

Policy issues and research implications: independent living

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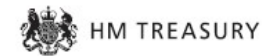
Why make the case between health and housing?

- A fall at home that leads to a hip fracture costs the state £28,665 on average – over 100 times the cost of installing hand and grab rails
- Where it is appropriate, postponing entry into residential care for one year saves an average of £28,080 per person
- A hospital discharge service that enables older people to return to a safe and suitable home environment saves over £100 per day – the amount charged to local authorities when patients ‘block beds’

(source: Fit for Living Network Position Statement.
hact, 2010)

Policy and Funding environment: Independent Living

- NHS White Paper – extend personal budgets
- Revision of the NHS operating framework
- Response to the Law Commission
- Establishment of a Care Commission
- New social care Partnership Agreement
- Public Health White Paper
- Social Care White Paper (forthcoming)
- Housing Reform (DCLG_
- Welfare benefit reform (DWP)
- Localism Bill (DCLG)
- Reform of planning (DCLG)



SPENDING REVIEW 2010

Delivering better outcomes

- Less dependency on high cost care
- Developing intermediate care and re-ablement services
- Make best use of telecare and smart technology (grey and green)
- End of Life Care – avoid hospital admission
- Preventing costly health interventions eg, as a result of a fall
- Providing meaningful choices and lifestyle aspirations to meet personalisation objectives
- Building effective social capital to enable greater community engagement/informal care/volunteering
- Appropriate housing, including supported and assisted living

What has research got to do with it?

- Provide a robust framework/evidence for justifying policy position
- Test and evaluate theories/models, approaches, consumer views and experience of what work/does not work
- Aid product development/service improvement
- Challenge decision makers on policy and practice formation
- Help fast track adoption of policy and practice developments eg raising awareness, change management
- Support prioritisation of decisions
- Help decide on resource allocation
- Extend personal knowledge and influence wider interest

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Examples of where research has made a difference

- *Extra Care Housing*: enhancing housing with care choices
- *HAPPI report*: creating accessible and inclusive environments/neighbourhoods
- *Handyperson services*: providing that little bit of low level support and help
- *Telecare*: supporting the timely delivery of care
- *Telehealth*: supporting the management of long term conditions at home
- *POPPs*: developing coherent preventative approaches



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Localism and independent living: provider and commissioner perspective

- Identify cost effective local housing solutions. Supporting people in their own homes. Quality v cost?
- Targeted interventions and access to community resources. More for less?
- Ensure right quality and sustainability of services. Value for money?
- Improve engagement with users of services in how services are planned, commissioned and purchased. Choice and control?
- Need to engage effectively with providers to understand the new markets for housing, care and support. Dynamic or stand still?



Independent living: further research opportunities

- *Personalisation*: impact of IBs/Direct payments for older people
- *Care efficiencies*: cost effectiveness of housing to reduce high cost health and social care
- *Health and wellbeing*: links between poor housing and ill health
- *Supporting People*: Learning disabilities, dementia, mental health
- *System reforms*: Impact of health and social care reforms on housing for older vulnerable people, including homelessness
- *Market shaping*: better understanding of market development, especially self funders
- *Equity and asset management*: Housing wealth and paying for long term care to fund mainstream and specialist housing and support services

Measuring success

- A catalyst for change management
- Policy adoption and implementation/take-up
- Grow the body of evidence
- Publication in professional/academic journals
- References cited in key policy documents
- Attract further research funding
- Develop a commercial interest?
- Effective dissemination and external communications
- co-production eg service user, other partnerships/consortia
- Making a difference for beneficiary/service user

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Thank you

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