

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**  
**Local Implementation Team (LIT) Accommodation and Support Steering Group –**  
**Mental Health Sector**

**Purpose**

The group will steer the development, implementation and co- ordination of the Devon & Torbay Mental Health (MH) housing support and accommodation strategy.

It will aim to develop co-operation between all relevant agencies to develop and improve the range of resources available for people with mental health problems. This will include or be linked to:

- Roll out and subsequently monitor the impact of Supporting People within the MH sector.
- Joint Commissioning developments across partnership agencies
- Initiatives for new support funding eg direct payments, self directed support
- Development of Locality based projects under the respective Recovery Network arrangements eg. Functional Implementation Groups (FIGS)
- Local Area Agreement (Health & Wellbeing )
- Modernisation and commissioning initiatives.
- Consult & involve service users
- Develop methods for wider provider engagement
- Continue evaluating & remodelling of the MH sector.

**Accountability**

The group will be accountable to both the LIT and to the Housing Support Strategic Partnership (HSSP)

The steering group will work closely with key local partners to agree local priority needs and monitoring arrangements.

**Membership**

Membership will include representatives of key stakeholders including

Supporting People	(Minimum of one representative)
Devon Partnership Trust (DPT) Social Care	(One representative)
Torbay Care Trust	(One Representative)
DPT Operational Management	(One representative)
HSSP	(One representative for 8 District Councils)
Devon Strategic Housing Group	(One representative for 8 District Councils)
RSL/Voluntary/Independent Housing Sector Provider	(One representative)
Service users	(Two representatives) –( no reps as yet)
Carers	(One representative) –(no rep as yet)
LIT	(One representative)

Agenda/Minutes (Part I) and appropriate documents copied to service user representatives for Exeter, Teignbridge and West Devon (Exeter will distribute to other groups)

## **Methods**

In order to deliver its target outcomes the group will:

- Draft for consultation a joint strategy for accommodation and support including development plans and investment proposals.
- Ensure that each Local Implementation Group (LIG) develops its own linked strategy for accommodation and support
- Monitor and performance manage existing housing support provision
- Align available needs analysis with areas for future investment
- Develop proposals for joint commissioning eg. DPT and supported housing
- Link in with other relevant areas of service development within mental health including other LIT task groups
- Project manage consultation and agreement of strategic priorities, oversight of implementation plans and reporting processes
- Review and monitor (on-going) housing support services regarding strategic relevance, quality, performance, value for money.
- Actively link with LAA MH sub group
- Link with carer & service users and/or their networks.

## **Contexts**

The following includes document summaries or relevant extracts

### **NSF for Mental Health 1999**

This emphasises the need for a range of housing for people with mental health problems including 24 hour staffed and supported accommodation, family placements, ordinary housing provided by the Local Authority and commissioned housing and support schemes. Also notes the need for the people under the Care Programme Approach on enhanced level to have a care plan including action needed to secure accommodation appropriate to the service users needs.

### **Mental Health and Social Inclusion – Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) 2004**

This focuses on decent and appropriate housing for those with mental health problems and support in financial matters to reduce rent arrears and problems. Develops the link between homelessness and mental health difficulties with an emphasis on prevention and provision of move on accommodation from provision for the homeless

### **Supporting People Strategy- Vision for Mental Health Services 2005/6-2009/10**

- 1.A range of supported housing options will be available appropriate to meet the needs of people with Mental Health problems. High-level support will be targeted at those with complex / severe and enduring mental health needs and chaotic lifestyles.
- 2.Resources will be refocused on the provision of accommodation and support based services in the community, with a reduction on the reliance of residential care for people with high mental health needs
- 3.Flexible support packages will be available to people in their own homes and will be able to adapt to meet service users changing needs.

4. There will be a better geographical spread of services across Devon to reduce the need to move to access resources.

#### Key Priorities

1. Improve the flexibility of services by refocusing some of the existing accommodation based resources on floating support services to enable an individual response. Maximum use to be made of floating support as is practicable to enable service users to remain in their own home
2. Improve joint working with MH care coordinators to ensure all parties sign up to agreed goals and outcomes
3. Ensure prevention services are available across the county through the provision and timely access for service users to a range of voluntary and statutory Mental Health Services
4. Improve and extend the amount of high level support provision for those with complex needs (cross reference with complex needs homelessness)
5. Review the ratio of short and long term services against need, ensuring planned crisis options and suitable move-on from hospital is available within the supported housing sector

#### **LIT Accommodation & Support Strategy**

Devon Partnership Trust is committed to the promotion of recovery and independence and a shift away from both hospital and residential care, except where this cannot be avoided, to more home and community based support services. The strategy will encompass a range of options with an aim to provide alternatives to residential care.

#### **LIT vision for mental Health 2005**

**Mainstream:** Future services will be wherever possible, be provided within service users own homes or within mainstream community based settings. If inpatient treatment or institutional care is required this will be provided on the principal of the least restrictive alternative and on the basis of planned rehabilitation, recovery and discharge

#### **Unified Strategy for Adult Mental Health Services LIT 2005**

Effective Partnerships between providers, purchasers and users and the integration of service delivery and purchasing systems based on:-

- a) An agreed joint Strategy for Mental Health implemented under the auspices of the LIT.
- b) Formal Partnerships actively working together to provide better services.
- c) Integrated Information, Reporting and Communication systems.
- d) Efficient Joint Commissioning systems purchasing services proactively in line with local plans.

Effective joint workforce planning and approaches to staff development

#### **Green Paper “Independence, wellbeing and choice” Dept. of Health 2005**

This introduces the vision for social care including:

Services providing more choice and control for service users in how needs are met

High priority to be given to the inclusion of all sections of the community and other agencies

High quality services, well trained workforce and supported carers and families

Better use of technology to support people and provision of a wide range of supported housing options.

Provision of services with an emphasis on prevention and ensuring shared agendas across health and social care.

#### **Implementing and Developing Choice-Based Lettings ODPM 2005**

This provides the framework for an accommodation service to address social exclusion.

**Local Area Agreement 2008 – 2011**

The LAA includes 31 targets derived from the set of national performance indicators. The LAA takes forward the vision for Devon and is a step, over the next three years, towards delivering Devon Sustainable Community Strategy priorities and ten year outcome.