

Housing and accommodation needs assessment for people with learning disabilities in West Wales to 2037

For West Wales Care Partnership



Housing LIN

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Executive Summary

This report provides an assessment of the housing and accommodation needs amongst people with learning disabilities across the West Wales Care Partnership footprint for the next 10-20 years.

This quantitative evidence base is intended to be used as one source of evidence of future housing need amongst people with learning disabilities *alongside* other sources of data available to West Wales Care Partnership (WWCP), for example qualitative research with people with learning disabilities and their carers locally.

A housing need predictor model has been developed as a basis for housing need projections for people with learning disabilities. This has been applied to generate an assessment of future need within Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire to provide an assessment of future housing need at both local authority and WWCP level.

The current position and future housing requirements

46% of adults with learning disabilities aged 18+ in West Wales live with family/informal carers.

Accommodation and housing choices are relatively limited; the predominant options are either a place in a residential care home or supported living in the form of a room in a shared house. There has tended to be an historic over reliance on the use of residential care well above the Welsh average.

The provision of supported housing is skewed towards provision in locations where there has been lower cost property available. There are relatively limited housing and accommodation options currently available in more rural areas.

The supported housing is all for rent; there do not appear to be any home ownership arrangements currently in place for people with learning disabilities.

There is relatively limited housing based provision for people with complex needs related to behavioural needs or complex health/social care needs.

It is estimated that there is need for approximately 190 additional housing units by 2027 and an additional 340 units by 2037. This is summarised in the table below.

West Wales Care Partnership	Current supply	Estimated need 2027	Estimated need 2037
<i>LD Adult population</i>	1404	1488	1578
Housing & accommodation types			
Residential care	266	211	149
Shared Lives	76	112	161
Supported housing/living	299	433	529
Mainstream housing with care/support package	129	143	169
Living with family/informal carers	634	588	569
Totals	1404	1488	1578
Net additional housing & accommodation requirement (units)		185	354

Implications for West Wales Care Partnership commissioners

To address these constraints on widening housing options and to meet the identified increase in future need for housing to 2037, the commissioning implications include:

- Developing at a scale appropriate to locations in West Wales, small 'clusters' of self-contained flats (6-10 units) with 24/7 support as alternatives to both shared supported housing and residential care.
- Developing supported housing schemes on a regional basis for people with the most complex needs to avoid the use of residential care.
- Reviewing the current use of shared supported housing, to identify any individuals who could move to more independent forms of housing (such as clusters of flats or mainstream housing).
- Developing sufficient housing adapted for full wheelchair accessibility (typically either within a shared housing or cluster of flats environment).
- Further development of the Shared Lives scheme, e.g. to be better able to support service users to 'move on' once they have acquired greater independent living skills; to recruit carers better able to support service users with more challenging needs.

- Consideration of the reuse or 'remodelling' of some current residential care services including potentially through 'deregistration'.
- Make available provision within existing and planned extra care housing schemes for people with learning disabilities.
- Developing information and advice resources for families/carers of people with learning disabilities that explain options for investing in/developing housing options for their disabled family member in the context of providing clarity about the extent of the local authorities' funding for care packages in such arrangements.
- Planning systematically with older carers (who have adult children with learning disabilities living with them) for the housing and care/support options required for their adult children, particularly carers aged 75 years and over.
- Identify cohorts of young people aged 15-17, particularly those with complex needs who would otherwise be at risk of being placed in residential care, to commission supported living alternatives.
- Engage with a wide range of housing providers to stimulate interest in developing a wider mix of supported housing options for people with learning disabilities including their knowledge of and expertise in, for example, developing higher cost and privately funded supported housing schemes making use of the Housing Benefit 'exempt accommodation' regulations.

1. Introduction

This is a report from the Housing Learning & Improvement Network (LIN)¹. It is based on a brief from the West Wales Care Partnership (WWCP) which wishes to build on its existing work in relation to people with learning disabilities by undertaking a regional analysis of accommodation/housing needs for adults with learning disabilities across the Hywel Dda Health University Board (HDHB) footprint including those being supported to live outside the region and those coming through transition from children's services.

This quantitative evidence base is intended to be used as one source of evidence of future housing need amongst people with learning disabilities *alongside* other sources of data available to West Wales Care Partnership, for example qualitative research with people with learning disabilities and their carers locally.

