

## What is the Housing and Health Collective?

We are a placed based partnership (*covering South, Central, West and East*) creating systematic change through joining up housing, health and communities.

## What is the 'problem' as we see it?

Housing, health and social care agencies have been subject to extensive and rapid change in recent years. This has resulted in a lack of collaboration and understanding of one another.

Findings also suggest that a number of externally determined factors have been acting as barriers to effective collaboration including the widespread lack of resources, the introduction of markets into the provision of social care - resulting in competition between agencies; and no clear national agenda nor co-ordination of government programmes within which local agencies could work together.

Lack of collaboration and over competition has also perpetuated the inconsistency of local relationships and the post code lottery of community-based services available across our geographies. As such, only about a third of people seeing their GP are seeking medical advice; with the top ten nonmedical reasons being: housing advice, jobs, money issues, relationships, bereavement, schools, loneliness, childcare support and elderly relatives. Housing also report that housing management has had to evolve to take into account the heightened needs of our communities but sometimes don't have the skills, knowledge or funds to do things differently which benefit communities in a sustained way.

## What is our purpose?

### Our purpose is to:

- Create lasting collaboration between housing and health, which results in empowered, healthier, happier communities; reduced impact on acute/ GP services; and a reduction in housing management costs.
- Create a supportive learning environment to allow partners in the Collective to learn about each other, grow and create a consistent approach to relationships with housing and health
- Work across our shared geographies to build programmes system wide, thus reducing the post code lottery of services on offer to our communities
- To eradicate competition between our sectors/ organisations when bidding for work which benefits our communities
- Work to ensure sustainability of the models we create through how we work within our community infrastructures

## Core Principles: Our Collective Commitment

### The Collective agree to:



#### **Innovate**

We are not afraid of being rebellious and trying new ideas, experimenting and failing fast – if this will benefit our communities.



#### **Create**

Our programmes will be developed system wide across our geographies to reduce the post code lottery.



#### **Collaborate**

We actively looking for opportunities to collaborate and agree to eradicate the competition for funding. Our resources are a common wealth.



#### **Learn**

We will build a supportive learning environment to enable partners to grow and learn, whilst sharing our learning with others who can grow from our approach.



#### **Empower**

We will build relationships across our community infrastructures and enable our local community partners to deliver alongside us, this to ensure sustainability of the offer we create.

## *What will success look like?*

### **Short term**

- We learn more about one another through a mapping exercise which will show partners strengths, expertise and also areas they wish to develop
- Opportunities shared regularly across the Collective
- Meetings attended by the Collective are useful and agile working with one another is embraced
- Funding is won to enable us to action our words
- A consistent approach to relationships between our sectors is created and shared
- A framework for improving thematic areas is created and used for the basis of our bids
- Collaborative surveying to combat survey fatigue
- Others replicating our approach across our sectors

### **Long term**

- Reduction in isolation and loneliness across our operating areas through creating programmes to enable independence and increase community connections
- Drop in GP attendance for social reasons because people will know what is available to them in the community and how/ when to use it
- GP's becoming part of the Collective through relationship building. This allowing created programmes to build in social prescribing successfully
- Decreased housing management costs due to more sustained tenancies and places for frontline colleagues to refer customers into whilst tracking their journeys
- Increased engagement from the community/ customers resulting in co-created services and peer networks being set up and sustained across thematic areas.
- Arrears levels due to health challenges reduced
- 80% of people who engage with programmes the Collective creates increase their QoL (wellbeing/ employment/ financial inclusion etc)
- Housing and health collective demonstrate how our collaboration keeps people out of hospital/ acute care