

Southampton Housing Partnership Meeting
Date: 1st March 2010
Venue: Civic Centre – Southampton City Council

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Barbara Compton	SCC
Kevin Brooks	SCC
Jean Brown	SCC
Steve Curtis	In Touch
Colin Warburg	Warburg Property Group
Jo Chapman	SCC
Malcolm Clark	Southern Landlords Assoc
Jon Cox	Two Saints
Nick Cross	SCC
Louise Cumberland	First Wessex
Rosie Dickaty	Western Challenge
Sally Dyde	Two Saints
James McDermott	Two Saints
Ralph Facey	Swaythling Housing Society
Warren Finney	National Housing Federation
Steve Gough	Southampton Solent University
Sally Jobson	Testway Housing
Paul Juan	SCC
Helena Kurczynska	Two Saints
Dean Logan	Salvation Army
Julie Marron	Southampton Voluntary Services
Fiona McMurray	SCC
Frances Murphy	Tenants Federation
Alan Kebbell	“ “
Nick Murphy	SCC
Budh Panesar	Western Challenge
Claudette Rawlinson	Hermitage Housing
Marguerite Rayner	SCC
Jenny Spoor	Hyde
Ken Staunton	National Landlords Assoc
Gillian Taylor	Saxonweald
Bev Weir	SCC
Christine Westwood	Landlord
Councillor Phil Williams	SCC

Key Issues Discussed

Introduction

1. Ralph Facey, Chair of the Partnership from Swaythling Housing Society welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Housing Partnership.

Notes from the Last Meeting

2. The notes from the last meeting held on 7th December 2009 were approved.

Improving Services for Vulnerable People

3. The meeting heard a series of presentations focused improving services for vulnerable people:
 - Jon Cox and Sally Dyde from Two Saints talked about improvements to Patrick House and the Day Centre which have been funded under the Places for Change programme. This included the SPARK project which provides training and employment for clients focused on steel work, wood work and picture framing.
 - Dean Lodge from the Salvation Army outlined the how the ethos behind providing accommodation for vulnerable people was changing with the name Lifehouse replacing the term hostel and the introduction of GROW (giving, real opportunities for work).
 - Kevin Brooks from Southampton City Council talked about personalised budgets. An Individual Budget is designed to provide individuals who currently receive services greater choice and control over their support arrangements. As part of 'Putting People First', councils are required to move to a system of personal budgets for everyone who is eligible for publicly-funded adult social care support. In Southampton this is starting with Adult Social Care and there are 185 people in the city with personalised budgets. The resources they had may be used flexibly within a Support Plan.
4. The meeting split into two groups to discuss housing can maximise the benefits of personalised budgets.

FEEDBACK

Maximising the benefits of personalised budgets:

- Links with Supporting People's work to introduce some personalised budgets
- Individuals will be able to choose who will help them with care this may raise safeguarding issues and these risks will have to be managed
- Provides may want to change services or provide new services to meet a new market
- Planning the provision of services and service volumes may prove difficult for providers

- Small service providers may be adversely affected
- This may prompt a new kind of provider – its been suggested a client tendered for a carer service ebay style, tesco's may provide care
- Housing organisations have a role to provide information on this change, and highlight how it can make clients lives easier and offer reassurance as change can be alarming
- Providers will need to market their services
- Housing providers will need to work together co-operatively
- Asking clients what they want from services will be important – taking note was new services that have been requested
- More personalised budgets are in operation in the north of the country and we can learn from this experience
- Commissioner/provider relationship needs to be developed
- Training for staff is important
- Champions need to be put in place to sell this new service

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on **28th June 2010** - Conference Room 3, Civic Centre – start 17.00 hours

Further dates for 2010 for your diary

22nd September 2010 – Venue to be arranged – start 17.00 hours

6th December 2010 – Venue to be arranged – start 17.00 hours