

## LINCOLNSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Open Report on behalf of Housing, Health and Care Delivery Group

Report to	<b>Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board</b>
Date:	<b>27 March 2018</b>
Subject:	<b>Housing, Health and Care Delivery Group Update</b>

### **Summary:**

This report provides the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board an update on the progress and actions relating to the Housing, Health and Care Delivery Group.

### **Actions Required:**

The Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note the progress made in this area as outlined in this report update, and to receive further updates in the future.

## **1. Background**

### **Housing, Health and Care Delivery Group**

The purpose of the Housing, Health and Care Delivery Group (HHCDG) is to provide strategic direction and governance to the wider Housing for Independence (Hfi) agenda for Lincolnshire, in an integrated and collaborative manner.

The HHCDG has met three times since it was set up, and each time has had a packed agenda, emphasising the importance of the group in being the strategic link for housing, health and care. A wide range of partners attend the group, the key to success will be when we have a integrated approach with a realisation that its wider than savings to one single budget.

The recently updated Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) identified housing as a priority and work has been undertaken to agree key objectives.

#### Agreed Objectives:

1. Adopt a whole family approach to tackling housing needs;
2. Understand and address housing related delayed transfers of care;
3. Review supported housing arrangements across partners to support vulnerable people with complex presenting needs;
4. Joint action on a housing Memorandum of Understanding across partners;
5. Addressing poor standards of housing and the level of appropriate housing required;
6. Concerted action across partners to tackling homelessness;
7. Ensure people have the financial capability to access and maintain secure housing.

In order to align the above objectives to the JSNA we shall frame them around the commentary:

- Insecure housing and homelessness;
- Unsuitable homes;
- Poor condition housing.

Further work will take place to develop a collaborative joint action plan (with deliverables). We will host a workshop style event in the near future to develop this plan.

#### **Moving Forward with DFGs – Progress to Date**

The Moving Forward with DFGs Group was established and first met in December 2016 this group provides strategic direction to the HHCDG. The principle aim of the group is to modernise the DFG process for the benefit of the end user whilst developing and encouraging a more consistent timely response, during 2017 proactive work has seen the development of a single procurement framework agreed by all 7 districts.

In April 2018 we shall go live with a Mosaic workflow, where all DFG (under the Better Care Fund) will be captured. This is a massive step in the right direction and a clear demonstration of the hard work and commitment of this group. Once DFG Mosaic is live and data is captured it will allow for further improvements based on evidence.

The Moving Forward group remain ambitious and keen to agree the key objectives for the next stage of modernisation. A key action here is to agree the key priorities based on research from Foundations, who are a national company commissioned to help modernise DFGs.

#### Key actions for the Moving forward group:

1. Identify and agree top actions for 2018/19;
2. Plan and agree phase two Mosaic;
3. Proactively promote and communicate with other services areas we do not currently work with – including NHS partners;
4. Celebrate success and promote good practice.

#### **Hospital Housing Link Worker**

In 2017, the number of Delayed Transfers of Care attributed to 'housing' appeared to increase. Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) has funded a Hospital Housing Link Worker, employed by East Lindsey District Council (ELDC), to understand the housing issues

affecting residents of East Lindsey and Boston who are patients at Boston Pilgrim, Skegness and Louth Hospitals.

The Hospital Housing Link Worker has already responded to 18 cases, as of 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018. Each case is complex and there are no easy solutions to individual cases. However, in over half of the cases, the patient was homeless on admission or was not able to return to their last address because they had no legal right to do so or could pose a risk to others. There are also issues regarding communication and accuracy of information.

Initial findings suggest that:

- The new Wellbeing Service may be able to support many of the cases seen;
- Homelessness is a significant issue requiring more multi-agency case management to assess needs and secure appropriate solutions;
- Hospital and housing teams need to better understand and have confidence in each other's systems and processes to find solutions. The Wellbeing Service Hospital In Reach work should help with this;
- The Hospital Housing Link Worker role continues to be needed to provide capacity to understand needs and signpost them in the appropriate direction.

## **Hoarding**

It is recognised the number of cases of hoarding are increasing, and in certain circumstances can lead to a delayed transfer of care (DToC). There is no common countywide approach to hoarding. This leads to a piecemeal, inconsistent approach, and there is no understanding of the scale or impact of hoarding countywide.

A hoarding seminar was held in December 2017. A range of key partners were in attendance. Partners included, but were not limited to, Fire and Rescue, Safeguarding, Adult Social Care, Public Health, District Councils, Environmental health Officers, and Anti-social Behaviour team.

Hoarding has garnered interest in Lincolnshire and there is a strong appetite for a common protocol and guidance. The Hfl Programme Manager is coordinating and seeking to ensure a collaborative approach is agreed. A task and finish group will be held in the spring.

## **Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) Housing and Health topic**

A workshop attended by a range of partners was held in January 2018. The workshop was an opportunity to consider the previous topic commentary and look at any data gaps. Useful discussions were had and a range of actions were agreed by the group. A timeframe for updating and publishing the topic commentary is in place. The topic should be published by June 2018. The commentary will be developed in conjunction with an expert panel.

The topic commentary is currently being drafted up, with updates being made to the data, and national and local policies/guidance.

## 2. Conclusion

The housing agenda is complex and can be hard to navigate. Housing is a very broad topic ranging from bricks and mortar buildings, to adaptations, including wider planning issues and the built environment. These all impact on the residents and vulnerable groups we provide services for. The importance of housing has never been so critical both locally and nationally. It is a high profile subject in central government, highlighted by the renaming of the Department for Communities and Local Government to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government.

The progress we are making locally is an excellent starting point. To date, all partners have worked together on a range of items. However, this is only a start. Collective ambitions, with shared goals and outcomes are the only way further progress will be made. Further building of relationships across a wide range of partners who have common goals are key to realising this. The work of both the HHCDG and Moving Forward with DFG Group will play a major role in this.

## 3. Consultation

None required.

## 4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	HHCDG Terms of Reference

## 5. Background Papers

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

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