



Cambridge sub-Regional Housing Board (CRHB)

NOTES

Swansley Room, SCDC offices, Cambourne
9.30am – 12.30pm, Friday 8th June 2018

1. Present, apologies and previous notes

Present

- Stephen Hills (SH), South Cambs (chair)
- Sue Beecroft (SB), CRHB
- Sarah Ferguson (SF), housing , communities & youth, Cambs County / Peterborough
- Julie Fletcher (JF), South Cambs
- Suzanne Hemingway (SHm), Cambridge City
- Caroline Hannon (CH), Peterborough & Huntingdonshire
- Dan Horn (DH), Fenland
- Nigel Howlett (NH), CHS, RP rep
- Helen Reed (HR), Cambridge City
- Heather Wood (HW), South Cambs
- Elaine Field (EF), South Cambs (notes)

- Rachel Leslie
Project Implementation Manager - Staying Close,
Staying Connected, Break Charity
- Julia Vernon
Project Implementation Manager - Staying Close,
Health, Wellbeing and Children's Service
Directorate, Suffolk County Council

Apologies

- David Greening, Cambridge City
- Lynne O'Brien, Cambs County
- Julie Baird, West Suffolk
- Simon Phelan, West Suffolk

Previous notes:

Page 3, AOB item. SH proposed that Suzanne Hemmingway, Strategic Director, Cambridge City Council take the role as Chair of this meeting from August, and that Sarah Ferguson remain as Vice Chair. The board agreed this arrangement can go forward. West Suffolk board members (not in attendance) have been emailed with the proposal with no objection at this stage.

SHm mentioned the valuable contribution Stephen Hills had contributed to the board, during his time as Chair.

The remainder of the actions will be dealt with by SB and SH in their catch up following this meeting.

Draft notes of June were approved and are available at: www.cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/housing/crhb
Review of previous meetings' actions can be found at the end of these minutes.



2. Staying Close

Rachel Leslie and Julia Vernon presented on Staying Close, Staying Connected which is a partnership between Break Charity, Norfolk County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council. The aim is to change the way young care leavers are supported, by putting a framework around young people as they leave residential care that will dramatically transform their outcomes. The project will focus on young people from Cambridgeshire and Norfolk but it is hoped that it will become nationally recognised as best practice in residential care leaver support.

Break is an East Anglian charity which has a proven track record in supporting young people leaving their children's home placement through the Moving On Team. This team was set up by Break seven years ago to provide lifelong support to every young person who had lived in one of the charity's children's homes. Two years ago this scheme was developed to include a *Moving On House*, where young people could live, and be supported to live independently. This service has proved incredibly successful, with young people moving on to their own accommodation, and it is on this service that the Staying Close, Staying Connected model is based.

Rachel discussed some of the issues and concerns around young people leaving care. There are eight projects in this region and the government want to roll this out nationally. The service provides support with relationships, education and training; helping to reduce failed tenancies and to integrate young people into the community.

The board then watched a short film of young people describing their experience of support from Staying Close, and how it had helped them. The board discussed the content and how people of this age behave usually, recognising that they would need more than just housing advice.

Rachel continued that there are 8 children's homes and a foster service, the charity is 50 years old, with 50 shops. Moving on service has been running for 9 years. From 15 onwards and supported children through life. Still supported when older, over half are over 25. Pilot house set up 2 years ago. Looking at supporting 70 young people over 2 years (Cambs and Norfolk). Young people have access to the moving on project for the rest of their life.

Julia Vernon then presented and discussed Staying Put. This model works with adolescent homes and private homes. Early intervention work from the age of 15, moving towards release at age 18. This is for those from children's homes who wish to remain in Suffolk (have to negotiate with the placement Authority for funding). There is a challenge for Suffolk staff, in that this service offers 10 hours per week to support a young person, on average.

Properties used are identified by Housing Associations and District Councils (possibly private owners). Now trying to build links with District Councils.

We cannot rely on social housing and need to look at future housing needs after the initial housing placement. Shared housing may be the only option (unless student accommodation). Setting expectation early (perhaps in shared housing for a decade). Being realistic as to what is affordable.

Staying Close would appreciate CRHB in advising of available housing and what the challenges are (strategic thinking and planning ahead, being proactive rather than reactive) and to spread the word of Staying Close, Staying Connected. Perhaps be included in Section 106 needs, housing for this purpose? The board discussed and asked questions (especially about very difficult young people, criminal activity, etc). Staying Close carry



out risk assessments and also work with the Police.

