



Older People Housing Policy Review Action Plan

2008-2010

**Housing
Executive**

The Regional Strategic Housing Authority
for Northern Ireland

Contents

Chief Executive's and Chairman's Foreword	3
Introduction	7
- Older people and housing need in Northern Ireland	8
- Identifying the issues	9
- Consultation findings from 'Housing for Older People - A Policy Review'	9
- Overarching themes	11
- Older People Research Programme	11
- Research Areas	
Recommendations	14
The Older People Housing Action Plan 2008-2010	18



Chief Executive's and Chairman's Foreword

We live in a fast moving world of new advances and political, economic, technological and environmental change.

We also live in a society of demographic change, one of the most significant implications of which is an increasingly older and increasingly more diverse older population in terms of life experiences, expectations and needs.

This will have far reaching impacts for the future.

Planning for an ageing society and for the needs of older people, including older people with a disability, is very much to the forefront of Government thinking across the United Kingdom.

The various strategies which have been developed set out the challenges and vision with regard to housing and an ageing society in relation to independent living for people with a disability, including older disabled people with high support needs, and the associated need for better joined up working on housing, health and care.

Here in Northern Ireland, the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister published a strategy for older people 'Ageing in an Inclusive Society' in 2005 and at the end of 2007 announced their intention to establish a Commissioner for Older People in Northern Ireland.

The Northern Ireland Programme for Government, 2008-2011 sets out the Northern Ireland Executive's priorities - 'Making Peoples' Lives Better' and gives a commitment to overseeing the agreement and implementation of an action plan to tackle disadvantage and promote social inclusion for older people.



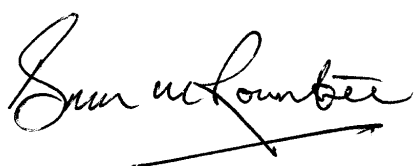
Recognition of the challenges ahead is at the heart of the Housing Executive's approach to the housing and housing related needs of older people.

The recommendations in our Older People Housing Action Plan represent the starting point of a process for addressing some of those needs. In arriving at this point we must thank all of those who contributed their expert views to the consultation on the Housing Executive's Policy Review into the Housing Needs of Older People.

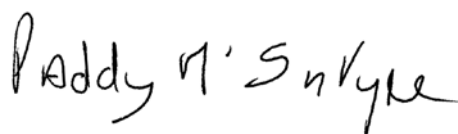
These views place housing at the centre of better health and better outcomes for older people and have significantly influenced and contributed to the content of the plan.

Taking forward this plan will require joint working across departments and organisations and with older people themselves as well as the commitment and support from local representatives.

Providing for the housing needs of older people affects us all, young and old, planning for now and in the future.



Brian Rowntree, Chairman



Paddy McIntyre, Chief Executive



Introduction

The Northern Ireland Housing Executive's Older People Housing Policy Review Action Plan 2008-2010 has been developed following discussion and consultation with a wide range of stakeholder organisations and stakeholders, seeking their views on what needs to be done to address the housing and housing related needs of older people in Northern Ireland. It is being taken forward in conjunction with the Older People Research Programme.

Older people and housing need in Northern Ireland

In Northern Ireland the proportion of people aged 65 or over is projected to rise from 15.9% to 24.8% over the period to 2041. The sharpest increase will be in the number of people aged 85 or over. Northern Ireland also has high levels of reported disability, particularly in the over 75 age bands.

Though older people will represent a greater proportion of the population, many will have no particular need for specialist housing or care services. However the increasing number that are very old indicates that demand for support services and specialised housing in advanced old age is set to rise dramatically.

A difficulty for many older people is that they may be asset rich and income poor. Nearly two thirds of pensioners in Northern Ireland own their own homes, with over one fifth living in Housing Executive or Housing Association accommodation. The proportion of owner-occupiers amongst older people continues to grow. Energy costs, water and rates together with maintenance costs are all increasing, making it more difficult for older people to sustain their homes.

