

**Working Group summary notes and actions**

Group: **Housing & Neighbourhoods**

Date: **Wednesday February 5, 2025**

Attendees: Judie Collins, Manjari Patel, Tony Johnson, Sian Richards, Jack James ( Ageing Hub) Mary Gogarty (GMCA), Liz Jones ,John Mulvenna, Sandra Bellamy (Macc)

Topic and presenter**: What is Housing First and what does it mean for people in Greater Manchester - Mary Gogarty, Principal Housing Strategy, GMCA**

**Presentation slides have been circulated alongside these notes – please read for detail of presentation.**

Key points from presentation:

* Scale of Housing Issues in GM and nationally
* Requires ambitious and innovative strategy and implementation plan
* Looking at how they can address the housing crisis
* How do we engage appropriate communities and groups
* Looking at bringing empty homes back into use
* Looking at housing standards

**Jack James: Senior Projects and Campaigns Officer and Lead on Housing, GM Ageing Hub (GMCA) – What might this mean for older people – how does this link with the Age friendly Agenda in GM**

Jack will be attending these meetings from now on to ensure link between lived experience voices and strategic work within GMCA undertaken through Housing Planning and Ageing group – Jack gave a brief overview of the Housing, Planning and Ageing Group that is made up of public sector officers, architects, housing associations, planners and Judie as Network representative. He is looking forward to working with the network to make sure that lived experience perspectives are better represented.

**. Key suggestions and discussion points**

* Liz suggested that the Venn diagram featured in the housing first presentation could be used as a way of plotting the age-friendly housing agenda – this could help to integrate the workstreams and be used to make sure that older people’s perspectives and age-friendly agenda was considered throughout planning and delivery
* There are a lot of older people in GM that don’t have a home, can’t afford their own home, can’t access a home that meets their needs. Housing First needs to connect with the needs of an Ageing Population
* Discussed the Housing Options information research conducted by the network a few years ago – finding were that it was extremely difficult for people to plan for anticipated changes to housing need in later life. Support there in a crisis but not available for people to plan. Housing options information for later life planning needs to be available – could this be integrated into housing first strategy?
* It good that the network is involved in consultation at this early stage and this is a good opportunity to highlight what is at stake and how GMOPN and the panel can be involved.
* Tony asked about the paper he had asked to be shared which highlighted some of the issues and aims in the slides – speaker to respond as a follow up to the meeting.
* Manjari raised the issue of uncertainty felt by different groups particularly when many of these issues have been ongoing for such a long time- the slow pace of appropriate change led to frustration.
* A question was raised about how supported housing and extra care for older people will be embedded within the Housing First model
* John Mulvenna suggested that he could address some of these issues through working with other panels to priorities in relation to housing and raise through the Tackling Inequalities Board – John to feed back to Jack and Mary.

**Actions / Next Steps**

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| Action | Who | When |
| Housing option report to be shared with Mary | Liz Jones | Work in Progress |
| Feedback to other Panels about the Housing Meeting | John Mulvenna | Work in progress |
| Address issues raised by Tony. | Network ( Housing ) | Work in progress |

**Date of next Meeting: TBC 2024 1:00 – 2:30pm**