The report is structured as follows:

- Housing/accommodation need predictor model ('tool') method outline.
- Housing/accommodation need assessment for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, i.e. the application of the housing need predictor model.
- Context and trends: Long term supported housing.
- Summary of housing needs amongst people with learning disabilities across the West Wales Care Partnership area.

¹ <https://www.housinglin.org.uk/>

2. Housing and accommodation need predictor model ('tool')

A housing need predictor model or 'tool' has been proposed as a basis for housing need projections for people with learning disabilities

The housing need predictor model or 'tool' has the following components:

A. Population baseline

The baseline population uses the current adults 18 yrs.+ learning disability population for Carmarthenshire/Ceredigion/Pembrokeshire who are eligible for local authority funded care.

This has been established using secondary data from the local authority's adult social care data for 2017/18.

B. Current housing/accommodation status

The predictor model or 'tool' identifies from local authority data the current housing/accommodation status of the known current adult population. This includes:

- Population of adults 18+ with learning disabilities disaggregated by:
 - No./% living with family or other informal carers.
 - No./% living in residential care.
 - No./% living in Shared Lives (adult placement).
 - No./% living in supported housing/supported living.
 - No./% living in other forms of independent housing with a care package.

C. Projecting future adult 18+ learning disability population for each authority, taking account of relevant local and national factors (e.g. increase in live births of severely disabled children), to 2037.

This uses secondary data from Welsh Government². The population of people with learning disabilities is based on those people registered with local authorities in Wales and reported to Welsh Government.

² <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Health-and-Social-Care/Social-Services/Disability-Registers/personswithlearningdisabilities-by-localauthority-service-agerange>

D. The application of agreed 'benchmarks' for different housing/accommodation types to apply to the estimated population to 2037 to identify projected housing needs.

This is based on:

- Comparison with Wales average 'benchmarks' of the use of different types of housing/accommodation for people with learning disabilities, particularly use of residential care.
- Assumptions in relation to population growth factors in the need for housing.
- Analysis of the current provision of housing and accommodation to identify potential gaps in provision and suggested over/under supply of particular housing/accommodation options.
- Qualitative discussion with local authority commissioners and other staff to identify future commissioning intent.

E. Identifying estimated future housing/accommodation need for people with learning disabilities

This identifies changes in net housing requirements to meet projected housing need and changes in the types of housing/accommodation required for the WWCP area and for each local authority area. This is based on applying the assumptions developed for stage D to the current housing/accommodation provision at Stage B. This is then adjusted for identified population change over time from Stage C.

It should be noted that not all figures in tables may sum due to rounding.

3. Housing/accommodation need assessment for people with learning disabilities

The housing/accommodation need predictor model ('tool') set out in section 2 has been applied to the adult learning disability population in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire separately.

3.1. Carmarthenshire

A. Establishing the population baseline

For 2017/18 the baseline population of adults with learning disabilities in Carmarthenshire was 677 individuals (source: Carmarthenshire County Council/HDHB). The housing/accommodation status of these 677 individuals is shown below in section B (below).

B. Identifying the current housing/accommodation status and characteristics of the baseline population

Table 1 sets out the types of housing/accommodation where the baseline population in Carmarthenshire is living.

Table 1. Housing/accommodation status of baseline population

Accommodation/housing provision	Number of people accommodated
For the population of adults 18+ with learning disabilities for each authority, the accommodation/housing provision and types:	<i>677 adults aged 18+ with learning disabilities.</i>
• residential care	114
• nursing care	None
• secure accommodation	1
• Shared Lives (adult placement)	47
• supported housing/supported living	136
• other forms of independent housing with a care package	32

Source: Carmarthenshire County Council/HDHB

In summary, of the 677 adults aged 18+ with learning disabilities in Carmarthenshire:

- 17% live in residential care services.

- 7% live in adult placements.
- 20% live in supported housing/supported living arrangements.
- 5% live in independent housing with a support/care package.

The implication of this pattern of housing/accommodation provision is that 347 (51%) adults with learning disabilities live with family or informal carers.

Table 2 shows the location of residential care placements.

Table 2. Location of residential care placements, adults with learning disabilities 2017/18

	In Carmarthenshire	In other areas in Wales	In England	Total
No. of residential care placements	79	30	5	114

Source: Carmarthenshire County Council

The locations of the adult placements are show in table 3.

