**DLUHC Supported Housing Survey - Q17, Q18 & Q19**

**Q17: Please use the box below to tell us what you think are the key challenges and priorities for the funding of supported housing in your Local Authority/County Council?**

Challenges:

* Affordability of accommodation - in some areas high accommodation costs make supported housing an unaffordable option
* Lack of new revenue investment for supported housing, leading to insufficient funding available to develop and deliver new services and solutions
* Increased customer complexity - services require higher levels of staff and particularly specialist staff to meet needs, but salaries are generally too low to attract people to this sector.
* Fixed budgets - no additional investment for services means they become unaffordable resulting in providers withdrawing from the market or have to reduce support offer to fit within budget envelope (particular issue for block contracts and services which are non-statutory).
* Differing approaches from HB Teams within different districts e.g. in relation to funding sleep-in rooms
* No revenue funding available to support new supported housing developments, therefore too much risk for developers to deliver.
* Increasing demand for services - driven by factors such as people with disabilities living longer, more younger people with disabilities wanting to live independently and homelessness - existing care and support budgets struggle to meet this demand.
* Funding unavailable to commission lower level preventative services e.g. for people with autism who could live independently if they had access to low levels of ongoing support.

Priorities:

* Ensuring that existing funding levels are sustainable for both the market and the Council.
* Better use of TEC to meet some needs and enable support hours or funding to be re-directed to meet other priority needs.
* Increasing joint commissioning opportunities.

**Q18: Please use the box below to tell us what you think are the key challenges and priorities for the development of new supported housing in your Local Authority/County Council?**

Challenges:

* Being able to project accurate need data to ensure this is reflected in planned developments.
* Accessible housing - particularly for people with complex LD who require self contained accommodation which can also accommodate their care team and specialist equipment.
* Availability of development sites.
* Sufficient grant or investment to enable supported housing schemes to stack up financially.
* Uncertainty over revenue availability to support proposed SH developments.
* Ensuring that what is developed is actually what's needed - ensuring there is robust data around needs to evidence this.

Priorities:

* Self-contained supported housing.
* Greater range of smaller community based accommodation options (rather than large schemes or hostels).
* Alternative to care homes for older people and other adults e.g. Independent Living Services.
* Extra Care housing (in some areas).
* Commissioning of flexible supported housing solutions - i.e. can adapt to offer support and care to people from a range of different client groups. Challenges:
* Being able to project accurate need data to ensure this is reflected in planned developments.
* Accessible housing - particularly for people with complex LD who require self contained accommodation which can also accommodate their care team and specialist equipment.
* Availability of development sites.
* Sufficient grant or investment to enable supported housing schemes to stack up financially.
* Uncertainty over revenue availability to support proposed SH developments.
* Ensuring that what is developed is actually what's needed - ensuring there is robust data around needs to evidence this.

**Q19: Please use the box below to tell us what you think are the key challenges and priorities for future policy in relation to supported housing in your Local Authority/County Council?**

* Clear understanding of supported housing requirements across our local area supported by robust needs mapping.
* Enforceable minimum accommodation standards.
* Ensuring that rates of capital grant funding for supported housing are reflective of the needs of more complex customer groups e.g. where ground floor self-contained units are required, or larger living areas and the need for external spaces.
* Ability to prevent providers just setting up services in an area where there is no evidenced need. Clear understanding of supported housing requirements across our local area supported by robust needs mapping.