

Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Lincolnshire Annual Assurance Report 2022/23

HOUSING AND HEALTH JLHWS PRIORITY

Appendix D

Position Statement

The Housing Health and Care Delivery Group (HHCDG) under the chairmanship of Councillor William Gray continues to oversee a Delivery Plan of actions to meet the objectives for the Housing and Health Priority. These are drawn from the Lincolnshire Homes for Independence Blueprint. Meetings are very well attended by lead councillors and officers from all eight local authorities, with a clear focus and robust discussion on the Delivery Plan actions. A review of membership is in hand following the district council elections. The Health Inequalities lead and the Strategic Estates lead for the NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) have joined the group. Their attendance is enabling new discussions about targeted activity in support of those whose housing circumstances negatively impact on their health. Representation from the NHS provider trusts requires further consideration.

The Lincolnshire Housing and Health Network (LHHN) coordinates action to achieve the Delivery Plan for HHCDG. The Network chair role has recently moved from West Lindsey District Council to South Kesteven District Council. Actions are allocated to subgroups each with a named lead. Most recently the Lincolnshire Housing Standards Group has expanded its remit beyond enforcement of housing standards in the private rented sector. The Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy Partnership under the direction of the Lincolnshire Housing [Homelessness] Partnerships Manager has established four priority action groups (Prevent, Protect, Place and Partnerships) under a Strategic Leads Group.

The Lincolnshire Housing Partnerships Manager is a joint-funded post; other joint-funded roles instrumental in delivering numerous Delivery Plan actions, are:

- The Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes (Housing) Strategic Lead employed by Boston Borough Council. The previous post-holder has moved on and a new officer will commence for 12 months in late June 2023.
- One additional Public Health Analyst was recruited in October 2022 to increase capacity in the Public Health Intelligence Team and begin to improve housing intelligence.

In addition, a service design consultant from ARK Consultancy was engaged and is funded to June 2023 by the Centre for Ageing Better (AB) to explore the model for a Good Home Alliance funded to improve access to services, and potentially for others to adopt across the country.

These resources have accelerated implementation of the HHCDG Delivery Plan. It is recognised that additional resources may be needed to complete an ambitious programme of work.

What we said we would do in 2022/23

Progress on Delivery Plan actions is reviewed at each HHCDG meeting through a report from the LHHN Chairman and more detailed reports from lead officers, identified on a Forward Plan. Key areas of work during 2022/23 included the following:

Develop a Good Home Alliance and Create a One Stop Shop for Equipment, Aids and Adaptations.

This has progressed well. Starting with a significant programme of co-production with Lincolnshire residents, the service design consultant has led the co-development of a Good Home Alliance across Lincolnshire resulting in eight themes to take forward:

0. Access to information and advice.

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1. Healthy home assessment.
2. Energy efficiency/keeping warm.
3. Trusted traders.
4. Financial solutions.
5. Support to commission work.
6. Advice on all options.
7. Practical support.

As part of the Good Home Alliance project, the Centre for Ageing Better have also created a learning network which is comprised of representatives from a number of different local authorities from across the country. The purpose of the learning network is to share best practice and use this to inform the Lincolnshire project, as well as feeding back the work and learning from the Good Home Alliance project in Lincolnshire.

Expand Lincs 4 Warmer Homes (L4WH) to create a comprehensive Home Energy Advice Service.

This was explored by the Greater Lincolnshire Energy Efficiency Network (GLEEN) but has not progressed as initially proposed. The need remains as rises in energy costs and the number of households expected to be in fuel poverty continue to rise. Energy efficiency advice for those who are more susceptible to the cold and who need support to create sustainable warmth is to be progressed as a theme of the Good Home Alliance.

Refresh the Lincolnshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy

This has been completed. The Lincolnshire Housing Partnerships Manager led the refresh through the Strategic Leads Group. The Manager has also represented the homelessness strategy partnership group on a task and finish group established in April to progress the second phase of the Team Around the Adult initiative.

Hoarding Protocol Review

This has progressed well. Following a well-attended multi-agency workshop in June 2022, a small working group has reviewed the protocol and is developing a pilot hoarding support service in the First Coastal Primary Care Network area around Skegness, where the highest proportion of identified hoarders are located. The protocol has been deemed fit for purpose in terms of supporting front line workers to identify the issue and refer people who hoard to a single point. The referrals were made to a Hoarding Advocate post in Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue, funded by Public Health, but this has ended and the postholder has returned to a substantive post. NHS Lincolnshire ICB has provided £120,000 funding to LCC for the pilot service as there has been no widespread service to refer people on to for therapeutic support and/or counselling in addition to clearance services and this will be progressed in 2023/24.