The number of elderly applicants on the waiting list also continues to grow with 3802 elderly applicants in housing stress at December 2007. In the Housing Executive's Bangor, Lisburn and Belfast District 2 district office areas this is particularly marked.

The numbers of older people presenting as homeless are also increasing. In the period April 07 to December 07, 1607 people over 60 presented as homeless with 1206 presenters being accepted as homeless with a high percentage having 'accommodation not suitable'.

Identifying the issues

Prior to undertaking a wider consultation exercise, the Housing Executive commissioned a scoping study to identify the key issues in relation to older people and housing. The scoping study identified

- The importance of recognising that older people are not a homogenous group and current needs are not necessarily the same as those for people who are now approaching retirement.
- The changing health profile of older people, not only increasing life expectancy and greater independence for longer, but more specifically “compression of morbidity” with health care issues increasingly emerging at an older age, the disaggregated nature of services and discharge from hospitals.
- The need to provide help and support to enable older people to retain and maintain their independence and remain in their own homes including, for example, through providing more assistive technology.
- Suitability of accommodation, including under occupancy, the need for adaptations, the suitability of sheltered housing and retirement villages.
- Isolation - not only in terms of rural locations but also mobility and access to essential services.
- The financial issues associated with older people who are asset rich but income poor, and in particular right to buy and moving from owner occupancy to supported social housing.
- The growing fear of crime and the need to feel safe and secure in their own home.
- The ability of older people to maintain the property to a decent standard.

These issues informed the framework for the Housing Executive’s wider consultation, ‘Housing for Older People - A Policy Review’ and also the basis for the Older People Research Programme.

Consultation findings from 'Housing for Older People - A Policy Review'

A broad range of agencies, representing the age organisations, voluntary sector, Councils, housing associations, Health and Social Care Trusts and Boards and also Housing Executive departments, responded to the consultation.

In the feedback, the need for a review of the housing issues for older people was universally endorsed and the opportunity to provide input was welcomed. The need to work collaboratively across agencies and inclusively with older people in developing new directions was widely articulated. Consultees also expressed a willingness to continue the debate further with the Housing Executive. The consultation produced a significant information base from which a range of issues were identified for further consideration and investigation.

Overarching themes

A number of broad themes emerged from the consultation in terms of future service delivery:

- The need to change the way older people are perceived in terms of service delivery. The emphasis must not be on 'dependency' but on the promotion of independent living and in acknowledging the contribution made by older people.
- The need to have better integrated planning and joint working between housing, health and social care.
- The requirement to lever additional sources of funding into the system e.g. through equity release for a range of applicants.
- A need for better advice and information with regard to the housing options for older people and their families.
- The need to utilize the potential of new technology in supporting independence, privacy and dignity among older people.

- The necessity of involving older people in the design and planning of future housing provision.
- Aspirations of dignity, independence and choice should underpin policy and service development.
- All service users and carers will enjoy the same rights of citizenship irrespective of gender, race or disability.

Older People Research Programme

The overall aim of the Housing Executive's Older People Research Programme is to provide a comprehensive assessment of the current provision of housing for older people in Northern Ireland; determine the adequacy of this provision; identify what new accommodation models and services are required as well as the policy implications of these findings.

A number of the separate research strands are now underway, with the remaining items to be prioritised and commissioned.

Roll out of the Older People Research Programme is integral to the development of the Older People Housing Action Plan.