Table 3. Location of Shared Lives adult placements, adults with learning disabilities 217/18

Location	Number of Clients
Ammanford	4
Burry Port	3
Carmarthen	1
Haverfordwest	1
Kidwelly	5
Llandeilo	2
Llandovery	1
Llanelli	22
Llangadog	1
Neath Port Talbot	1
Pembrokeshire	5
Swansea	1
Total	47

Source: Carmarthenshire County Council

The locations of supported housing/supported living arrangements are shown in table 4.

Table 4. Location of supported housing/supported living, adults with learning disabilities 2017/18

Supported Living Location	Number of Clients
Ammanford	30
Burry Port	2
Carmarthen	8
Kidwelly	4
Llanelli	74
Llangadog	5
Pembrokeshire	1
Pencader	2
Swansea	8
Total	134³

Source: Carmarthenshire County Council

Table 5 shows the supported housing provision disaggregated by housing type.

Table 5. Supported housing provision by housing type (%)

Shared house	Shared bungalow	Bungalow – single occupancy	Flat	Flat – ‘cluster’ of flats on same site	Total
79%	9%	<1%	5%	6%	100%

Source: Carmarthenshire County Council

Table 6 shows the size of shared houses that adults with learning disabilities are occupying.

Table 6. Size of shared houses occupied by adults with learning disabilities (%)

2 bed house	3 bed house	4 bed house	5 bed house	6 bed house	Total
24%	36%	26%	6%	8%	100%

Source: Carmarthenshire County Council

Table 7 shows the supported housing provision by landlord type.

Table 7. Supported housing provision by landlord type (%)

Private landlord	Registered Social Landlord	Local Authority	Total
44%	50%	6%	100%

Source: Carmarthenshire County Council

Table 8 shows the level of care provision provided and suitability for wheelchair users within the supported housing provision.

³ In addition, 2 individuals funded by the NHS live in supported housing

Table 8. Level of care provision and suitability for wheelchair users, supported housing provision (%)

24/7 onsite care	Less than 24/7 onsite care	Suitable for wheelchair users	Not suitable for wheelchair users
92%	8%	46%	54%

Source: Carmarthenshire County Council

The locations of independent housing where the person with learning disability is receiving a support/care package are shown in table 9.

Table 9. Location of independent housing where a person with learning disability is receiving a support/care package 2017/18

Location	Number of Clients
Ammanford	4
Burry Port	1
Carmarthen	3
Kidwelly	1
Llandeilo	2
Llanelli	12
Llandysul	1
Monmouthshire	1
Swansea	1
Total	26⁴

Source: Carmarthenshire County Council

In summary the characteristics of the provision of housing/accommodation for adults with learning disabilities in Carmarthenshire are:

- 17% live in residential care services. Of these 31% are living outside Carmarthenshire.
- 7% are living in Shared Lives adult placements. Of these 47% live in Llanelli and 15% live in adult placements outside of Carmarthenshire.
- 20% live in supported housing/supported living arrangements. Of these:
 - 55% live in Llanelli.
 - 22% live in Ammanford.
 - 6% live in Swansea.
 - The remaining 17% live in locations across Carmarthenshire.
- 79% live in shared housing. Most of this shared housing is made up of 2/3/4 bedroomed houses.
- Only 11% live in a flat, 6% living in a flat which is part of a small 'cluster' of flats.
- 92% of supported housing provision has 24/7 onsite care.
- 46% of supported housing is stated to be suitable for wheelchair users.

⁴ In addition, 6 individuals funded by the NHS live in mainstream housing

The majority of adults with learning disabilities aged 18+ live with family/informal carers. Accommodation and housing choices are relatively limited; the predominant options are either supported living in the form of a room in a shared house or an adult placement. The provision of supported housing and adult placements is heavily skewed towards provision in Llanelli. The supported housing is all for rent; there do not appear to be any home ownership arrangements currently in place for people with learning disabilities. There are relatively limited housing and accommodation options currently available in other areas in Carmarthenshire.

There is a relatively high proportion of supported housing provided by private landlords; this may reflect a relatively unusual willingness of private landlords to make available property on long term letting arrangements for people with disabilities.

A relatively high percentage of the supported housing provision is stated to be suitable for wheelchair users.

C. Projecting future adult 18+ learning disability population for Carmarthenshire.

The population of people with learning disabilities, based on those people registered with local authorities in Wales is shown in table 10.