BRE Housing Stock Modelling

This is progressing. HHCDG wishes to maintain a picture of housing conditions across all tenures and to be able to cross-reference this with health and other socio-economic data to establish demand and target interventions more effectively. The Public Health Intelligence Team will fulfil this role. To bring the baseline data up to date we need to recommission the BRE [Building Research Establishment] local authorities' statistical information service. It has been challenging to agree an acceptable cost with BRE. Agreement to co-fund this collectively is being sought.

Leads for each action are now reviewing their actions with the relevant subgroups to ensure desired outcomes are specified and have realistic timelines for completion. Many actions are long-term and LHHN will continue to work with the relevant subgroups to define final outcomes, interim milestones / outputs and define success with these, all set out in the Delivery Plan.

New actions identified in 2022/23 include:

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- Digital-enabled homes
- Consistent approaches to tackling damp and mould issues across all tenures.
- Housing renewal, with a focus on owner occupiers.
- Planned maintenance programmes, improvements, and responsive repairs in social (Registered Provider) housing.

These will be planned into the revised Delivery Plan.

What's Working Well – key Achievements 2022/23

Good Home Alliance and One Stop Shop for Equipment, Aids and Adaptations

The co-production activity has provided a very clear picture of need in Lincolnshire. The co-design group was formed with a number of local residents who worked with the service designer on various aspects of the project. They were able to give insights and feedback in order to help develop several elements of the work, such as the potential design of a homes section on the Connect to Support website and the structure of the Healthy Home Assessment/Housing MOT. Next steps to move forward the eight themes identified have been endorsed by HHCDG and feature in the Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group work plan.

The One Stop Shop for Equipment, Aids and Adaptations and [single point of] access to information and advice will be one and the same. The pathways are Connect to Support Lincolnshire for self-help (with some support from the Lincs 2 Advice Service) and the Adult Care Customer Contact Centre. There is, however, no wrong front door. Services that are part of a Good Home Alliance (e.g., Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue (SHERMAN and fire safety checks) will need to be integral to it). Connect to Support Lincolnshire will have a new area dedicated to the Good Home Alliance as an information repository and will host the Healthy Home Assessment. A programme of workforce development will ensure that those working with people who need support to accessing information receive information from their existing case-workers.

One of the themes identified in the engagement work for the Good Home Alliance project was around the issue of finding trusted tradespeople. Lincolnshire County Council Trading Standards team are implementing the national Trading Standards approved Buy With Confidence scheme in Lincolnshire, which, once established, will help meet this need. Trading Standards colleagues are also supporting with the development of the homes section of the Connect to Support website to ensure that residents can access useful and trustworthy advice on sourcing tradespeople.

HHCDG has supported piloting a Casework and Advice service. Partners are currently scoping this and identifying resources. Other themes will be progressed once the Casework and Advice element has been piloted.

Home Energy Advice Service

The South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership and the Greater Lincolnshire Energy Efficiency Network (GLEEN) have each submitted applications for Government funding to run Local Energy Advice Demonstrator (LEAD) to help inform what is needed and create a long-term solution as part of a Good Home Alliance. The outcome of these bids is awaited.

Lincolnshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy

Following endorsement by HHCDG, the new Lincolnshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy was adopted by all district councils and endorsed by Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) at the end of November 2022. The priority themes have action groups to drive achievement of outcomes. The Prevent action group covers protocols to help ensure certain cohorts of people or people leaving certain settings do not become

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homeless or remain rough sleeping. The Prison Release Protocol has been in place for all of 2022/23 and its effectiveness will be reviewed. Recommendations from the Prison Protocol pilot review carried out by the University of Lincoln will be taken forward. Work has also been carried out to review the roles of TAA, vulnerable adult's panel and appeals panels to ensure consistency and access to accommodation and support. Progress has been made with a protocol for people with no recourse to public funds, including those who also have and are receiving treatment for Tuberculosis, setting out how to deal with individuals who are not entitled to help meeting accommodation costs. Work is continuing on delivering the Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme funding four self-contained units in North Hykeham with the support of £82,000 secured from Homes England. The Housing Advisors Programme funding, including £20,000 from the LGA, will be used to procure a consultant to determine a robust evidence base for specialist accommodation and models across the county. The HHCDG receives regular progress updates throughout the year, including updates on the numbers of people homeless in each District area and the efforts made to provide appropriate accommodation.

