



Kent Housing Group
The Voice of Housing in Kent



Housing, Health and Social Care Sub Group (HHSC)

An Overview

Housing, Health & Social Care subgroup



Purpose

- A forum for housing organisations, NHS, public health and social care across Kent and Medway to take an overview of how housing, social care and health can work together to promote healthy places, communities and the health and wellbeing of individuals

Who we are

- Kent & Medway Local Authorities
- 12 Housing Associations out of a potential 16
- Ongoing representation from Social Care, Probation, Kent Community Health NHS Foundation trust, Kent Fire and Rescue, KCC Commissioners, charities supporting homelessness

What we do

- Meet quarterly – themed meetings based on our action plan
- Get involved in KHG overall priorities

HHSC Action Plan 2021-2023

- **Theme 1:** Tenancy Sustainment and Support
- **Theme 2:** Safe in your Home
- **Theme 3:** Reduce and Prevent Homelessness
- **Theme 4:** Tackling Social Isolation, Loneliness and Social Exclusion
- **Theme 5:** Smoke-Free*
- **Theme 6:** Mental Health*
- **Theme 7:** Cross Cutting Themes of Learning* and Integration



Highlights from 2021-2022

- Membership meeting themed to mental health
 - Working through real case studies with adult social care
 - Understanding of how the service is delivered, how to make a referral and clarity on expectations
 - Nine actions for improvements were agreed – discussion focussed on the customer journey for our residents and as referrers
- Contributed to the improvement of communication between registered providers and Hospital Discharge Team for minor works approval to expedite discharge
- Domestic Abuse training - 483 officers across eight organisations have expressed an interest in this training and 109 completed to date
- Influenced and delivered LA consultation on behalf of CCG on GP Access for the Homeless
- Participated in the Kent Fire and Rescue Service's July 2021's fire safety campaign 'Smoke Outside, Feel Safer Inside'
 - HHSC reached housing providers with fire safety information including smoke & carbon monoxide alarms and electrical safety
- Smoke Free Homes and Smoke Free Spaces Campaign launched to members
 - aimed to provide clear messaging to increase awareness amongst tenants (social and private rented) about how to reduce smoking in the home and in particular, ensure children are not in a smoking environment

Looking forward 2022-2023

Tenancy sustainment and support

- Fuel poverty themed meeting June 2022
- Lead on the review of the KHG Fuel Poverty Strategy 2016

Safe in your home

- Identify and share good practice on hoarding practices. Hoarding Good Practice Guide developed
- Identify blockages and solutions within the hospital discharge process

Tackling isolation, loneliness and social exclusion

- Consider the use of digital inclusion in reducing isolation, loneliness and social inclusion
- Explore befriending schemes and understand if befriending schemes can be adopted by landlords to reduce isolation

Mental health

- KHG lead for Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (KMPT) service review work – September meeting
- Annually promote KCC's 'Release the Pressure' (suicide prevention) campaign
- Offer mental health training to members

Partnership working

- Aim to establish greater working links with CCG to improve partnership working
- Generate insight into smoking and the housing sector for Kent Public Health
- Housing Awareness training for health and social care sectors colleagues

Housing, Health and Social Care Subgroup

Cathy McCarthy

Chair

cathy.mccarthy@wkha.org.uk

Sarah Tickner

Housing, Health and Social Care Project Officer

sarah.tickner@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Contact for further info and joining

