



The Chartered Institute of Housing

HOUSING 2011 CONFERENCE



Housing 2011 Session Information

Working through... supported housing

Supported housing provides services that bring considerable benefits to individuals at times of crisis, or if they need ongoing support. A critical element is the preventative nature of the services, avoiding the escalation of problems, such as readmission to hospital or repeat experiences of homelessness. This also results in significant savings to other public services, such as hospitals, health, social care and community safety.

KEY FACTS

- £4.5bn capital investment in housing will be provided through the affordable rent framework to achieve the ambition for 150,000 homes by 2015 – a difficult context for the supply of new supported housing.
- Investment of £6.5bn for the years 2011-2015 was committed by government to supporting people services in England, in the last Spending Review.
- No inflationary uplift to the funding was given, meaning a reduction in real terms but still a level of protection to funding at the national level.
- From April 2011, funding for housing support services was included in the formula grant made to local authorities – this grant is subject to a reduction of 26% (2011-15).
- Reductions in local authority areas have been significantly higher as a result of those constraints, including some areas with cuts of 50-60%.



The Chartered Institute of Housing

HOUSING 2011 CONFERENCE



Housing 2011 Session Information

BACKGROUND

The Supporting People Programme from 2003 introduced a new framework for supported housing that:

- led to a strong strategic approach to planning services locally
- encouraged a culture of continuous self assessment and improvement of services
- encouraged involvement of residents to review and shape the services they receive
- introduced an efficiency and value for money agenda from the outset
- provided evidence of the significant savings that services deliver to other public sector agendas – such as police and probation, health, social care – demonstrating the preventative nature of these services.

From 2009, funding for these services was unringfenced in the area based grant, meaning local authorities had more freedom in how it was used.

From 2011, the funding has been included in the general grant made to local authorities.

UPDATE

The challenges ahead: personalisation, payment by results and prevention.

Personalisation remains a key driver behind the Government's approach to public services – to increase choice and control – and their preferred mechanism is through direct payments. This challenges viability for some supported housing. The sector will need to continue to develop responses in discussion with commissioners.

Payment by results has been in operation in some areas of public service delivery, and ways to extend it to services for vulnerable groups is being explored. DCLG is working with a number of local authorities to look at a range of possible systems and potential impacts.

Supported housing provides valuable preventative services that save money for other public services. The challenge is to demonstrate the preventative value to partners, e.g. in public health and social care, by directly addressing the outcomes frameworks that will shape commissioning decisions made by these partners – and also potential new partners in health (potentially new GP consortia from 2013).

OTHER INFORMATION

Data collection by DCLG will cease soon. Sitra has a consultation to develop a sector-led approach to collecting evidence and demonstrating the value (closes 11th July): www.sitra.org/spdataconsultation/

CIH and LGID report on making strategic decisions on services changes: www.cih.org/policy/fpp-supportinpeeps-Dec10.pdf

CIH Housing Health and Support hub, a forum for everyone in the sector to access information, ideas and to exchange comments and thoughts: www.practicehub.cih.co.uk/

CIH Practice online, a tool for CIH members and subscribing organisations, has a chapter dedicated to supported housing: www.cih.org/practice/online/



Follow the latest on Twitter [#housing2011](https://twitter.com/housing2011)