**Cambridge sub-Regional Housing Board (CRHB)**

Meeting at:

Swansley Room, SCDC offices, Cambourne  
9.30am – 12.30am, Friday 3 November 2017

**DRAFT NOTES**

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| 1. Present and apologies | |
| **Present**   * David Keeling, CA interim director of housing * Dan Horn, Fenland * Simon Phelan, West Suffolk * Mary Gibbons, Hundred Houses, CA/NHF RP rep (communities) * Helen Reed, Cambridge City * Caroline Hannon, Peterborough & Huntingdonshire * Lynne O’Brien, Cambs County * Heather Wood, South Cambs * Sarah Ferguson, assistant director; housing , communities & youth, Cambs County / Peterborough * Iain Green, Cambs & Peterborough public health * Nigel Howlett, CHS, RP rep * Alan Lewin, CA/NHF RP rep (chair of “Homes for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough” forum) | * Sue Beecroft, CRHB (notes) * Elaine Field * Chris Evans HMP Peterborough * For Northstowe item: Tom Archer & Iain Wilson (Sheffield-Hallam University) * For DAHA item: Vickie Crompton, CCC with Caroline Mackechnie-Jarvis & Sharon Crosby (DAHA / Standing Together)   **Apologies**   * Stephen Hills, South Cambs - chair * Richard O'Driscoll (Lynne O in his place) * Alex Francis, GCGP LEP |
| Draft minutes of October were approved and are available at [www.cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/housing/crhb](file:///\\MH_SHARED_SERVER\SHARED\MH\DATA\Strategic%20Housing%20Team%20Plans%20and%20info\Sue%20Beecroft\Housing\CRHB%20papers\2014\Nov%202014\www.cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk\housing\crhb) | |

| 2. Review of actions from previous meetings | Lead | Done |
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| **Actions from June 2017 CRHB** |  |  |
| Withdrawal of funding to HIAs: DH suggested revenue funding was to be reinvested in early help. Think it might be going into the HOOP model (£300K). Dan is investigating how this is being ported across and will feed back to CRHB his findings. Updated at Nov CRHB (see note under item 3). | DH | ✓ |
| * **Update at Nov meeting:** Some of the money is being re-invested; there is a trial of this in SCDC. There is a county-wide HIA group meeting run by Trish Reed, each HIA is required to work with its local authority (s) as part of Better Care Fund (BCF). Covers Cambs, Peterborough invited, but not West Suffolk. Group is working on a draft DFG policy; integrated commissioning board wants a report on this and info on how HIAs are funded. |  |  |
| Follow-on action (Nov): Bring report on DFG policy to Dec 2017 or Jan 2018 CRHB, linking to Trish Reed’s county-wide HIA working group | HR |  |
| Yaxley had a cost neutral system for DFGs on a new development site. Sarah Ireland to ask Azhar at Cross Keys for any info can be shared on this. SB drafting a case study and some guidance notes to explain the current regulations. | SB | Pg1 done, pg2 in progress |
| Agreed would be good to look at the position of the affordable rent product across the CA / sub-region. Also who moves in to new growth sites? Work up 2 proposals with CSHG and County, invite Anita Howard Nov / Dec | Anita invited for Dec | On Dec agenda |
| Pooled viability teams –Dan Horn is pursuing progress on this project. Draft note to be shared once gone back to Housing Taskforce (see item 3 note) | DH & SH |  |
| * **Update at Nov meeting:** Note is going to Housing Taskforce. Sets out various ways to go about viability assessment to bring more consistency and a similar level of scrutiny. Will then circulate more widely, including to CRHB. | DH |  |
| **Actions from September 2017 CRHB** |  |  |
| Adam Broadway offered to make a link when talking about SLAs for utilities. Cambridge HDA looking at a MoC for strategic work in infrastructure provision. Might be more than HDA - county involved. Good to include Network Rail | Who to progress now Adam has moved on? |  |
| **Actions from October 2017 CRHB** |  |  |
| HCA follow up from Aug meeting: SB to try to get map showing HCA regions | SB | Circ |
| County’s homelessness review  JV and TR to meet and talk about how the Suffolk approach works.  Sarah Gove is doing some work on what is happening and when – SB to ask if there is something she can share. | JV, TR  SG, SB |  |
| Housing and offenders  Suffolk has “one gateway” - Julia to send to Heather Wood  Ask Homelessness trailblazer team to bring progress back to Nov meeting, and they can help us discuss whether one area needs to be prioritised over another. | JV  SG / HW | Done |
| £3m for learning disabilities in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Sarah F will go back to Will Patton to link with partners at CRHB | SF / Will Patton |  |
| Devolution update: SB send David a link to the CSDG | SB | Sent |