Older People Research Areas

	<i>Research Strand</i>	<i>Status</i>
1	Information and Advice	Published by Summer 2008
2	Assistive Technology	1st strand to report Spring 2008
3	Retirement Villages	Publication by Summer 2008
4	Moving forward with older people's services: Home improvement agencies/Care and Repair scoping study	Commenced Spring 2008
5	An analysis of demographic, waiting list, house condition survey etc to provide an insight into the housing and household circumstances of older people and a projection of future trends and the associated housing and support needs	Commenced Spring 2008
6	Provide an overview of best practice in GB and elsewhere in relation to new provision of accommodation for older people (to include and revisit sheltered housing and services)	To be commissioned in 2008
7	Assessment of the feasibility of a not for profit Equity Release scheme for older owner-occupiers	To be commissioned in 2008
8	A data audit in relation to the quality of information held on homes with adaptations and advice on how this could be improved	To be commissioned
9	Provide an insight into the effectiveness of housing accommodation and services for older BME client groups	To be commissioned
10	Supporting People baseline survey; using ODPM's 2005 methodologies as a guide to aid development of a distribution/capitation formula; evaluate the benefits of SP	To be commissioned
11	Evaluation of the different housing models for dementia in operation in Northern Ireland	To be commissioned



Recommendations

The evidence from the consultation and wider debate on older people and housing related issues, which included a joint Housing Executive/ EHSSB Older People Conference, has been brought forward into the Older People Action Plan via a number of key recommendations.

Recommendation 1

Improved advice and information

It was recognised that a first step in responding to the housing and housing related needs for older people is the development of better advice and information for older people, their families, carers or advocates, to inform choices with regard to support and housing options. The approach with this will be informed by research and good practice initiatives.

1. Consider the way forward for housing advice for older people.

Recommendation 2

Better joint planning and commissioning

A widespread consultation view was that better and more integrated planning and service delivery was needed between health, housing and social care. The ongoing restructuring of the Supporting People Team will better reflect new area partnership structures under RPA and result in more effective planning for and commissioning of services.

2. Better planning and commissioning arrangements for older people services by building on Supporting People partnership structures.

Recommendation 3

Strategic planning

Research will help inform a more strategic approach for planning to address need e.g. older people living in housing that is unsuitable for their needs, growing waiting lists, increases in older homelessness, hotspot areas for projected older people population growth etc.

The need for a more strategic focus in providing locally for older people is also recognised. A recently established strategic partnership group within the EHSSB area which includes Belfast City Council, the Housing Executive and Belfast Trust is being led out by Belfast Healthy Cities. The Housing Executive would wish to see this model replicated across Northern Ireland.

3. Supported by research, better strategic planning for older people.

Recommendation 4

Assistive Technology

Assistive Technology has a strong evidence case in terms of supporting independence and reducing costs. There is need for more research on this and to look at how this can be mainstreamed and integrated in both the health and housing sectors.

4. Research on Assistive Technology.

Recommendation 5

Good practice

Northern Ireland has examples of good practice with regard to housing and housing related services for older people and it was suggested there was merit in producing documentary evidence for widespread dissemination.

5. The Housing Executive should collect and document good practice for publication.

Recommendation 6

Lifetime Homes

A consultation message, endorsed by all the relevant research, is that older people want to remain at home or in home-like independent living environments for as long as possible. The Housing Executive has adopted the Lifetime Homes Standard for all new build by housing associations and private sector grants. In improvement schemes it is standard policy for the Housing Executive to assess the feasibility of upgrade to two bedroom. Wider application of the Lifetime Homes Standard to the private sector may require changes to legislation/building standards.

- 6. Build the Lifetimes Homes Standard into existing stock and upgrade to two bedrooms where appropriate.**

Recommendation 7

Care and Repair services

Concerns about maintenance of the home is a major issue for older people in Northern Ireland. In Northern Ireland minor repair and handyman type services are provided on a largely ad-hoc basis by the voluntary sector but in the UK there is a more comprehensive approach and geographical coverage through Home Improvement Agencies. The approach to a Care and Repair service will be informed by research.

- 7. Commission research and look at establishing a care and repair service in Northern Ireland.**

Recommendation 8

Better use of adaptations

While recognising that separate 'Adaptations' reviews have been conducted, a number of matters were raised by consultees from Health and Social Services. Issues are being taken forward through the Inter-departmental Group on Adaptations.