Could bring back to CRHB once the project is more advanced. Staying Close ask that CRHB consider them and have them involved in conversations on this subject. Action: identify when would be a good time to return to the Board.

3. Homelessness Trailblazer

Heather Wood (HW) discussed the Trailblazer project, and asked that it is used as much as possible over the region. Working with sub regional homeless needs. Gill Leng is taking work forward on criminal justice area and is pulling together a report, focussing on areas of good practice. Task and finish group meeting in a couple of weeks' time, there will be actions in place for people with key areas of expertise.

Want to identify national resources and any gaps. Universal credit may bring issues for young offenders.

There is a Community Safety Partnership Board meeting on 18 July. Gill will be presenting, and SF will attend (the Police and Crime Commissioner requested a CRHB representative). Helen Browne presented at CSPB previously which was well received.

SF mentioned the substance abuse delivery board, where homelessness is a priority. And need to improve the link between those who substance abuse and housing needs. Young offenders' work may apply to substance abuse groups too. Pathway may be similar. The board discussed. Might make Trailblazer protocol more generic (part of task and finish group?). Question is will this apply to other young persons' vulnerable groups?

SH added that the project is going well and very is productive.

4. Vulnerable Persons Housing Group

SH mentioned minutes of the Vulnerable Persons Housing Group dated 1 November 2017, where it was mentioned that CRHB could take on a role of co-ordinating the issue of vulnerable persons. SH added that a sum of money will sit with the County Council and that a statutory roll out will be via the County. What roll can CRHB bring in co-ordinating? Although not a commissioning group - the board discussed.

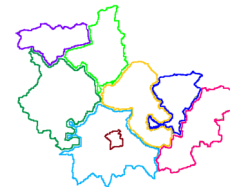
SF added that once guidance is received regards supported housing funding, we can then engage a commissioning strategy around that work. Short term we can think about housing related support and funding, there are challenges around budget therefore need to talk to providers and partners (workshops will be held in the next two to three weeks to discuss) as to how (and where) we can make efficiencies in the next two or three months. The next phase will be 'what is our strategy building up to 2020?'

Would be good for CRHB to facilitate a workshop to look at what works and what is affected and suggest we could devote some time in July meeting to look at this (subject to availability of Lisa Sparks from SF team at the County Council). To discuss how CRHB role as a board will influence other groups. Waiting for further government announcements, there is a publication deadline of April 2019 for district strategies. There are various vulnerable groups/structures/bodies.

SH to create a map of groups, share with CRHB members and gain input.

5. CRHB Annual Review Session

- The board discussed the results of the recent *priority votes for the year* table, the content and any amendments. SB will pick up Caroline Hannon's emails giving their view. **SB to update the chart.**



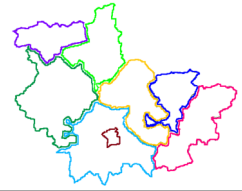
Terms of Reference

- The board discussed how we position this to the Greater Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA). Need the Public Service Board (and CPCA) to have a specific link to CRHB, and identify this in the ToR and what we need to do tactically outside of the meeting. We need to be mindful that this covers West Suffolk too. Need proper direction from the PSB. **SB to draft links with PSB chart. SHm to ask Antionnette Jackson, Chief Exec at Cambridge City, to take a paper to PSB board.**
- SB mentioned the group name. The board discussed link groups, agencies etc., the objectives of CRHB and the name of Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and West Suffolk Housing Board. The board rejected this name because the previous discussion still stands i.e:
 - the group wants to have a shorter title moving away from the sub-region
 - other bodies are names and focus on Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, we see these links as priorities
 - West Suffolk are still included in the group and are clearly referenced in the logo and in the terms of reference
 - Other alternatives are too long winded and the group feels less focussed and less direct.
- HW highlighted that Suffolk is part of Home-Link, the choice based lettings online system.
- Group membership and distribution was discussed and amendments to the list made. **Need to add more RSL's to the circulation/cc list so they can receive papers more easily.**

Action SB to amend then circulate for checking, bring final to the next meeting.