| Housing white paper: Stephen / David will draft some high level themes – suspect all will do individual as well. | DK | Done |
| Diamond-o-gram progress: Want to do a masterclass, possibly a half day event, after Xmas. Can put to group before that. Will help see range of needs and products to fill gaps. | SH / SB |  |
| Please all use the CRHB meeting planner when scheduling meetings | All | Link on CI |

|  | Item |
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| 3. | **Last meeting’s notes** |
|  | Agreed as they are |
|  | Follow-on discussion about supported housing  Prompted by update from Lynne about post at county council for housing / support officer (to be recruited), Nigel H mentioned govt consultation on supported housing. Consultation now “out”. There is a renewed plan by varying levels of detail. Implementation form 2020. No mention of how process will be funded. Proposes 3 categories of supported housing:   * Long term accommodation, 2 years plus * Sheltered and extra care – rent linked to formula of rent plus a d percentage plus cost of services * Short term supported – less than 2 years and move-on. Suggest continues as at present to organisations bid for a lump of ringfenced cash.   Nigel suggested we need to brief our MPs on the implications and impact. Heidi Allen and Daniel Zeichner have been very actively involved.   * **Can we assess sub-regional impacts? SB can look at latest HCA SDR for costs of general needs vs supported housing. Lynne O’B may be able to contribute some info from an existing review of impact of change across different providers. Bring back to January CRHB** |
| 4. | **Homelessness update**, including homelessness reduction act and progress on Trailblazer - Heather Wood (SCDC) |
|  | Slides available on Cambs Insight page, here <http://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/housing/crhb>  Homelessness reduction bill  Massive shift in homelessness legislation and massive culture shift for many districts. Many local LAs have a prevention ethos but still have to change the way the issue is approached.  Does not address the lack of genuinely affordable accommodation. Supply of the right kind of homes is the key.  Need an in-depth housing plan, built with partners and support agencies.  Pretty sure the Act will mean more staff needed, level of estimate varies between LAs.  What are we doing?  FDC lead partner, pulling together range of agencies and partners to prevent homelessness by trialling new ways of working  (Positive feedback from CLG on the strength of partnership working at a trailblazer meeting last week, where HW and Sarah Gove attended)  New Act comes into place in April. Need to review policies and procedures, update websites, get staff trained etc. on new requirements.  Need new homeless reviews and strategies.  Can CRHB help priorities the pathways most needed, or ones where most need, or ones not in right format, so we help take a strategic view on what’s missing.  Big piece of work with RSLs as providers- obviously financial constraints, rent restrictions etc., make it hard to deliver. But still need supply of affordable housing for very vulnerable, finding that increasingly RPs are asking for more rent in advance and refusals of successful bids because may be on UC and affects viability of that customer. It’s a concern of the homelessness strategy group and the trailblazer board.  Q & A  IG – homelessness JSNA in 201 0 – also victim and offenders – do you need these updating? Offenders now updated recently, highlights some of the pathways are not there. Do we need more data or an update on jsna data?  Would be good to talk over (Action; HW and IG to discuss). However timing is critical so if needed by April won’t be a full JSNA, need to think about scope etc. (SF). Can do a quick focussed update?  Act sets out homelessness review requirements – do LAs need to do these individually or can we pull into the SHMA? (section 2.16 in act). Can we do that collectively?  Trailblazer meeting on 15 Nov, then homelessness group meeting same day. Suffolk is invited along, could pick up on this data aspect. Could take this up and look at priority list of protocols. What are the tasks – what can we do better together?  SF – don’t just go for data and protocols, go for all the Act requirements  Care leavers in Fenland might be a cause of geographical focus. Could this be part of the SHMA work? Maybe under a different label?  People loosing ASTs = big cause of homelessness. Universal Credit in Peterborough looks like it will have a big impact (SF). RPs may be reluctant because of UC – how is TB working with people making decision son UC and temp housing payments (not sure of working – discretional housing payments etc. – challenge of talking with DWP.  