**Present**: Stuart Clifton, chair and Maidstone; Lora McCourt, vice chair and Canterbury CC; John Littlemore, Maidstone; Pam Millington, Dover; Zoe Callaway, Swale; Chris Burgess; Thanet; Fiona Rimmer, KCC; Lynn Wilders, Gravesham; Ray Easdown, Medway; Vicky Hodson, Homechoice; Sarah Porter, Porchlight; Nirosha Dissanayake, KCC Public Health; Adam Moll, SIG; Cynthia Allen, Interventions Alliance; Alex Clarke, DLUHC; Chris Bishop, Riverside; Mark Damiral, Folkestone & Hythe; Elly Toe, Dover; Gill Arukpe, SIG; Rav Kensrey, Sevenoaks; Toni Carter, Dartford; Angela Palmer, MHS; Nadia Hughes, Medway Activity Hub; Helen Miller, KHG.

**Apologies:** Sylvia Roberts, Ashford; Sarah Huntley, DWP; Hazel South, Rachel Westlake, KCC; Kellie Pettet-Steele, Max Guest and Stacey Baston, KCC; Mike Barrett, Porchlight;

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| Reference | Notes/Outcome | When | Who | Action/Decision |
| Matters Arising | Page 3 June KHOG CK and WCW to catch up after the meeting. CK, all done and working with RBLI now. **Completed.**  Page 5 June KHOG IH Protocol – Thanet Protocol Chris Burgess to provide feedback. CB, did not find an agreed protocol and cannot share a developed protocol. **Completed.**  Page 2 KHOG Sept 21 AC Forward letter on Afghan programme to KHOG for circulation. **Done**  Page 3 KHOG Sept 21 KPS to forward KSAS details to HM to circulate. **Done**  Page 6 KHOG Sept 21 Domestic Abuse social housing reciprocal agreement group arranged and meet for first time on 21 Oct 21. **Done**  Page 6 KHOG Sept 21 SC to state whether there was any feedback on his feedback on the MAPPA Housing Protocol. SC, the housing panels have begun but SC has not seen a final version yet.  Page 6 KHOG Sept 21 Review the joint housing protocol, group arranged to meet 4 Nov with Hazel South facilitating. **Progressing and ongoing**  Page 6 KHOG Sept 21 ALL, Contact TC if you’d wish to join the group or nominate a member of staff for the Homeless Womens Group.  Page 8 KHOG Sept 21 HM Requests for volunteers to be KHOG vice chair circulated but no response yet. SC encouraged people to step forward for this and to speak to SC or LMc to find out more.  Page 8 KHOG Sept 21 HM Revised Terms of Reference posted on website. **Completed**  Page 8 KHOG Sept 21 SC Determine capacity of rooms at MBC and book if appropriate. **Completed**  Page 8 KHOG 21 Regarding East Kent Protocol for Mental Health Services and the Marie Royle to take to KHG. **LMC will share the document when finalised.**  Page 8 KHOG Sept 21 LM & JL discuss West Kent model for outreach mental health services. **No update.** |  | SC  All | Contact Lindsey Wafula, to request a final version of MAPPA Housing Protocol  Please consider volunteering to be KHOG vice chair |
| DLUHC Update | Alex Clarke explained that they are no longer called MHCLG and are now the Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities. The new Secretary of State is Michael Gove. They are going through a transition phase as they are awaiting the spending review. That should bring announcements which should cover RSI5 where they are hoping for a multi-year settlement and when they know they will begin co-production on RSI5 bids. They also hope to get outcomes of round 2 of RSAP. Kent has been considered to be under represented in bidding. AC is keen to help when the new opportunities arise to help LAs make most of them.  AC hopes to work with partners, including Probation, on a workshop on accommodation for ex-offenders, this will probably on 12th Nov, so please put a hold in your diary.  AC is looking forward to have virtual meetings with all LHAs in the next 1-2 months to learn how things are in each district followed by face to face visits in next 6-12 months, COVID permitting.  Alex explained that HCLIC gives the picture of what has happened and he is keen to know what is happening. He asked the LAs say what they are seeing regarding demographics, reasons for homelessness, etc. ;  Maidstone BC is seeing an increase in approaches from families. It’s also seeing an increase in approaches from single households due to DA. They are seeing an increase in number of care leavers which JL will take up with KCC. These changes are leading to an increase in TA use.  Medway has seen a similar position with more households facing eviction, more fleeing DA and more care leavers. Footfall is increasing and there is an increase in use of TA to.  AC said LHAs have flagged the issue of care leavers and this will be picked up when reviewing the YP protocol  Porchlight’s single point of access are seeing increase in single adults fleeing DA, relationship break down and a drop in eviction due to non-compliance.  AC welcomed any other feedback to be sent to him, or raise it at the virtual meetings. |  |  |  |