Table 10. Number of people with learning disabilities on local authority registers (Wales)

Year	Total
2007	13,933
2008	14137
2009	14068
2010	14771
2011	14423
2012	14701
2013	15029
2014	15297
2015	15010
2016	14729
2017	14787

Source: Welsh Government Statistical Release (November 2017)

Over the last 10 years there has been an overall increase in the number of people with learning disabilities known to local authorities. There was a decline in the total number from 2014 to 2017, however since 2007 the overall population of people with learning disabilities known to local authorities has increased from 13,933 in 2007 to 14,787 in 2017, an increase of 6%. Analysis of the learning disability register data for people with learning disabilities indicates that this growth in overall population has been driven in large part by an increase in the 65+ population, i.e. as people with learning disabilities reach typical life expectancy levels. It is also partly driven by children with disabilities reaching 18 years and being eligible for adult services (typically referred to as in young people in 'transition').

Applying this overall population trend amongst people with learning disabilities in Wales to the population in Carmarthenshire is shown in table 11. This is based on the following assumptions:

- The population of people with learning disabilities in Carmarthenshire changes in line with changes in the overall population of people with learning disabilities in Wales
- An ongoing increase of 6% per 10 years is assumed amongst the population of people with learning disabilities in Carmarthenshire. This includes assumed population growth from:
 - A growing older population of adults with learning disabilities
 - Young people with disabilities becoming adults

Table 11. Estimated population of adults with learning disabilities aged 18+ to 2037

2017	2022	2027	2032	2037
677	697	718	739	761

D. The application of agreed ‘benchmarks’ for different housing/accommodation types to estimate housing need of the population of adults with learning disabilities to 2037.

This is based on:

- Comparison with Wales average ‘benchmarks’ of the use of different types of housing/accommodation for people with learning disabilities.
- Assumptions in relation to population growth factors in the need for housing.
- Analysis of the current provision of housing and accommodation to identify potential gaps in provision and suggested over/under supply of particular housing/accommodation options.
- Qualitative discussion with local authority commissioners and other staff to identify future commissioning intent.

The use of different types of housing/accommodation by people with learning disabilities is derived from local authority returns to Welsh Government. Analysis of this data⁵ provides comparator benchmarks for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire compared to all Wales typical use of residential care by people with learning disabilities. This is shown in table 12; it shows the percentage of adults with learning disabilities accommodated in residential care in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire compared with the typical percentage of adults with learning disabilities accommodated in residential care for all of Wales.

⁵ <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Health-and-Social-Care/Social-Services/Disability-Registers/personswithlearningdisabilities-by-localauthority-service-agerange>

Table 12. Adults with learning disabilities accommodated in residential care (% of total) compared to Wales.

	Carmarthenshire	Ceredigion	Pembrokeshire	Wales
Use of residential care (as % of total population of adults with learning disabilities)	17%	19%	22%	9.69%

Source: Welsh Government

For the purpose of estimating future housing need it is reasonable to assume that the use of residential care for adults with learning disabilities in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire should come down to the all Wales average by 2027, i.e. by that time no more than 9.69% of the population of adults with learning disabilities will live in residential care in West Wales.

For Carmarthenshire this suggests:

- A reduction in the use of residential care from c.17% to c.9% of the total adult population.
- A commensurate increase in the use of supported housing/living from c.20% to c33% of the total adult population.

Currently 51% of adults with learning disabilities live with family and informal carers. As some of those carers age and/or are no longer able to undertake this caring role for other reasons, then it can be assumed that a proportion of this 51% will require alternative housing. From this type of housing need assessment for adults with learning disabilities undertaken for other local authorities it is reasonable to assume that up to 15% of this cohort of the adult population will need alternative housing/accommodation by 2027. In practice this means that of the 347 adults with learning disabilities living with family/informal carers, 15% (i.e. 52 people) would need alternative housing.

If this additional housing need was taken up equally through supported housing/living and adult placements, this would require:

- Growth in adult placement provision to provide 12% of accommodation overall.
- Supported housing/living providing 33% of accommodation overall (including the 6% reduction in the use of residential care).

Initial discussions with Carmarthenshire commissioners has indicated that future commissioning intent is to:

- Reduce the use of residential care.
- Increase the use of supported housing/living, including for people with complex needs.
- Increase the mix of supported housing options and locations.