Lincolnshire Refugee Resettlement Partnership

Colleagues from North Kesteven District Council have convened and chaired the Lincolnshire Refugee Resettlement Partnership since its inception in 2016/17. Membership includes all 8 local authorities, ICB, Police and DWP. The initial workload has expanded from finding homes for a small number of Syrian refugees to include:

- Support to Hong Kong British Nationals from 2021
- Support to Afghan evacuees from August 2021
- Oversight and assurance regarding asylum contingency hotels from October 2021
- Ongoing support to those fleeing Ukraine from March 2022
- Collective responses to proposals for Dispersed Asylum Accommodation
- Seeking a collective understanding following the Home Office announcement in March 2023 of proposals to use RAF Scampton to house Asylum Seekers

The core considerations for HHCDG include the availability of and pressure on housing supply arising from the range of schemes now in play, alongside local demand and existing homelessness pressures, and the safety and compliance of larger-scale housing provision. Partners have gained a wealth of knowledge in a short period of time to be able to assure themselves regarding the health and safety of those accommodated, those working with them and the wider community. This is enabling a 'check and challenge' to new proposals as these emerge.

Extra Care Housing and Specialist Adults Accommodation

Effective collaboration between partners has enabled the following schemes to progress:

- North Kesteven District Council submitted a planning application for The Hoplands on Friday 17 March 2023. This proposed development will feature 40 extra care apartments for older people and 12 community supported living units for working age adults with a disability. Should planning be approved and the required funding awarded, it is proposed the scheme will commence construction towards the end of 2023.
- Prebend Lane, Welton is a partnership with LACE Housing and West Lindsey District Council. This obtained planning approval and was awarded the required funding to support development in March 2023. Construction has started with completion anticipated in December 2024. The development will feature 62 one-bedroom apartments for older people and 10 bungalows available for shared ownership.

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- Grange Farm, Market Rasen is a partnership with ACIS Group and West Lindsey District Council. This achieved Executive approval from Lincolnshire County Council in April 2023. Partners are working to develop plans and submit listed building consent ahead of construction commencing in summer 2023. The development will see the refurbishment of Market Rasen House, a former foyer in the centre of Market Rasen to provide 10 self-contained apartments with access to on-site care and support for working age adults with a disability. Alongside providing the specialist housing, Grange Farm will offer a potential social enterprise opportunity. This will focus on delivering learning and independence skills through growing produce and caring for animals.
- Options to deliver possible opportunities within Boston, Spalding, and Horncastle are being explored. The current volatile construction industry and inflationary pressures are impacting Registered Providers capacity to deliver further schemes at this time.

What is the outcome?

The aim of the HHCDG is for people to live independently, stay connected and have greater choice in where and how they live. The needs of those with health and care needs, and those for whom the normal housing market does not routinely cater, are considered in the Lincolnshire Homes for Independence blueprint:

- Children and young people, including children with disabilities, childhood asthma and looked after children leaving care.
- Working-age adults with mental health needs, dementia, learning disabilities, and autism.
- Older adults.
- Homeless people.
- People who hoard.
- Domestic abuse victims.
- Unpaid and family carers.
- Armed Forces personnel and veterans.

Other groups identified through the Inclusion Health and Health Inequalities agendas and Refugee Resettlement may also need consideration going forward, including:

- Gypsies and Travellers.
- People in contact with the criminal justice system.
- Farmers.
- Vulnerable migrants.

We want to better understand needs and opportunities (improve the evidence base) through continual improvement of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) on:

- Homelessness
- Housing standards, and
- Unsuitable homes.

Delivery outcomes are that the above cohorts of people are either supported to remain living in their current home or people are helped to find and move to a suitable home where they can stay safe and well, warm and connected to other people. In each case it is about maintaining the greatest level of independence possible and reducing demand for care, residential care, and nursing homes. Reducing the need for GP visits, medication, Accident and Emergency attendances, hospitalisation, repeat admission and/or longer stays in hospital than necessary that are associated with housing issues are other positive secondary outcomes.

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HOUSING AND HEALTH JLHWS PRIORITY - PLANS FOR 2023/24

Action	How will we know it's working?	Relevant Strategy / Action Plan	To be delivered by	Lead Organisation	Lead Officer
We will review the evidence base and develop analysis to maintain an up-to-date picture of demand for homes with care and support and preferred locations and clarify the priorities for future investment	Accessing resources to support with data gathering; ability to link demand with care and support and delivery; by publishing an extra care housing delivery programme	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Greater Lincolnshire Affordable Housing Group; Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Greater Lincolnshire Affordable Housing Group	Chair of the Greater Lincolnshire Affordable Housing Group
We will make a strong case for investment in housing to reduce health and care costs	Understand any reduction in care costs through housing initiatives; by understanding and mapping local services that support independence; greater understanding of any gaps in service and national best practice; the creation of a business case for preventative intervention; development of a HHCDG communication plan	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group; Good Home Inquiry Steering Group	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Chair of the Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group
We will improve our understanding of housing conditions in Lincolnshire, the impact on physical and mental health, and the potential cost of poor housing to health, care and society	Greater understanding of housing conditions in Lincolnshire, the impact of poor condition homes; completion of a health impact assessment and a targeted plan to mitigate health impacts of poor condition homes; greater knowledge of extent of damp/mould issues and indoor air pollution	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group; Lincolnshire Housing Standards Group	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Chair of the Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group
We will maximise the financial resources available to tackle poor	Measure the impact of improved housing standards on those with specific health conditions;	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group;	Lincolnshire Healthy and	Chair of the Lincolnshire Healthy and

