



**Committee Prosperous  
Communities Committee**

**Date 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**Subject: A memorandum of understanding to support joint action in  
Lincolnshire on improving health through housing**

Report by:

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Purpose / Summary:

To secure support for a Lincolnshire MoU which  
sets out shared common aims and principles for  
housing, health and care in the county.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

- 1 That members agree the content and support the aims and  
ambitions of the Memorandum of Understanding**

## IMPLICATIONS

**Legal: none arising**

**Financial : FIN-206-19-TJB**

**None as a result of this report as can be delivered through existing resources.**

**Staffing : none as a result of this report. Can be delivered through existing staff resource**

**Equality and Diversity including Human Rights : none arising**

**Risk Assessment : non arising**

**Climate Related Risks and Opportunities : Non arising**

**Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

[Improving health and care through the home: MoU - GOV.UK](#)

Concurrent report to Prosperous Communities Committee 29 January 2019 – The Role of a Strategic Health Partnership

The work of the Housing Health and Care Delivery Group is a standard agenda item at the Countywide District Housing Network ensuring that the Housing and Health priority of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Lincolnshire is strategically co-ordinated and embedded in the work of the district contributing to sustainable communities and the health and wellbeing of residents.

**Call in and Urgency:**

**Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?**

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

**Yes**

**No**

**Key Decision:**

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

**Yes**

**No**

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 The role of housing in achieving and maintaining good health and the need to connect housing services with health and social care agencies is recognised nationally and locally. Specifically in Lincolnshire though the inclusion of housing as one of the seven priorities of the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The Board has established the Housing Health and Care Delivery Group (HHCDG) with Member and Officer representation from West Lindsey, to oversee its Housing Delivery Plan for this priority.
- 1.2 The HHCDG identified the need to agree a strategic vision with principles and core values for a Lincolnshire wide approach to working across the housing, health and care sectors.
- 1.3 This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) articulates the benefits of collaborative working and creates an opportunity for better understanding the preventative role that housing can play in achieving better health outcomes and sustaining independence.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 The right home environment is essential to good health and wellbeing throughout life. Our homes are the foundations upon which we can build happy, successful and prosperous lives. Warm, safe and secure homes enable us to lead healthy, independent lives and to recover from illness. Poor housing increases the risk of ill health and disease and can lead to an increasing demand on health and care services.
- 2.2 In 2014 a national Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) called 'Joint Action to Improving Health through the Home' was agreed between a number of government bodies and key national stakeholders. It demonstrated a shared commitment to action, principles for joint working and a shared action plan.
- 2.3 The MoU was updated in 2018 with commitments to;
  - Better strategic planning
  - Better understanding of the preventative role of housing
  - Greater collaborative care
  - Better use of resources
  - Improved signposting
  - More shared learning
  - Wider sector engagement
- 2.4 In March 2017, recognising the need for a strategic housing group Lincolnshire's Health and Wellbeing Board established the HHCDG to bring together stakeholders from across a range of public sector organisations. The HHCDG in turn identified the need to agree a set of principles for joint working to deliver better housing, health and wellbeing outcomes for residents of Lincolnshire

- 2.5 The subject of this report – the Lincolnshire MoU - is based on the national MoU with amendments to make it relevant to our county and district. It sets out;
- A shared commitment to joint action across local government, health, social care and housing organisations
  - Principles for joint working for better health and wellbeing outcomes
  - A framework for local organisations and cross sector partnerships to provide healthy homes, communities and neighbourhoods
  - Conditions for developing integrated and effective services to meet the needs of individuals, carers and families with a range of local stakeholders

### **3. Context for West Lindsey and conclusion**

- 3.1 The vision for housing within the West Lindsey Housing Strategy is for a district where ‘everyone has access to good quality housing which meets their housing need and aspiration, in a pleasing environment which enables a healthy lifestyle’. We aim to achieve this vision through working with partners to deliver priorities within three strategic themes;

- Driving housing growth to meet housing need
- Improving homes and transforming places and
- A partnership approach to support choice, wellbeing and independence

- 3.2 The strategy acknowledges that the right home environment is essential to the health and wellbeing of current and future residents throughout their lives and that working collaboratively with public, private and voluntary sector partners will help us to achieve our vision.

- 3.3 Through the coordination of the housing strategy connections between the work carried out within West Lindsey and the countywide strategic agenda, which relate to housing and health, are already being made. Adopting this MoU as a set of principles will further embed the role housing has to play in achieving better health outcomes and sustaining independence for our residents.

- 3.4 The objectives of the Housing and Health strand of the Countywide Health and Wellbeing Strategy can be evidenced by Council’s Housing Programme Board through the coordination of work and projects in relation to;

- homelessness prevention
- Wellbeing Service,
- Housing Assistance Policy
- provision of specialist accommodation
- Social regeneration

The benefits of our holistic approach delivers physical, economic and social outcomes which in turn reduce health inequalities and enhance

the wellbeing of our residents. At the same time it ensures that health is embedded in all aspects of the councils housing agenda.

#### **4. Recommendation**

- 4.1 That members agree the content of this report and support the aims and ambitions of the Memorandum of Understanding