Analysis of the existing provision of housing and accommodation for adults with learning disabilities in Carmarthenshire indicates that:

- There has been an historical over use of residential care compared to the all Wales average.
- Supported housing/living has been concentrated on a shared housing model.
- Supported housing and adult placements have been concentrated geographically in Llanelli.

In summary the benchmarks, based on the analysis above, that will be used as part of the estimating future housing need, are shown in table 13.

Table 13. Estimating future housing need: housing/accommodation type benchmarks

Accommodation/housing type	Prevalence of provision (as % of total pop.) 2017	Benchmark for provision (as % of total pop.) 2037
Residential care	17%	9%
Shared Lives (adult placement)	7%	12%
Supported housing/supported living	20%	33%
Other forms of independent housing with a care package	4%	4%
Living with family/informal carers	51%	42%

E. Identifying estimated future housing/accommodation need for people with learning disabilities

This identifies changes in net housing requirements to meet estimated housing need and changes in the types of housing/accommodation required for the WWCP area and for each local authority area. This is based on applying the assumptions developed for stage D to the current housing/accommodation provision at Stage B. This is then adjusted for identified population change over time from Stage C.

The estimated need for housing/accommodation in table 14 is summarised below.

An overall increase in the need for an additional 94 housing/accommodation units by 2027. It is estimated that this represents:

- A reduction in residential care places from 115⁶ to 86.
- An increase in Shared Lives placements from 47 to 57.
- An increase in supported housing/supported living arrangements from 136 units to 215 units.
- An increase in mainstream housing with care/support package from 32 units to 36 units.

An overall increase in the need for an additional 158 housing/accommodation units by 2037.

⁶ Includes 1 individual living in a secure setting

It is estimated that this represents:

- A reduction in residential care places from 115 to 68.
- An increase in Shared Lives placements from 47 to 76.
- An increase in supported housing/supported living arrangements from 136 units to 251 units.
- An increase in mainstream housing with care/support package from 32 units to 46 units.

Table 14. Carmarthenshire. Housing and accommodation need for adults with learning disabilities to 2037

	Adult pop. 2017	% benchmark for housing & accommodation types	Adult pop. 2027	% benchmark for housing & accommodation types	Adult pop. 2037	% benchmark for housing & accommodation types
Housing & accommodation types	677		718		761	
Residential care	115	17	86	12	68	9
Shared Lives	47	7	57	8	76	10
Supported housing/living	136	20	215	30	251	33
Mainstream housing with care/support package	32	5	36	5	46	6
Living with family/informal carers	347	51	323	45	319	42
Totals	677	100	718	100	761	100
Net additional housing & accommodation requirement (units)			94		158	

3.2. Ceredigion

A. Establishing the population baseline

For 2017/18 the baseline population of adults with learning disabilities in Ceredigion was 306 individuals (source: Ceredigion County Council/HDHB). The housing/accommodation status of these 306 individuals is shown below in section B (below).

B. Identifying the current housing/accommodation status and characteristics of the baseline population

Table 15 sets out the types of housing/accommodation where the baseline population in Ceredigion is living.

Table 15. Housing/accommodation status of baseline population

Accommodation/housing provision	Number of people accommodated
For the population of adults 18+ with learning disabilities for each authority, the accommodation/housing provision and types:	<i>306 adults aged 18+ with learning disabilities.</i>
• Residential care	59
• Nursing care	0
• Secure accommodation	0
• Shared Lives (adult placement)	11
• Supported housing/supported living	53
• Other forms of independent housing with a care package	41

Source: Ceredigion County Council/HDHB

In summary, of the 306 adults aged 18+ with learning disabilities in Ceredigion:

- 19% live in residential care services.
- 4% live in adult placements.
- 17% live in supported housing/supported living arrangements.
- 13% live in independent housing with a support/care package.

The implication of this pattern of housing/accommodation provision is that 142 (46%) adults with learning disabilities live with family or informal carers.

Table 16 shows the location of residential care placements.

Table 16. Location of residential care placements, adults with learning disabilities 2017/18

	In Ceredigion	In other areas in Wales	In England	Total
No. of residential care placements	23	34	2	59

Source: Ceredigion County Council/HDHB

The locations of supported housing/supported living arrangements are shown in table 17.

