

Section 4(a)

The Case Studies - Index

This section provides an outline of the case studies visited as part of the field work to inform this practice paper on housing and housing support for drug users.

It was acknowledged that each partnership and project had a range of learning to share. To help set the learning, practicalities and interdependencies in context the following 'building blocks' were identified as contributing towards informing an integrated comprehensive approach of housing services for drug users.

They include the:

- Drivers for Change,
- Understanding the Spectrum of Need for housing and drug users
- Effective strategic planning and commissioning and responsive service delivery
- Improved service user involvement

Section 2 has broadly described the Drivers for Change, and the need for consideration of a Spectrum of Housing and Drug Need. Section 3 has summarised the findings using the key principles of strategic planning and commissioning, service delivery and improved service user involvement. This section has 'grouped' the case studies in line with the rationale for their selection and focus for their involvement in the practice work.

Each case study is described broadly under the following headings:

- Overall purpose,
- Key outcomes,
- Service Summary, and
- Resources (resources cover total staffing and funding for the organisation/partnership, it was not possible to identify the drug specific element for each case study)¹

¹ The descriptions of the case studies in Section 4 have been agreed by each partnership or provider and reflect the work that was been carried out at the time of the visit by the Housing & Drug Advisors Sept-Jan 2008.

The views expressed in this Practice Paper are those of the authors not necessarily those of the Home Office (nor do they reflect government policy).

Summary of Case Studies		Focus			
		Service User Involvement	Service delivery Operational arrangements	Service delivery Policies & procedures	Strategic planning & commissioning
Bristol User Feedback Organisation (UFO) Bristol, South West Region	This case study illustrates how Bristol involved service users in planning housing for drug users. It focuses on how UFO was commissioned to conduct a peer review of Supporting People provision for drug users. It also illustrates how service user feedback can highlight gaps in service provision.	X			X
Drug Strategy Team (DST) (Bristol, South West Region)	This case study illustrates how Bristol involved service users in the commissioning and performance management of treatment services.	X			X
Julian Housing (Norfolk, East of England Region)	This case study illustrates how a housing support provider can manage to provide accommodation and support to drug users with a dual diagnosis ² . They have put service users at the centre of the process. They have a clear set of principles to inform how they work with drug users, which in turn informs the design of accommodation services that achieve successful outcomes.	X	X	X	
SHP (formerly Single Homeless Project) Camden, London Region	This case study highlights how one organisation can work within a policy framework which recognises that an increasing number of people referred to temporary accommodation and support services are actively using drugs, and is prepared to work with them. SHP has developed a proactive harm reduction approach to managing drug use within the premises they manage.		X	X	
Framework Housing Association Nottingham, East Midlands Region	This case study illustrates how a Housing Association can provide accommodation for up to two years and support people at risk of homelessness, or are homeless, and who have substance misuse and/or mental health issues. Framework Housing Association have mainstreamed all services for drug users by ensuring the support needs of drug users are at the centre of their service delivery.	X	X	X	

² Dual diagnosis – this term refers to those who have both substance misuse and mental health problems (may also be described as comorbidity).

Summary of Case Studies		Focus			
		Service User Involvement	Service delivery Operational arrangements	Service delivery Policies & procedures	Strategic planning & commissioning
In Partnership Project Blackburn Northwest Region	This case study highlights how the accommodation and support needs of substance using young women, who may also have an offending and/or a history of being involved in prostitution, can be met.	X	X	X	
New Steine Mews Brighton, South East Region	This case study shows how a hostel can meet the needs of service users preparing for residential treatment and rehabilitation at the same time as providing services to those service users who are continuing to use drugs. Co-location of these two groups can make it difficult for service users to minimise or stop their drug use in order to be eligible for residential treatment or other specialist drug services.	X	X	X	
Thames Reach – Brixton STEP Brixton, London Region	This case study demonstrates how a support provider can deliver accommodation to drug users who are considering rehabilitation, but need time and support, to enable them to make the positive changes required to succeed in drug treatment and the community.	X	X	X	
Tyneside Cyrenians Newcastle, North East Region	This case study illustrates how a housing and support provider can deliver services across a variety of needs to assist service users in making positive, lasting changes. Emphasis is placed on delivering progressively a diverse range of support and comprehensive opportunities by working innovatively in multiple partnerships.	X	X	X	
Calderdale Offender Housing Group Calderdale, Yorkshire & Humber Region	This case study illustrates how active leadership from strategy and planning groups in operational arrangements and service delivery can help to deliver housing services to drug users. This has led to effective delivery of housing to active drug users in a locality that has no local hostel provision for single homeless people.		X		X

Summary of Case Studies		Focus			
		Service User Involvement	Service delivery Operational arrangements	Service delivery Policies & procedures	Strategic planning & commissioning
The Hostels Pathway Implementation Group – The Department of Housing & Adult Social Care London Borough of Camden London Region	This case study illustrates how the Camden Anti Social Behaviour strategy was used as a driver for housing drug users bringing additional investment to the local drug and housing sector. This work is managed within the Department of Housing and Adult Social Care and is undertaken by the Hostels Pathway Implementation group.				X
Norfolk Drug and Alcohol Partnership (N-DAP) Norfolk, East of England Region	This case study shows how the countywide drug and alcohol partnership recognised the importance of providing a spectrum of accommodation to meet the varied and changing housing needs of substance misusers. N-DAP has become a driver to raise the profile of need and keep a clear focus on delivery.				X
Safe Newcastle Drugs, Alcohol and Housing Group Newcastle, NorthEast Region	This case study demonstrates how strategic partners who have worked together for some time are planning and delivering co-ordinated accommodation and support services for drug users. Safe Newcastle (formerly Newcastle Housing Partnership and Supporting People) worked together to produce a “Drug, Alcohol and Housing Strategy” and an action plan to meet accommodation and support needs of substance misusers.	X			X
Chief Housing Officers Group+ (CHOG+) Worcestershire, West Midlands Region	This case study illustrates how chief officers with strategic responsibility for planning housing for drug users have grouped together to form an effective leadership group. It includes partner agencies and providers who can help tackle the challenges of meeting the multiple needs of drug users in the county.				X