UC is a big problem, if you house someone who can’t afford a rent it will be a problem. If LHA cap does not apply to social housing in the future, but not sure how this related to UC (NH). Guess LAs have to talk to RPs about the issues, may need to widen what AH actually is i.e. if UC has an impact which can’t be bridged.  Heather W - how to do this. Officers collect anecdotal evidence and issue which need addressing with individual RSLs, then with forum to see what might be practical to address. If not inherent in policy we can maybe overcome it? And if is, feed back to govt?  SF – how do we intervene with vulnerable people – esp if new expectations under the new Act. Need to think differently about our resources, along lines of the troubled families programme. What skills are we looking for and are we developing?  HW – Sean is on Tb group – need to think about staffing implications – maybe need to review the TB bid and skills it covers, to get the right skill set.  (I mentioned the Trailblazer funds cover some of these issues but maybe needs to adapt.  **SF – action to send round some of the lead professional role examples**  SF - Don’t want to be fighting each other for staff! Partly where we target the recruitment – might need to work together and be creative as orgs individually and collectively.  Can we link with apprenticeships? Southwark has used apprenticeships, including people with 1st hand experience of homelessness  DH – MOU went to PSB late September, could of tiny amends, will launch on Insight website – then invite other orgs to add names to it  **SB – set up page on CI**  PSB wants progress check in autumn next year, will there be some service transformation examples and talk to LGA about whether LAs need to think differently  Have built up the mind-set with Together for Families, which the trailblazer will build on. Credit to all partners.  DHP – would be good to see if LAs are doing this consistently – different teams may be using differently – could be good to investigate across the area. Pathways – should TB staff look at pathways and improve? Could do for prison relationship and for care leavers. May be others.  Need to make sure the TB work also focusses on the outputs from the bid. There are strong links but need to ensure all gets covered. Need to check on balance of time.  DH - Be careful don’t lose sight of bid stuff vs protocol requirement. IT – have spent some money on TB service – HCLICK is the new system. Dan chasing CLG on this.  **Heather Wood to link to Financial Capability Forum**  **Understanding of possible new SHMA / related work (SB)**  **JD skillset / difficult interactions (SF and DH)**  **DH to amend and circulate protocol MOU**  **DHP – consistency investigation** |
| 5. | **Northstowe healthy town research** Tom Archer & Iain Wilson (Sheffield-Hallam University) |
|  | Older peoples housing – more specialists housing thru to age exclusive and designated housing, in the Greater Cambridge area.  Relation between housing, health and social care. Insight to resident preferences and perceptions. Looks at tenure split as well as type of supported housing needed.  Interlinked system of provision also important, not just calculation of number of units needed.  How does HOOP project impact on other parts of the system i.e. good advice may mean impact on demand for specialist housing.  Do our interventions help delay move into care e.g. via HIA work, DFGs etc?  Planning barriers may be at national policy level but might be some issues to tackle locally.  Numbers and where / how you intervene is work to be added.  Q&A  NH Why such big differences form SHOP@?  This model does more about perceptions of residents rather than “where they want to live” themselves.  As you change levels of supply, ex care may become more dominant and model would be reviewed to show that / react to it - e.g. you might think more ex care per person than e.g. sheltered, as it becomes more popular.  SHOP@ may be more idealistic, where Sheffield a bit more practical as based on what is happening now.  Overall numbers are relatively similar; it’s more about how you deal with the need. Use the 2 together to give confidence?  DH - what about the Smith delay of 4 years via health and social care support. Hard to identify locally but not easy to quantify.  Early help team to try to stop the need arising through h prevention. Might affect the modelling results.  Extra care ownership is a VERY limited supply. Possibly more demand once there is more of it (like mobile phones!).  Can the report help us make the case to central govt to get more adapted / specialist/ higher standard housing?  Can we use our partners and JVs and LHCs to fill the gap?  Northstowe healthy towns meeting – will need to sign off the report.  Link to older peoples steering group. Might be coming to a close and work split between partners.  Need to pull the groups together e.g. OPAS, Ex care strategy group, NS healthy town group / steering group – variety of partners – once they agree report will be made available to all of us to use, and nationally useable.  Also an excel based model from the work. Required by NHS who funded it.  DK – CA wants to support development of older peoples housing across the area and can make intervention to support that. Work to bring best practice and to use consistent methodologies people at CRHB have confidence in, will be supported. Would help CA make strategic interventions.  Don’t share slides yet. NS healthy town steering group will say once it’s ready. |