Table 17. location of supported housing/supported living, adults with learning disabilities 2017/18

Supported Living Location	Number of Clients
Aberystwyth	33
Cardigan	8
Felinfach	2
Llangrannog	3
Gwynedd	6
Pembrokeshire	1
Total	53

Source: Ceredigion County Council

Table 18 shows the supported housing provision disaggregated by housing type.

Table 18. Supported housing provision by housing type (%)

Shared house	Shared bungalow	Bungalow – single occupancy	Flat	Flat – ‘cluster’ of flats on same site	Total
60	30	5	0	5	100

Source: Ceredigion County Council

Table 19 shows the size of shared houses that adults with learning disabilities are occupying.

Table 19. Size of shared houses occupied by adults with learning disabilities (%)

2 bed house	3 bed house	4 bed house	5 bed house	6 bed house	Total
10	20	58	5	5	98 ⁷

Source: Ceredigion County Council

Table 20 shows the supported housing provision by landlord type.

Table 20. Supported housing provision by landlord type (%)

Private landlord	Registered Social Landlord	Local Authority	Total
0	95	5	100

⁷ The remaining 2% are assumed to be living in other types/sizes of shared housing

Source: Ceredigion County Council

Table 21 shows the level of care provision provided and suitability for wheelchair users within the supported housing provision.

Table 21. Level of care provision and suitability for wheelchair users, supported housing provision (%)

24/7 onsite care	Less than 24/7 onsite care	Suitable for wheelchair users	Not suitable for wheelchair users
75	25	50	50

Source: Ceredigion County Council

In summary the characteristics of the provision of housing/accommodation for adults with learning disabilities in Ceredigion are:

- 19% live in residential care services. Of these 60% are living outside Ceredigion.
- 4% are living in Shared Lives adult placements
- 17% live in supported housing/supported living arrangements. Of these:
 - 11% live in Gwynedd
 - 2% live in Pembrokeshire
 - The remaining 87% live in locations across Ceredigion.

The majority of adults with learning disabilities aged 18+ live with family/informal carers. Accommodation and housing choices are relatively limited; the predominant options are either a residential care home or supported living in the form of a room in a shared house. The provision of supported housing is heavily skewed towards provision in Aberystwyth. The supported housing is all for rent; there do not appear to be any home ownership arrangements currently in place for people with learning disabilities. There are relatively limited housing and accommodation options currently available in other areas in Ceredigion.

50% of the supported housing provision is stated to be suitable for wheelchair users.

C. Projecting future adult 18+ learning disability population for Ceredigion.

The population of people with learning disabilities, based on those people registered with local authorities in Wales is shown in table 22.

Table 22. Number of people with learning disabilities on local authority registers (Wales)

Year	Total
2007	13,933
2008	14137
2009	14068
2010	14771
2011	14423
2012	14701
2013	15029
2014	15297
2015	15010
2016	14729
2017	14787

Source: Welsh Government Statistical Release (November 2017)

Over the last 10 years there has been an overall increase in the number of people with learning disabilities known to local authorities. There was a decline in the total number from 2014 to 2017, however since 2007 the overall population of people with learning disabilities known to local authorities has increased from 13,933 in 2007 to 14,787 in 2017, an increase of 6%. Analysis of the learning disability register data for people with learning disabilities indicates that this growth in overall population has been driven in large part by an increase in the 65+ population, i.e. as people with learning disabilities reach typical life expectancy levels. It is also partly driven by children with disabilities reaching 18 years and being eligible for adult services (typically referred to as in young people in 'transition').

Applying this overall population trend amongst people with learning disabilities in Wales to the population in Ceredigion is shown in table 23. This is based on the following assumptions:

- The population of people with learning disabilities in Ceredigion changes in line with changes in the overall population of people with learning disabilities in Wales
- An ongoing increase of 6% per 5 years is assumed amongst the population of people with learning disabilities in Ceredigion. This includes assumed population growth from:
 - A growing older population of adults with learning disabilities
 - Young people with disabilities becoming adults

Table 23. Estimated population of adults with learning disabilities aged 18+ to 2037

2017	2022	2027	2032	2037
306	315	324	334	344

D. The application of agreed 'benchmarks' for different housing/accommodation types to estimate housing need of the population of adults with learning disabilities to 2037.

