

## **Transcript of video: Resourcing tech-enabled homes for people who draw on social care**

Pete Fahy, Director of housing and adults, Coventry City Council: This conference is being held to prepare the region for the Housing Innovation Fund announced as part of the white paper on social care last year, but it's important that we prepare ourselves as a region to make the most opportunity of that.

There's £500m nationally, which is a significant amount of money and that amount of money is there to help us make preparations for housing opportunities that may support people that live in our communities.

Jeremy Porteus, CEO Housing LIN: The adult social care reform white paper sets out a number of policy and investment levers to enable local authorities and their partners to adapt, to improve, and to offer better housing choices for older and disabled adults.

What I started to look at was, how can housing, working in partnership with adult social care, unlock the potential and look at the opportunities for creating smarter housing where we are embedding technology from the outset. How we're looking at things like Alexa and apps and other forms of innovation around technology.

I then also went on to think about some of the big money investment that's been coming through the adult social care reform white paper, in particular the Housing Transformation Fund so that there will be monies over the next three years to enable local authorities both better understand the demand but also the aspiration and wishes of the local populations around the variety of housing solutions.

This is not just about the social housing or a local authority provision, this is about everybody: older homeowners, private tenants, and the like. We need to make sure that digital enablement is standard.

Pete Fahy: We recognise in ADASS that we can't do things alone so therefore it makes sense for us to partner with a major technology organisation and the Housing LIN who've got a load of expertise in housing innovation and preparing housing to support our more vulnerable communities.

Jeremy Porteus: At a local level, it's important that housing and social care are joined up, and what we see in many local authorities is that there's a designated lead. In some unitaries that'll be the director of adult social care, in others it may be the executive of the health and well-being board.

What we see across other parts of England is that many local health and social care systems have created memoranda of understanding, and health and housing and social care partnerships with the lead agencies taking both leadership around this, but also ensuring that implementation engages with the wider community - both the professional community but also the community at large.

With the advent of the integrated care systems, housing now plays a really important part in making sure that the health and social care economy addresses the housing needs of local populations.

We already know from the policy guidance framework that NHS England and the government have published that housing is referenced, but we need to strengthen that, so that at the local level housing is on the board, that whether it be the health and wellbeing board whether it's the partnership board, but also things like the Better Care Fund, so that the funding that's available engages with housing right from the outset.

What is really critical is making sure that the health improvements of the outcomes that housing interventions can make, are well demonstrated then we need to have more effective leadership to make sure that housing has a place at the integrated table.

There are two or three things that had adult social care can do right now. One of them is to review their existing commissioning strategies to make sure that technology enablement is at the heart of those.

The second thing is to better understand what the future housing needs and care will be in their localities. The Housing LIN is delighted to be commissioned by ADASS West Midlands to undertake some population mapping work and to better understand what the 10 year preferences in the long run will be, so that they are better armed with the type of intelligence to make really good informed investment decisions.

The last thing is about co-production. We need to make sure that this is engaged fully with local citizens.

Alyson Scurfield, Chief Executive, TSA: The adult social care paper – [the] white paper - is about transformation. It's about us using our funds more wisely, it's about what do we stop, and what do we start. So we need to get the leaders in health, social care, and our housing colleagues working really closely with their new formations of the ICSs.

We need to really work with our workforce. We need to empower that shift that's needed. the mindset, the different skills they need to be able to make this happen. This is not just about affordability and bolt on an existing provision, it's how we transform and make it a reality.

Pete Fahy: Joining housing and social care and then bringing technology into that same discussion and that same 'join up' really does enable us to make the most opportunity to enable people to be independent and achieve good outcomes.