| 6. | **Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) update** - Vickie Crompton / Caroline Mackechnie-Jarvis / Sharon Crosby (DAHA / Standing Together) |
|  | Sharon and Caroline job share  Started in post late September, will have in post till end Sept 2018.  Opportunity to share contacts and see how they can support CRHB and individual organisations.  Have been visiting housing orgs in the area, finding methods of the housing providers and their policies etc.  Found out about Gentoo’s work with perpetrators, and the importance of staff / employee experiences in the area. Can bring the experience in, locally.  Links with women’s aid, dv sexual violence forum, East of England housing assn. group, Cambs hsg advice strategy meeting.  Emailed the LAs and many of the major housing associations. Some interested in accreditation.  DV bill coming out shortly, With homelessness reduction act makes a strong prevention culture.  DV is a big reason for both perpetrators and victims to be made homeless.  DAHA has developed an online toolkit where you can log on and see the standards in place. Give a good understanding of the accreditation.  Lots of good practice examples over 8 areas.  It costs 3000 to get accredited, get a 3 year charter mark. But think it saves more than not doing it! Can still attend free workshops even if don’t go for the accreditation.  Can use the best practice to improve your org regardless of the accreditation aspect. Cambs & Peterborough coverage.  Mary – contact at local police – very keen to tackle as high area of spend –  Partnership meeting next week  Want to join up with trailblazers  Events where 2 ladies could come and speak would be good to raise consciousness.  HW good link with homelessness strategies etc. has to be in the strategy, want to tackle this under new act. Good opportunity to make this as robust as possible.  What can we (CRHB) do to help?   * Marketing * Talk to people about the project * Would like senior buy-in   Link to CRHB’s key priorities and targets  Materials – presentations, community safety partnerships, main RPs etc.  **Action – Send materials to Sue who will (a) send round to CRHB members with reminder to promote, and (b) add to CI pages for housing**  Will be key issue for CIH in coming year.  **Mary – HA group in CA area works on communities issues, good to get DV team along to a meeting (action for Mary)**  SF – what to CRHB members need to do to make this part of our core business?  There is a pilot project we home will be replicated across the county. Want to link people together. Helping make contact with other workers who help each other.  Within own agency, if people have a senior lead or champion or a steering group on DV would be helpful to provide that info to the project , Sharon / Caroline, to help embed it in each org.  Cover all aspects of housing but DAHA is also recruiting a person who will specialise in private housing – S and C will cover both LA and RP housing.  **Action: Quarterly update to CRHB as project ends in Sept 2018. (CM-J, SC, VC)**  CRHB wants to offer help to overcome barriers in addition to the quarterly updates to the meeting.  Recommend use Mary’s group as get directors there, will help get successful outcomes as nice senior level.  **Sue – send Heather’s slides to DAHA project team** |
| 7. | **AOB** |
|  | Response to CLG consultation on housing need  CA has drafted a very high level response but no detail.  Not needed form CRHB |
|  | Alan and affordable rent discussion form Oct 2017  CHS and JRF on living rents, Diamonds. Event in new year – Jan HA meeting 24th Jan could link these pieces of work. Nigel happy.  Can then include in CA first housing strategy by end of March 2018  **SB to talk to Stephen about this** |
| 8. | **Future meeting dates**  1 Dec 2017:   * Strategic Economic Plan, economic commission and LEP update - **deferred** * Possible item on prisons and housing – difficulties Chris is encountering * Anita Howard and new development surveys   *Elaine will be sending round proposed 2018 appointments soon. Thank you to CHS for offering premises* |