- 8. Better use of adaptations to facilitate independent living.**

Recommendation 9

Equity release

Consultation respondents acknowledged that there was a role for financial products that help older people maximise the benefit to be gained from resources built up during their working lives. Equity release however is seen as a minefield, inflexible, with high threshold for the value of property and high administrative costs. It was suggested that a not for profit scheme would address the problems associated with equity release and offer a service combining high ethical standards with independent financial, technical and social care service. The approach will be informed by research.

9. Look at equity release products and potential for establishment in Northern Ireland.

Recommendation 10

Community based support services

There is evidence that simple low level services such as home visits can reduce mortality and admission to long term care (Elken et al 2001 - BMJ). The importance of such low level intervention was emphasised in the consultation. Supporting People and Assistive Technology can play a part in this low level intervention.

10. Develop community based support services.

Recommendations 11 and 12

Sheltered Housing

Consideration is being given to the role of sheltered housing within the continuum of housing support and provision for older people. Discussion has also been ongoing with sheltered housing providers on this.

11. Carry out an assessment of the future role of sheltered housing.
12. Review rental and service charges of sheltered accommodation.

Recommendations 13 and 14

Retirement villages

The concept of retirement housing is relatively new to Northern Ireland and drew mixed responses. There was however a demand for more information and analysis of what works elsewhere with regard to retirement housing so that this can be planned and integrated better with existing provision.

13. Research into retirement villages models and to suggest the approach in Northern Ireland.
14. Consider a potential retirement village development in Northern Ireland.

Recommendation 15

Housing for people with dementia

While the prevalence rates for dementia are not increasing the overall growth in the numbers of older people means that the estimated number of people with dementia in Northern Ireland is projected to increase. It is likely therefore that over the next 25 years there will be a steady rather than a dramatic increase in the number of people with dementia in Northern Ireland.

However this will mean that the projected dementia population will double in the next 30 years. There is a new culture in dementia services that focuses very much in reducing negative perceptions of people with dementia and promoting positive approaches that can improve their quality of life and also their independence. The Housing Executive is involved in the steering group structure of the Northern Ireland Dementia Centre and its potential to develop a centre of excellence and it is envisaged that housing related issues will be considered in this context.

15. Develop housing for older people with dementia.

Table 2: Projected Dementia Population

Ages	2002	2010	2015	2020	2031	2042
30-64	500	520	540	560	540	520
65-99	16,458	19,169	21,683	24,777	33,738	42,866

Source: Alyson Dunn/Joe O'Neill 2006

The Older People Housing Action Plan

The Older People Housing Action Plan represents the first step for the Housing Executive in identifying and addressing the housing needs of older people - now and in the future. The plan sets out key actions identified against the recommendations, progress to date with these and details of associated developments and initiatives.

	Recommendations	Progress/Action to Date
1	Supported by research and good practice initiatives, consider the way forward for housing advice for older people.	<p>Older people housing information and advice research is due to complete early summer 2008.</p> <p>The Housing Executive is represented by the Housing & Regeneration Division on a DSD led inter-governmental group, established to take forward the strategy - 'Supporting Delivery of Voluntary Advice Services In the Community' (Sept 2007).</p> <p>The Housing Executive was involved in the Rural Community Network (RCN) Older People rural housing unfitness research (March 07) and Western Health Action Zone (2007) research in Fermanagh.</p> <p>The Housing Executive is part of a Belfast Healthy Cities led Older People Strategic Information Group (a sub-group of the EHSSB area Strategic Intersectoral Healthy Ageing Partnership). The Housing Executive has contributed to the collation of housing related information for an Older People Information Resource Pack for people working with older people and older people themselves.</p> <p>The Housing Executive has approved a matching funding contribution for the production of the Older People Resource Pack.</p>

Bringing forward better housing related outcomes for older people will affect and impact on us all, young and old. It will require commitment and resources, both by high level endorsement and at local level for implementation, if we are to adequately plan for housing in an ageing society. In presenting this plan it is acknowledged that ongoing review will be necessary to take account of and respond to the changing environment and any new political, structural and funding arrangements and priorities that may emerge.

