

Open Report on behalf of Glen Garrod, Executive Director, Adult Care and Community Wellbeing

Report to:	Adults and Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee
Date:	10 April 2019
Subject:	A Memorandum of Understanding to Support Joint Action in Lincolnshire on Improving Health and Wellbeing through the Home

Summary:

The role of housing in achieving and maintaining good health, and the need to connect Housing services with Health and Social Care is well recognised nationally and locally. Lincolnshire's Health and Wellbeing Board has included housing as one of seven priorities in its Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) and established the Housing, Health and Care Delivery Group (HHCDG) to oversee the Housing Delivery Plan.

The HHCDG identified the need to agree a strategic vision with principles and core values for a Lincolnshire approach to working across the Housing, Health and Care sectors. This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) articulates the benefits of collaborative working and creates an opportunity for better understanding of the preventive role that housing can play in achieving good health outcomes and sustaining independence. The Delivery Plan for the Housing Priority of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy is included in the MoU.

The MoU was presented to and well received by the Health and Wellbeing Board on 11 December 2018. A number of partners have already formally signed up to this and others are following due process in order to do so.

Actions Required:

Adults and Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- Review the Memorandum of Understanding in its current format and provide any further comments to support the annual review, which will take place in June.
- Note and comment on the actions within the Delivery Plan which is currently being refreshed by the Housing, Health and Care Delivery Group
- Note and refer to the Memorandum of Understanding when scrutinising other topics to ensure that its principles are embedded within Lincolnshire County Council's activities.

1. Background

The right home environment is essential to good health and wellbeing, throughout life. Our homes are the cornerstones of our lives. We need warm, safe and secure homes to help us to lead healthy, independent lives and to recover from illness. Poor housing increases the risk of ill-health and disease, potentially increasing demand on health and care services.

In 2014 a national Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) called "Joint Action to Improving Health Through the Home" was agreed between a number of government bodies and other key national stakeholders. It shows a shared commitment to action, principles for joint working and a shared action plan. This was updated in 2018, with commitments to:

- Better strategic planning;
- Better understanding of the preventive role of housing;
- Greater collaborative care;
- Better use of resources;
- Improved signposting;
- More shared learning;
- Wider sector engagement.

In March 2017, Lincolnshire's Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) recognised the need for a Strategic Housing Group, establishing the Housing, Health and Care Delivery Group (HHCDG) to bring together a large group of stakeholders from across a range of public sector organisations.

Lincolnshire is one of only 14 (out of 151) Health and Wellbeing Board areas across the country to have a Housing and Health Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) topic. The JSNA information led to housing being included as a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) priority.

This MoU brings a focus to housing, health and care through an agreed set of joint principles and aims. It is based on the national MoU, with slight alterations to make sure it is relevant to Lincolnshire. The Lincolnshire MoU sets out:

- A shared commitment to joint action across local government, health, social care and housing organisations;
- Principles for joint working for better health and wellbeing outcomes, and reducing health inequalities;
- A framework for local organisations and cross-sector partnerships to provide healthy homes, communities and neighbourhoods;
- Conditions for developing integrated and effective services to meet the needs of individuals, carers and families with a range of local stakeholders;
- What shared success might look like.

Whilst it is still early days, nevertheless, since the development of the MoU and the Delivery Plan:

- Attendance at the HHCDG meetings has been very good including a stronger commitment and presence from health colleagues;
- The MoU has provided a framework for driving positive action across partners;
- The MoU and its development has allowed an opportunity to capture progress of the HHCDG during 2018/19 and will enable a yearly report to be created for the HWB;
- 5 members of the HHCDG attended a London conference which resulted in Lincolnshire being asked to speak at a Kings Fund Event on "Progress in a Two Tier Area".

Please see Appendix A – "A memorandum of understanding to support joint action in Lincolnshire on improving health and wellbeing through the home".

2. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

3. Appendices - These are listed below and attached to the report

Appendix A	A Memorandum of Understanding to Support Joint Action in Lincolnshire on Improving Health and Wellbeing through the Home
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4. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Lisa Loy, who can be contacted on 01522 554697 or lisa.loy@lincolnshire.gov.uk

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