

Housing for Independence

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) between

_ LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL "Party A"

and

XXXXXXX COUNCIL "Party B"

This is an agreement between "Party A", hereinafter called The County and "Party B", hereinafter called The District.

I. PURPOSE & SCOPE

The purpose of this MOU is to identify the agreed roles and responsibilities of the partnership approach to an Integrated System of Housing for Independence (Hfi) across Lincolnshire

II. BACKGROUND

The Better Care Fund (BCF) brings together money from a number of health and social care budgets with the aim of ensuring joined-up services that are focused on the individual to help reduce hospital and care admissions, and enable people to return from hospital more quickly. Housing is a key component in identifying suitable solutions to improve outcomes for individuals across Lincolnshire through understanding the relationship between where people live and their health and wellbeing.

In order to ensure the improvements are made and sustained within Lincolnshire an overarching agreement has been negotiated across all eight local authorities through the direct involvement of both local authority tiers working jointly to support integration ambitions as reflected in the DCLG guidance

The governance of this partnership work will be the responsibility of the Housing, Health and Care Delivery Group (HHCDC) through its function as a sub-group of the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board

The main functions of the HHCDC will be to;

- Oversee and update the countywide Memorandum of Understanding;
- Be responsible for the Housing and Health JSNA topic;
- Be responsible for best use of the Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) budget and associated funding from Adult Care and Community Wellbeing
- Agree to support and direct the DFG modernisation of in Lincolnshire;
- Make best use of the performance reporting template to monitor performance and activity related to DFG across Lincolnshire AND report on performance to relevant stakeholders on a regular basis;
- Agree priority work streams to address key housing issues impacting on Lincolnshire, such as delayed transfers of care (DToC);
- Explore future pooled funding arrangements to secure best value for 2018/19.

III. AIM

Through the partnership approach to the Housing for Independence programme we will work together to;

- Understand the unmet and forthcoming need for housing for independence.
- Explore the potential to incorporate housing need into assessment of health and social care need, developing new pathways for defined groups and areas that are not based on adaptation alone.
- Explore partnership with the private sector as well as with the social sector.
- Agree the estate and capital resource that is required and work collaboratively to deliver it.
- Improve knowledge of different parts of the system in all practitioners and improve collaboration including through the provision of training, protocol development and identified contact points.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS MOU

Both parties agree to undertake the following activities:

- Actively participate and contribute to the Moving Forward with DFG Group
- Undertake a DFG Delivery mechanism review to develop a new model for providing housing adaptations across the health, social care and housing system which will build on lessons from previous review work and also refocuses customer expectation.
- Recognise and adhere to the governance provided by the HHCDC
- Contribute to the HHCDC where required
- Provide performance data to the HHCDC through the performance template in a timely manner.
- Report performance and progress to internal governance and scrutiny where required by own local authority
- Provide evidence for Housing and Health JSNA topic where appropriate
- Develop a process to ensure the District DFG backlog is cleared by the start of the 2017/18 period
- Provide progress updates to the HHCDC on their individual activities listed below

Party A agrees to undertake the following activities;

- Provide project leadership and co-ordination for the Moving forward with DFG Group via the Housing for Independence Manager
- Review its Occupational Therapy services role in the DFG process to identify best practice across the county and develop a uniform process that can be adapted to local need by 31 March 2018
- Determine a prioritisation process for OTs to use when assessing cases in time for 2018/19 budget allocation

Party B Agrees to undertake the following activities

- Provide updates to the HHCDC on progress against local improvement projects
- Have active involvement in a Fast Track hospital discharge process from April 17.
- Ensure DFG Fees are at no more than 15% of the District in year allocation

IV. EFFECTIVE DATE AND SIGNATURE

This MOU shall be effective upon the signature of Parties A and B authorized officials. It shall be in force from xx to 31st March 2018.

Parties A and B indicate agreement with this MOU by their signatures.

Signatures and dates

[insert name of Party A]

[insert name of Party B]

_____ Date

_____ Date

DRAFT