Action Required	Timescale
Research findings to be considered.	From Summer 2008
Consideration of the outworkings of the DSD strategy in relation to older people housing advice and information issues.	From 2008
Grants related information issues to be considered through the PSIS Department's Rural Priority Area Strategy review.	From 2007
Ongoing.	April - July 2008
The Resource Pack will be published and launched by Belfast Healthy Cities. It will also be placed on the Belfast City Council website	Sept - Oct 2008

	Recommendations	Progress/Action to Date	
2	<p>Better planning and commissioning arrangements for older people services by building on Supporting People partnership structures.</p>	<p>Consideration of the Supporting People Commissioning arrangements in response to the Review of Public Administration.</p> <p>Restructuring of the Supporting People Team is being undertaken to respond to strategic and operational priorities.</p> <p>A WHSSB led Older People sub-group has been established. This will help inform the West Area Supporting People Partnership planning for older people services.</p>	
3	<p>Supported by research, better strategic planning for older people.</p>	<p>In EHSSB area the Housing Executive is part of the Strategic Intersectoral Healthy Ageing Partnership with agencies including Belfast Healthy Cities, Age Concern, Help the Aged, Belfast City Council and Belfast Trust.</p> <p>The Housing Executive contributed to the Healthy Ageing InterAction Plan, EHSSB Area 2006-09 (Belfast Healthy Cities 2006).</p> <p>The Housing Executive also provides updates to the PSI Ageing in an Inclusive Society Action Plan.</p> <p>Strategic planning for older people will be supported by the Older People Research Programme. The Housing Executive Research Department established an Older People Research Advisory Group, which includes representation from the age organisations, the Equality Commission and housing associations. Part of the remit of the group is to provide guidance to the researchers undertaking the studies in terms of methodology, data sources and key issues.</p>	

	Action Required	Timescale
	<p>New interim Supporting People Team area based structures are in place.</p> <p>Continued SP involvement & participation in this and any other area based older people planning groups.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing from Autumn 2007</p> <p>Ongoing from 2007</p>
	<p>Continued involvement with the EHSSB group and any similar groups that emerge.</p> <p>Continue to update on housing related areas in the plan as required.</p> <p>Continue to support the Research Advisory Group role with the older people research</p>	<p>From Autumn 2007</p> <p>The mid-way review was published Dec 2007.</p> <p>As required</p> <p>From 2007</p>

	Recommendations	Progress/Action to Date	
3	Supported by research, better strategic planning for older people continued.	<p>Research was commissioned in 2007 on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing related advice and information. • Retirement Villages. • Assistive Technology. <p>Research commenced in 2008 on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of demographics, waiting list, house condition survey- to help inform projection of future trends and the associated housing and support needs. • Home Improvement Agencies and care and repair services. <p>In addition to the above items and Recommendations 1, 4, 7 8, 9, 13, 14 and 15, the Housing Executive's Older People Research Programme includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide an overview of best practice in Great Britain, Northern Ireland and elsewhere in relation to new provision of accommodation for older people, to include and revisit sheltered housing and services. • Assessment of the feasibility of a not for profit equity release scheme for older owner occupiers. • Provide an insight into the effectiveness of housing accommodation and services for older BME client groups. • Carry out a Supporting People base line survey, using ODPM 2005 methodologies as a guide to aid development of a distribution/capitation formula and evaluate the benefits of Supporting People. 	