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Action	How will we know it's working?	Relevant Strategy / Action Plan	To be delivered by	Lead Organisation	Lead Officer
housing standards and ensure they are effectively targeted	development of interventions to support energy efficiency; implementation of a discretionary housing assistance policy; consideration of other sources of financial support such as ethical equity release		Greater Lincolnshire Energy Efficiency Network (GLEEN)	Accessible Homes Group	Accessible Homes Group
We will make best use of enforcement powers available across different organisations to target criminal landlords	Development of a protocol between districts and Trading Standards; broaden protocol relating to HMOs to all housing	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Lincolnshire Housing Standards Group	Lincolnshire Housing Standards Group	Chair of Lincolnshire Housing Standards Group
We will facilitate quality, choice, and diversity of housing for people with care and support needs	Provision of universal housing advice across all services; improvement of housing and hospital interface	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Chair of the Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group
We will achieve a proportional move towards maximising independence for working-age adults and older people needing care	Implementation of the Specialist Adult Accommodation Strategy; development of the Accommodation Sourcing Subgroup; review of hoarding protocol and development of pilot service	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Chair of the Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group
We will address the underlying causes leading to homelessness whilst still providing appropriate support and housing for those who need it	Development of a joint agency protocol for those with no recourse to public funds	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy Partnership	Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy Partnership	Chair of the Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy Partnership

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Action	How will we know it's working?	Relevant Strategy / Action Plan	To be delivered by	Lead Organisation	Lead Officer
We will increase units of single person accommodation to house those who would otherwise be sleeping rough	Development of proposals and bids for the Single Homeless Accommodation Programme; delivery of the Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy Partnership	Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy Partnership	Chair of the Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy Partnership
We will strengthen healthcare inclusion services for homeless people across the county	Embed VCS services in mainstream inclusion health services; development of support services for vulnerable people; continue and embed NHS and mental health support following Everyone In	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy Partnership	Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy Partnership	Chair of the Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy Partnership
We will ensure services to support people to remain living in their current home complement each other as a system-wide approach	Recruitment of Lincolnshire Strategic Lead; exploration of potential of digital equipment by consideration of combining DFG resources	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Chair of the Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group
We will develop a seamless, customer-friendly 'one-stop shop' to deliver cost effective services with the person at the centre	Exploration of the role of the Wellbeing Service; continuation of work to potentially deliver a Good Home Alliance; creation of a one stop shop for aids and equipment; pilot stairlift delivery via LCES, development of a Housing MOT; development of a consistent approach to damp and mould issues across all tenures	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group; Lincolnshire Housing Standards Group; Good Home Inquiry Steering Group	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Chair of the Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group
We will make best use of digital technologies to enable homes for life	Greater understanding of the support offered by digital enabled homes	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Chair of the Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group

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Action	How will we know it's working?	Relevant Strategy / Action Plan	To be delivered by	Lead Organisation	Lead Officer
We will influence delivery of new-build housing to provide greater choice of homes with care and support across all tenures	Influencing local land plan to support housing needs; development of a new build programme to support independence, incorporating extra care, consideration of mechanisms to offer design and build opportunities to those with disabilities and complex needs	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Greater Lincolnshire Affordable Housing Group	Greater Lincolnshire Affordable Housing Group	Chair of the Greater Lincolnshire Affordable Housing Group
We will support more people with care and support needs to access social and private rented homes	Review of working practices between organisations; investigate the feasibility of establishing a Social Letting Agency	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group	Chair of the Lincolnshire Healthy and Accessible Homes Group
We will provide more extra care housing of different levels to meet demand	Progress the extra care housing and build out schemes	Homes for Independence Blueprint	Greater Lincolnshire Affordable Housing Group	Greater Lincolnshire Affordable Housing Group	Chair of the Greater Lincolnshire Affordable Housing Group

Disabled facilities grant (DFG) delivery. The publication of new Government guidance on delivery of DFGs and use of the Better Care Fund for discretionary housing assistance provides a new opportunity for a systematic review of how services are delivered between districts that leads to a consistent approach across the county.

Discretionary housing assistance policy. District councils and the County Council developed a discretionary housing assistance policy to use Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) funding flexibly to meet related needs for individuals. Whilst this is not yet a common policy across all seven District Councils, it has provided a framework to build on.

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