| Research Practice Unit | Cynthia Allen gave a presentation on the Evaluation of the Link Project that will be circulated by email.  They are no longer called CRC. Interventions Alliance were the parent company of the CRC. They continue to provide services to the Probation Service.  The project considered the impact of supported accommodation on homeless clients with support needs. COVID impacted on how the research was carried out, the other services available or the ways they were delivered, and move on for those clients ready to seek settled accommodation.  There was a theme of many small wins, despite the pandemic which placed additional challenges on clients and staff. Stable accommodation is a foundation to help people rebuild their lives.  Adam Moll gave feedback on this from the perspective of the Social Interest Group that includes Pathways to Independence. He welcomed the research and how it will help them develop their services. The pandemic did create additional burdens and did have an impact. He asked LHAs how can the SIG assure them that a client is ready to move into new accommodation? He suggested a passport/certification showing the support they had had.  JL, the research has shown the real difference the supported accommodation makes to vulnerable individuals, however the funding is only available to next March and they will put a bid in to MoJ to continue this. JL would like to see some funds from each LHA to help the service continue and that could lead to nomination rights to the supported accommodation. LHAs are asked to consider this funding option. |  | **Each LA** | **Consider how you could contribute to funds to allow this provision to continue** |
| SIG Pathway Partnership and new ways of working | Gill Arukpe from the Social Interest Group, a group of charities that includes Pathways to Independence, gave a presentation that will be posted on the website.  Pathways had great outcomes, using a PIE and an empathic approach, but as a small charity struggled to bid for work. SIG provides an overall support structure that enables bids to be made and funding to be more stable. Many of Pathways clients do have a background of having been in care, possibly over a decade ago. Many had not been ready for substance misuse previously and Pathways aims to stabilise clients sufficiently to be ready to engage with other services. Move on accommodation remains a long term struggle. They have the SIG investments arms which aims to develop relationships with private landlords to help address this.  If the LIF bid is successful they’d aim to work together to reduce the re-offending of clients that Pathways support. In the meantime they would welcome funding from LHAs whilst awaiting MoJ funding.  SC asked;   * If LHAs could consider funding for the project going forward, and what may influence your willingness to contribute? And * What are the needs of ex-offenders in your district?   F&H and Ashford use AFO money to help them run services from the Probation Offices. MD suggested Gill contact Adam Clarke at F&H for more information.  LMc from Canterbury said they have found the project useful with a challenging cohort. They need to have a conversation about how and whether to continue the project. It is unclear whether DLUHC will continue funding this. CCC Do wish to work on suitable pathways and more structured moves, so need to talk about the accommodation, how to do the assessments, identifying the right clients, having a clear process and team for this. LMc explained that the councils need enough information to inform decisions  RK they had money from AFO and would welcome a conversation with Gill. |  | GA, RK, LMc  RK | Contact each other to have the discussions needed on this topic |
| SE CFO Activity Hub | Nadia Hughes, based in Medway Activity Hub, gave a presentation that will be circulated by email, along with her email address for partners to request further details.  They work under, and are part of Seetec, delivered through the Interventions Alliance.  They help participants engage with mainstream services, to help them avoid re-offending.  The Medway hub covers all of Kent, based in central Chatham near the Pentagon and bus station.    Individuals are referred (including from LAs), or self-referred, and then assessed to create a tailored action plan.  They value partnership working and people are welcome to contact to ask questions or arrange a visit.  Adam Moll explained he is from SIG and provides the Activity Hub for London. He asked what their experience has been. NH explained it was initially slow but since engaging with the partners uptake has increased. They also do outreach to encourage clients to attend and make their first visit as comfortable as possible.  Making contact between Medway Council LHA and the Hub may have been delayed by a change of personnel at the Hub. NH said she would pick this up with Ray Easdown and will email Ray. |  | **HM**  **NH & RE** | Email NH’s email address to members  Liaise to create working relationship between Hub and MC |
| Commissioning Updates | Childrens Commissioning Hazel South will send a written update that will be posted online.  Fiona Rimmer provided an update on Kent Homeless Connect and KIDAS and her presentation will be circulated by email only. Please flag questions on that with Rachel Westlake. If you’d like to join the event on 3rd November please contact Stephanie Bechelet at KCC.  Gill Arukpe said the SIG had been looking at training for the perpetrators and asked what was available and how that was considered in the strategy. FR explained that was considered during strategy development. They will look at the evidence on what works to inform commissioning and FR will ask RW to respond to GA. FR they will also look on how to support children witnessing DA.  SC highlighted the Kent Police perpetrator programme. Details will be posted on the website.  JL explained that the DA strategy was taken the Chief Exec and Kent Leaders who were supportive. They hope all LAs will sign up to the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA). Also consideration was being given on moving the perpetrator, or the survivor, and programmes that move the perpetrator out for a short time to be able to bring interventions in. He suggested this could be considered by the Link programme. GA supported this suggested in principle and would welcome a conversation on this.  FR offered to take this idea back to RW.  CA said they deliver the DA programme for the Police of unconvicted perpetrators and also the stalking and harassment project. |  | **HM**  **JL & GA**  **FR** | Post details of perpetrator programme on KHG website  Discuss interventions around DA perpetrators  To take ideas on DA back to RW at KCC |