6. Combined Authority Update

- Claire Higgins is now chair of "Homes for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough"; the housing association umbrella group which was formed to feed into the CPCA.
- SH discussed how the CPCA had excluded CRHB from two recent issues. First – a workshop set up which is to imagine a future housing system for the area. We are not clear who it is aimed at and what the feedback information will be used for. People will be attending to attain feedback from the session. Believe the invite was sent to people on housing register, which is a cause for some concern. No consultation with CRHB on this. **Action: Could invite CPCA to give some feedback after the event?**
- Second item is the economic review – recently had an invite from Andrew Limb (Cambridge City) to input to this major research commissioned by the Combined Authority. SH been asked to input to questions such as what is the plan? What is the future plan? etc. SH drafted a response explaining why they weren't the right questions. Called Covintivewho we understand are a PR consultancy from East Cambs. SB talked to them and explained local plan etc. Want to send a letter including further feedback direct to Kate Barker who is leading the review. **Action SH as role of chair to write letter.**
- SH has met Roger Thompson and discussed a proposal at Northstowe, **would like to invite to CRHB meetings to make a connection with the group.**
- NH mentioned struggling to get a grant from the Combined Authority – for schemes already funded. Suggest Pearl Roberts might be the best contact.



7. AOB

SH mentioned that a small local charity had written a letter, stating they had used the market bulletin (produced by SB) to inform their market decisions and budget. HR requested a copy to put into Cambridge City's compliments process (has been sent).

SB requested Homelessness trailblazer report on agenda for next meeting.

Next Meeting

6th July 2018, 9.30am in the **Monkfield Room**, 1st Floor, SCDC, Cambourne

Future meeting dates

3 August (?), SCDC

7 September, SCDC

5 Oct, SCDC

2 Nov, SCDC

7 Dec, SCDC



Action	Lead	Date added	Still to do	Doing
Staying Close: project asks that CRHB consider them and have them involved in conversations on this subject. Action: bring back to CRHB once the project is more advanced; SB to identify when would be a good time to return to the Board.	SB / JV	June 2018	✓	
Supported housing: SH to create a map of groups, share with CRHB members and gain input. <i>Or was it SF?</i>	SF/SH?	June 2018	✓	
ToRs: Update the chart on top priorities for CRHB, including Caroline Hannon's (excluded mistakenly from June's notes).	SB	June 2018		✓
ToRs: SB to draft links with PSB chart.	SB	June 2018		✓
ToRs: SHm to ask Antoinette Jackson, Chief Exec at Cambridge City, to take a paper to PSB board.	SHm	June 2018	✓	
ToRs: SB to update the membership and distribution lists, adding RSLs to the circulation/cc list so they can receive papers more easily. SB to amend then circulate for checking, bring final to the next meeting.	SB	June 2018		✓
CPCA: Could invite CPCA to give some feedback after the events.	SH/SHm	June 2018	?	
Economic review: SH as role of chair to write letter to Kate Barker.	SH	June 2018	?	
DAHA: schedule a return visit to CRHB in September.	SB	May 18	✓	
DFGs: invite Helen Rhodes, Housing Pathway Manager at Cambridgeshire County Council to a future CRHB meeting, and also pick this item up in the action plan. August 2018.	SF?	May 18	✓	
Disability housing: need to talk to the Planners regards Local Plan requirements, to inform the Local Plan. Could also get some evidence which would support individual planning application requirements. August 2018.	SB	May 18	✓	
ToRs: SH to send a letter to East Cambs asking them formally to attend meetings, after terms of reference finalised. If no longer wish to attend, move to CC list.	SH	May 18	✓	
Work planning: New joint ventures / partnerships / delivery vehicles: Want to learn from West Suffolk work around risk identification and mitigation. JB to circulate Savills' advice.	JB	Mar 18	✓	
ToRs: CRHB requested a review of sub groups, what they are doing and their terms of reference. <i>Diagram needed.</i> Link Community and Vulnerable Persons group links to CRHB network / ToRs plus Rough Sleeping. July 2018.	SB	Mar 18		✓
OPAS: Northstowe Healthy Town Research: Need to use report and tool to re-visit Older People's Housing Strategy. Discuss July 2018.	SH	Mar 18		✓
Hack: SB to consult with Cambs Insight partners on the 'hack' idea. <i>Cambs Insight keen on the idea, and SB has discovered organisation called Cambridge Hack – need to find out more about them.</i> Discussing a hack day with 3C ICT with the Trailblazer project.	SB	Mar 18		✓
UC: Sarah Fergusson to invite Sean Evans (Peterborough) to CRHB to share experiences of UC, <i>date to be confirmed.</i>	SF/SE	Nov 17	✓	