

Open Report on behalf of Tony McGinty, Interim Director of Public Health

Report to:	Community and Public Safety Scrutiny Committee
Date:	25 January 2017
Subject:	Government Proposals for the Future Funding of Supported Housing

Summary:

Supported and sheltered housing supports tens of thousands of people across the country, including the elderly, homeless and those living with disabilities, to live independently and get their lives back on track. Stable funding for these vital support services reduces pressure on more costly public services like the NHS, saving the taxpayer around £3.5bn per year.

In September 2016, the Departments for Work and Pensions and Communities and Local Government outlined proposals to change the way supported housing is funded. The Government announced that a new system will be introduced in April 2019 and a formal consultation process is currently taking place.

Actions Required:

The Community and Public Safety Scrutiny Committee are invited to consider and comment on the consultation document "Funding for Supported Housing" produced jointly by the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Department for Work & Pensions attached at Appendix A.

1. Background

Lincolnshire County Council currently commissions a range of supported housing services across Adult Care and Community Wellbeing.

Officers will make a presentation to Members outlining the key elements of the new proposals, the key areas covered in the consultation and the impact and action for Lincolnshire.

The consultation will run for 12 weeks until 13 February 2017. A Green Paper on the detailed arrangements for the local top-up model and approach to short-term accommodation will follow in the spring.

In the meantime, LCC will be submitting a formal response to the consultation. This will be done across Adult Care and Community Wellbeing, including

consultation with LCC commissioned service providers, and will be delivered according to the following timeframe;

- 2nd February - draft formal response to senior managers
- 9th February - closing date for comments
- 13th February - submission of formal LCC response

LCC will explore the opportunity, and appetite amongst providers, to become a Development Area (known currently as a "shadow site") which will enable greater influencing on system remodeling.

2. Conclusion

It is expected that there will be a large and strong response across the country from a range of organisations on this complex service area.

Officers are in agreement that LCC need to respond formally to the proposals to ensure supported and sheltered housing has a secure and long-term footing for the vulnerable people of Lincolnshire and Members are invited to input into that response.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

Further work will be required following the release of the Green Paper once a clearer model is forthcoming from this period of consultation.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Funding for Supported Housing – Consultation

5. Background Papers

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Housing: Written Statement HCWS563 by The Minister for Disabled	http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2016-03-01/HCWS563

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
People (Justin Tomlinson) on 01 March 2016	
Housing Benefit: Written statement HCWS154 by The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions (Damian Green) on 15 September 2016	http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2016-09-15/HCWS154/?dm_i=3R33,36VG,11XI0P,9F14,1

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