| COMF Hardship Funding Update | Stuart Clifton explained there are two strands to this work;   * funds to each LHA under KCC to address financial hardship arising from COVID leading to homelessness, and * promoting the service to landlords.   All LHAs have signed the MoU and have received the initial payment of £131,250. The money must be spent by 31st March 2022. Please email the data return for each calendar month to HM by 15th of the next month. HM will do data returns to KCC. For the October return, due 15th November, please forward them to Lora McCourt [lora.mccourt@canterbury.gov.uk](mailto:lora.mccourt@canterbury.gov.uk) and HM at [helen.miller@ashford.co.uk](mailto:helen.miller@ashford.co.uk) If HM is still off sick LMc will do the data return.  We also hope to encourage landlords who have not previously worked with LHAs to make contact and find out about options other than eviction. The animation is nearly complete and the website is well on. The marketing provider, Maxim, has now been appointed and the working group that originally formed to agree the marketing message for the animation and website will meet with the marketing provider each month to ensure the marketing is effective. If you receive emails from Rachel at Maxim please do respond to her. |  |  |  |
| KHG/KHOG Protocols Update | Stuart read this written update from Lisa Clarke on the reciprocal agreement for domestic abuse for social housing:  The first meeting of the task and finish group was held on Wednesday 20th October. It was an extremely positive meeting with a number of key issues to the project discussed, including the criteria for eligibility and the practical implementation. We have also identified the objectives and outcomes of the project.  The first exercise to be completed will be collating a full list of all of the domestic abuse provisions in Kent. Following this we will be sending questionnaires to a number of registered providers and specialist support services to further understand the obstacles survivors face and if fear of losing a social tenancy is a barrier to leave. This will help us tailor the reciprocal project to better meet the needs of survivors in Kent.  The group will be meeting monthly moving forward. If anyone would like to become involved or wish to have further information, please contact Lisa Clarke [lisa.clarke@clarionhg.com](mailto:lisa.clarke@clarionhg.com)  IH  A joint LHA and KCC working group has been reviewing the IH families protocol. RS, VW and Amanda from KCC have created a draft but some additional work will be needed. RS and Amanda are unable to continue supporting this work. Please consider if you can help with this to enable this to be progressed.  YP  A T&F group has been set up to review YP protocol will meet in November.  The deadline for responding to the LGA Out Of Area Homelessness Protocol consultation has been extended and organisations can respond until 3rd Nov. KHG submitted a joint response by the original deadline. |  | **All** | Consider joining the working group on the IH protocol to enable this work to be progressed. |
| Urgent National Policy/Case Law Updates | SC will update on a Judicial review, Ibrahim v Westminster, regarding refusal to accept a third homelessness application following a review decision, at the next KHOG meeting. |  |  |  |
| Agree amended ToR | The amended ToR were accepted |  | HM | Post ToR on website as agreed |
| Volunteers for vice chair role | SC will end chairing KHOG in December 2021. LM will step up to chair. Please email HM to volunteer for the vice chair role. |  | All | Consider volunteering to the KHOG vice chair |
| AOB | SC is leaving MBC and Natalia Merritt will be taking his role at MBC from 1st November. SC going to TWBC to take Jane Lang’s position. SC will chair the meeting in November and then LMc will step into chair role for the new year.  Dan Hutchins of Mid Kent Procurement explained they’ve been exploring options for procuring TA for Maidstone, Tunbridge Wells and Swale to look at a compliance and services aspects using an SLA and also firm up prices. This would allow the same paperwork to be used across the partnership. Two options are being explored;   * A tender led approach (where we go out and test the market, looking at a framework or a hybrid set up) * A systems led approach (using a system, such as ADAM that the Wren Housing Group use – more like a one-stop-shop to go online to book accommodation when you need it)   SC wondered if this systems led approach would work better if all the LHAs were signed up? Sevenoaks and Dartford have indicated they may join a shared procurement process. Dan highlighted a management board on TA Procurement would be needed. Would other LHAs want to join? If so please raise with SC and whether a systems or tender led approach would be preferred. Timescales are very short so please reply to SC by 22nd Oct.  SC explained that if partners favour a systems led approach we could invite ADAM to present their service at a future KHOG meeting. | **22/10/21** | **ALL** | **Contact SC to indicate whether you LA would wish to join a shared procurement for TA and whether you favour a system or tender led approach.** |