

**Mental Health Accommodation Strategy 2018-2023 Action Plan Review**

**Nov-19**

Action		Timescale	Performance Measures	Progress at August 2019 (Blue = Complete, Green = On track, Amber = Off track will recover, Red = Off track, will not recover)	Looking Ahead
1	Promote the development of the most suitable housing options for people with mental health issues.	Sep-18	Appropriate schemes and partners identified to bring forward development.	A scheme at Brickhill flats (11 dwellings) has been completed and is occupied with Dennis Court (6 dwellings) programmed to start on site in January 2020. Wootton Vale and Wixams provides housing for a wide range of people and those with mental health needs can be catered for in these schemes.	Schemes have been identified and delivery of them is ongoing. See target 2 and 3 below. Promotion of development of the most suitable housing options for people with mental health issues is ongoing and additional work with housing services and adults will take place.
2	Identify site and partner for development of a scheme of 6-10 flats with access to 24 hour support.	Mar-19	Site and partner identified.	Two sites have already been identified - Brickhill Flats and Dennis Court, both with bpha. Brickhill flats (11 dwellings) has been completed and is now occupied. Dennis Court (6 flats) has planning permission and is due to start on site in early 2020.	
3	Promote development of a scheme of 6-10 flats with access to 24 hour support.	Within lifetime of Strategy	Scheme developed with 24 hour support.	See action 2.	
4	Improve access to accommodation with floating support to increase the provision of move on accommodation.	Mar-19	Site and partner identified for 1-2 scheme(s) of 6-10 units with access to floating support.	See action 2.	One scheme has been delivered. Work with Registered Provider to complete the second scheme at Dennis Court. Thereafter establish whether further need is identified and if so work with RP partners to identify further schemes.
5	Improve access to accommodation with floating support to increase the provision of move on accommodation.	Within lifetime of Strategy	Promote development of 1-2 scheme(s) of 6-10 units with access to floating support.	Brickhill flats (11 dwellings) has been completed as move on accommodation and has floating support. Dennis Court (6 dwellings) will also provide floating support and move on accommodation and has received planning permission and is due to start on site early 2020. Clarence House has been developed to provide two levels of support allowing for move on within. Hollman house has also been developed to provide move on accommodation. The East London Foundation Trust (ELFT) has created a Tenancy Sustainment post that will offer tenancy support to people within mental health schemes.	Although two schemes have been identified, work will be ongoing to improve access to accommodation with floating support to increase the provision of move on accommodation. As part of this the council's Commissioning Manager for Mental Health post will start in January 2020 and will investigate any further need for mental health move on accommodation.
6	Support completion of Complex Needs Project	Apr-18	Scheme completed and occupied.	Complex Needs scheme is complete and in occupation	

7	Identify pathways for people transitioning from residential care to a lower level of support allowing more independent living,	Apr-18	Transition model developed that informs scheme developments and allocations.	Transitions model in place. Transition tracking group meet every 2 months. Transitions of those with Learning Disabilities and Physical Disabilities identified and adjustments to who is coming through made. This is managed by the Learning Disabilities team although there is multi disciplinary discussion.	Whilst the model is in place, identifying people transitioning is an ongoing process.
8	Consider how residents will have access to support including flexible support, and reasonable levels of support at weekends or out of normal hours where required.	Aug-18	Pathways to access support identified.	Where clients are in residential schemes they can receive a personalised one to one plan if required. 24 hour support is provided in a residential setting. In supported living schemes people can receive additional care hours on a flexible basis, if required through their personalised care package. Weekend support is available if needed. One Housing Group provide floating support. Places for People provide older people's visiting support. Stonewater provide visiting support for older people.	
9	Work with NHS partners to ensure there is early identification of housing needs for those admitted to wards or crisis units to enable housing needs to be addressed (fully or partially) prior to discharge.	Apr-19	Agreed process for early assessment in place.	Robust processes have been established with NHS partners. The CCG attend a weekly panel so that they are aware who is coming through the system and awaiting discharge or soon to be discharged.	
10	Establish how many people currently supported by carers are likely to require alternative accommodation within the next 10 years, and what their accommodation and support needs are likely to be.	Dec-18	10 year forecast of the accommodation needs of people currently supported by carers produced.	The council has not had a specialist Commissioner for Mental Health (CforMH) for over two years and therefore this target has slipped. However, a new CforMH will start in January 2020.	The (CforMH) to work with public health to forecast future accommodation needs of people currently supported by family carers.
11	Identify improvements required to existing supported housing schemes	Dec-18	Improvements required to schemes outlined.	Rivermead and Southway (specialist dementia residential homes) were identified as needing an upgrade. Both schemes have had the work completed. Puttenhoe has a dementia unit that has also had upgrade works.	There will continue to be ongoing reviews of schemes and improvements will be carried out as necessary.
12	Work with partners to determine resource availability/funding to complete identified improvements to existing supported housing schemes.	Apr-19	Resource availability / funding determined.	The above schemes in action 11 were funded by the Council under capital expenditure.	
13	Investigate the number of clients unable to access social housing due to rent arrears and the origins of these arrears, and then look at how this barrier to social housing could be removed for some current clients and avoided for future clients.	Apr-19	Work completed on the number of clients affected by rent arrears and a procedure developed to avoid this issue for future clients.	The allocations team has investigated the number of non-qualifying applicants to the Housing Register due to rent arrears. Unfortunately, it was not possible to determine the number of non-qualifying applicants who were not accepted due to rent arrears and whom had mental health needs.	Investigate other sources of data that could provide this information.

14	Produce better referral protocols and improve information sharing.	Sep-19	Referral protocol and information sharing procedure developed.	A referral protocol and information sharing procedure have been developed and a Mental Health Board will be established early 2020 which will monitor them.	Monitor effectiveness.
15	Implement the recommendations arising from the housing review completed by Bedford Borough Supporting People Partnership Board.	Sep-19	Recommendations actioned.	The Bedford Borough Supporting People Partnership Board has been disbanded.	Target no longer relevant.

**Additional Achievements - 2019**

A	Bedford Borough Council opened the 24 hour somewhere safe to stay hub on Harpur Street in October 2019. This provides for rapid assessment of housing and support needs for people who are, or are at risk of, sleeping rough as well as emergency beds.
B	Bedford Borough Council has secured Government funding for a dual diagnosis outreach worker who will be working with people sleeping rough with mental health problems and other complex needs to support them into an accommodation pathway.