	Action Required	Timescale
	<p>The remaining older people research programme items prioritised and commissioned.</p>	<p>To be published 2008</p> <p>To be completed late 2008/early 2009</p> <p>From 2008-09</p>

	Recommendations	Progress/Action to Date	
4	Research on Assistive Technology.	<p>Housing Executive commissioned research on Assistive Technology is underway.</p> <p>Supporting People is working with the four Health Boards on mainstreaming of Assistive Technology and a joint way forward with matching funding to purchase regional Assistive Technology provision.</p>	
5	Publish good practice.	The Supporting People Good Practice Booklet (2006) included information on some older people schemes.	
6	Build in Lifetime Homes standard into existing stock and upgrade to 2 bedroom where appropriate.	<p>The Housing Executive has adopted the Lifetime Homes standard for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all new build by housing associations; • for Private Sector grants; and • for improvement schemes where it is standard policy to assess the feasibility of making the necessary changes to stock with a view to building in lifetime use improvement works. <p>Where achievable within Housing Executive stock, there has been conversion of ground floor flats and bungalows from 1 to 2 bedroom.</p>	
7	Look at establishing a Care and Repair service in Northern Ireland.	<p>Research on Home Improvement Agencies and Care & Repair services is a priority item in the Housing Executive Older People Research programme.</p> <p>The Housing Executive funds two Home Improvement Agencies, (HIAs) Shelter/Gable in the North West and Fold HIA in the east of the Province.</p> <p>From 2007 Supporting People is piloting some older people floating support schemes which include some care and repair elements.</p>	

	Action Required	Timescale
	<p>Research findings and way forward to be considered.</p> <p>Together with Health Boards/Trusts the development of a regional contract to be considered.</p>	<p>First phase to be completed Spring 2008</p> <p>Ongoing from 2007</p>
	<p>Information on older people housing related schemes collated and published.</p>	<p>Autumn 2008</p>
	<p>Continued implementation of the Lifetime Homes standard for all programmes of work.</p> <p>Where feasible, continued roll-out of bedroom upgrades within Multi-Element Improvement (MEI) programmes.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>Research has been commissioned</p> <p>Joint review of HIAs to be undertaken by the Housing Executive Grants Department and Strategic Partnerships.</p> <p>Evaluate models</p>	<p>Commenced early 2008</p> <p>From November 2007</p> <p>2008-09</p>

	Recommendations	Progress/Action to Date
8	Better use of adaptations to facilitate independent living.	<p>Issues are being taken forward by the jointly funded DHSSPS/Housing Executive Housing Adaptations Liaison Manager through the Inter-departmental Group on Adaptations.</p> <p>A data audit in relation to the quality of information held on homes with adaptations and advice on how this information could be improved is included in the Housing Executive older people research programme.</p> <p>The 2006 Wheelchair User Housing Study (Housing Executive) is with DSD for consideration. Drivers influencing space standards include the 1960s/70s baseline housing space standards which underestimated the spatial needs of assisted wheelchair users and space for carers and the increasing size and sophistication of equipment.</p> <p>The Housing Executive's GIS mapping analysis of wheelchair users and data exchange on new wheelchair users to better forecast wheelchair standard housing need- pilot complete and successful.</p> <p>Work is ongoing between DHSSPS, Social Services, DSD and the Housing Executive around design services for supported accommodation (Part 3 Housing Association Design Guide). The findings from the wheelchair report will feed into this.</p> <p>The Housing Executive are installing 12 individual Pod (modular adaptations) pilots. Pods offer a more rapid response, are less disruption for tenants and are re-locatable</p>

Action Required	Timescale
<p>Issues being addressed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interagency communications including IT interfaces. - Strengthening user, including older people user, involvement (Disability Action project) 	Ongoing
Research to be commissioned	2008/09
Subject to DSD approval a blueprint to be developed and costed for the next generation of wheelchair housing, along with agreement on the lead organisation to take forward.	Subject to DSD approval
Analysis of data to assist strategic planning and improved web based information for wheelchair users and service providers.	Ongoing
Assessment of design services for supported accommodation around new care services and programmes.	DSD review October 2008
Evaluation of Pod pilots initiative as new alternatives for people with life limiting conditions.	Within 2008-09 financial year.

