision PK	Client Services Manager
Sally Thomas	NHS Tayside	Clinical Specialist Occupational Therapist – Learning Disabilities
Sandy Watts	Citizen's Advice Bureau	Manager