



County Homelessness Strategy Group

Feedback to Cambridge Sub-
Region Housing Board

4th June 2010

Attended by

- 5 Cambridgeshire homelessness leads (or deputies)
- 2 Suffolk homelessness leads (St Eds and FHDC)
- Home-link manager
- Others as invited from time to time

Terms of reference

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What we have been doing

- Professionals guide for dealing with young people
- Protocol between housing authorities and OCYPS
- Improve homeless prevention for home owners
 - Referrals protocols with money advice agencies
 - Lay advocacy schemes at county court
 - Agreements with mortgage lenders on alternatives
 - Mortgage Rescue Scheme
- Worked to ensure advice cover at all county courts in the sub-region

What we have been doing

- Amended procedure for Move-on
- Looked at concerns over quality of statistics
- Housing Options Module (with Home-link and EHO group)
- Fed into revision of Cambridgeshire Housing Disability Strategy and action plan
- Benchmarking (HQN Value For Money exercise – reported 2008)

What we have been doing

- Contributed to Homelessness JSNA
- Contributed to review of Home Link scheme
- Work with OCYPS to develop Supported Lodgings scheme – still in progress
- Discussed possible effects of remodelling of Jimmy's
- Housing and support needs of ex offenders – CCC has commissioned a study

What next?

- Sub-regional vulnerable persons protocol between housing authorities and RSLs
- Look at Nomination agreements
- Professionals' guide for partners and stakeholders to reinforce multi agency approach to homelessness prevention
- Integrate homelessness prevention work into PSHE programme for all sub-regional schools
- Identify initiatives to develop training and employment opportunities for households threatened with homelessness

What next?

- Implement a sub-regional supported lodgings scheme
- Implement database system to monitor the levels of homelessness prevention
- Ensure the development of sub-regional floating support services
- Review the Home-Link CBL scheme and implications on homelessness prevention
- Ensure links to other strategic groups so that homelessness issues across the sub region are fully represented.
- Develop ongoing JSNA process for homeless people and those at risk of becoming homeless

Possible new challenges on the horizon

- Sec 93 budget going to Area Based Grant
- Changes in BRMA for LHA – very serious
- Threats to other budgets – MRS?
- Policy changes from government
- Eurozone falling apart?

Links to other groups

- **Enhanced Housing Options Group** – specific tasks, specific grant
- **Homelessness JSNA Steering Group** linked to Cambs NHS
- **Homelessness Executive** link to NHS and mental health trust – may be expanded to include sub-region
- **HomeLink** operations Group and HomeLink Management Board
- Local **Joint Allocation Panels**
- Local liaison meetings with NHS, Mental health trusts, LD and PD advocates