	Recommendations	Progress/Action to Date	
8	Better use of adaptations to facilitate independent living continued . . .	<p>The need has been identified for consideration of existing UK local authorities good practice in relation to the better integration of aids & adaptations services.</p> <p>The Housing Executive is represented on the Aimwell project which is making a bid to further research the health and social outcomes of adaptations provision i.e the promotion of independence as well as functionality improvements.</p>	
9	Look at equity release products and potential for establishment in Northern Ireland.	This is a priority research item within the Older People Research Programme.	
10	Develop community based support services.	<p>Using the Fold Newtownabbey Warden scheme as a model, Supporting People is looking at linking low level housing support services together with technology to older people in their own homes.</p> <p>Supporting People, together with North and West Housing Association and Western Health and Social Care Trust are looking at a pilot scheme for older people which would combine housing support, low level care and assistive technology elements, to help them maintain their current independent living arrangements in the community.</p>	
11	Carry out an assessment of the future role of sheltered housing.	There has been ongoing discussion with ERoSH (Emerging Role of Sheltered Housing) providers around sheltered housing, which is being informed by Supporting People performance monitoring of schemes and service reviews.	

	Action Required	Timescale
	<p>The Joint Working Group recognised the need for joint working parties to be established to consider the strategic direction of commissioning and providing assistive technologies.</p> <p>Outcomes to be considered in the Northern Ireland context.</p>	<p>2008-09 onwards.</p> <p>Ongoing from 2007</p>
	<p>Research to be commissioned.</p>	<p>In 2008/09</p>
	<p>Subject to resources, roll out of schemes by ERoSH (sheltered housing association) providers, commissioned by Supporting People on an area basis.</p> <p>Subject to approval.</p>	<p>From 2008</p> <p>From 2008</p>
	<p>Consider any repositioning/remodelling of sheltered schemes, where appropriate, in partnership with housing associations.</p>	<p>Ongoing from 2007</p>

	Recommendations	Progress/Action to Date	
12	Review rental and service charges of sheltered accommodation.	<p>A review of rent setting in the social rented sector, to include sheltered accommodation, is with DSD.</p> <p>Supporting People service review of sheltered housing sector schemes has commenced and has resulted in some charging amendments.</p>	
13	Research into retirement villages models and to suggest the approach in Northern Ireland.	Housing Executive research on the Retirement village concept and models completed Spring 2008.	
14	and Consider a potential development in Northern Ireland.		
15	Develop housing for older people with dementia.	<p>Research on housing models for people with dementia is a priority item of the Older People Research Programme.</p> <p>A NI Dementia Centre has been established. A Dementia Advisory Group has been set up to discuss the role of the Centre, further to its 2 years initial funding from December 2007 by Atlantic Philanthropies.</p> <p>The Housing Executive is involved in the steering group structure which will explore its potential to provide a centre of excellence. Outworking of the Bamford Review is considered the way forward for the Regional Dementia Centre.</p> <p>Supporting People funded the NI Dementia Centre Housing Design Conference (Jan 2008).</p>	

	Action Required	Timescale
	<p>DSD consideration.</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>From 2008.</p> <p>From 2007</p>
	<p>Outcomes of the research to be considered. This will inform future direction.</p>	<p>Publication Summer 2008</p>
	<p>Research to be commissioned. The NI Dementia Centre role with this to be discussed.</p> <p>There are no Supporting People revenue monies available. Funding for the Centre from 2009 to be sought.</p> <p>Housing issues to be considered in the context of the Dementia Centre and Bamford. This will impact on the social development programme.</p>	<p>2008/09</p> <p>Ongoing from 2007</p> <p>From 2007</p> <p>January 2008</p>

This document is available in alternative formats.
Please contact:

Mary McDonnell
Housing and Health Co-ordinator
Strategic Partnerships
3rd Floor
The Housing Centre
2 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8PB

Tel: (028) 9031 8508
Email: mary.mcdonnell@nihe.gov.uk



August 2008
www.nihe.gov.uk