This is based on:

- Comparison with Wales average ‘benchmarks’ of the use of different types of housing/accommodation for people with learning disabilities.
- Assumptions in relation to population growth factors in the need for housing.
- Analysis of the current provision of housing and accommodation to identify potential gaps in provision and suggested over/under supply of particular housing/accommodation options.
- Qualitative discussion with local authority commissioners and other staff to identify future commissioning intent.

The use of different types of housing/accommodation by people with learning disabilities is derived from local authority returns to Welsh Government. Analysis of this data⁸ provides comparator benchmarks for Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire compared to all Wales typical use of residential care by people with learning disabilities. This is shown in table 124; it shows the percentage of adults with learning disabilities accommodated in residential care in Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire compared with the typical percentage of adults with learning disabilities accommodated in residential care for all of Wales.

Table 24. Adults with learning disabilities accommodated in residential care (% of total) compared to Wales.

	Carmarthenshire	Ceredigion	Pembrokeshire	Wales
Use of residential care (as % of total population of adults with learning disabilities)	17%	19%	22%	9.69%

Source: Welsh Government

For the purpose of estimating future housing need it is reasonable to assume that the use of residential care for adults with learning disabilities in Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire should come down to the all Wales average by 2027, i.e. by that time no more than 9.69% of the population of adults with learning disabilities will live in residential care in West Wales.

For Ceredigion this suggests:

- A reduction in the use of residential care from c.19% to c.10% of the total adult population.
- A commensurate increase in the use of supported housing/living from c.17% to c30% of the total adult population.

⁸ <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Health-and-Social-Care/Social-Services/Disability-Registers/personswithlearningdisabilities-by-localauthority-service-agerange>

Currently 46% of adults with learning disabilities live with family and informal carers. As some of those carers age and/or are no longer able to undertake this caring role for other reasons, then it can be assumed that a proportion of this 46% will require alternative housing. From this type of housing need assessment for adults with learning disabilities undertaken for other local authorities it is reasonable to assume that up to 15% of this cohort of the adult population will need alternative housing/accommodation by 2027. In practice this means that of the 146 adults with learning disabilities living with family/informal carers, 15% (i.e. 22 people) would need alternative housing.

If this additional housing need was taken up equally through supported housing/living and adult placements, this would require:

- Growth in adult placement provision to provide 8% of accommodation overall.
- Supported housing/living providing c.30% of accommodation overall (including the 9% reduction in the use of residential care).

Initial discussions with Ceredigion commissioners has indicated that future commissioning intent is to:

- Reduce the use of residential care.
- Increase the use of supported housing/living, including for people with complex needs.
- Increase the mix of supported housing options and locations.

Analysis of the existing provision of housing and accommodation for adults with learning disabilities in Ceredigion indicates that:

- There has been an historical over use of residential care compared to the all Wales average.
- Supported housing/living has been concentrated on a shared housing model.
- Supported housing have been concentrated geographically in Aberystwyth and Cardigan.

In summary the benchmarks, based on the analysis above, that will be used as part of the estimating future housing need, are shown in table 25.

Table 25. Estimating future housing need: housing/accommodation type benchmarks

Accommodation/housing type	Prevalence of provision (as % of total pop.) 2017	Benchmark for provision (as % of total pop.) 2037
Residential care	19%	10%
Shared Lives (adult placement)	4%	8%
Supported housing/supported living	17%	30%
Other forms of independent housing with a care package	13%	15%
Living with family/informal carers	46%	37%

E. Identifying estimated future housing/accommodation need for people with learning disabilities

This identifies changes in net housing requirements to meet estimated housing need and changes in the types of housing/accommodation required for the WWCP area and for each local authority area. This is based on applying the assumptions developed for stage D to the current housing/accommodation provision at Stage B. This is then adjusted for identified population change over time from Stage C.

The estimated need for housing/accommodation in table 26 is summarised below.

An overall increase in the need for an additional 34 housing/accommodation units by 2027. It is estimated that this represents:

- A reduction in residential care places from 59 to 49.
- An increase in Shared Lives placements from 11 to 19.
- An increase in supported housing/supported living arrangements from 53 units to 75 units.
- An increase in mainstream housing with care/support package from 41 units to 45 units.

An overall increase in the need for an additional 77 housing/accommodation units by 2037

It is estimated that this represents:

- A reduction in residential care places from 59 to 34.
- An increase in Shared Lives placements from 11 to 28.
- An increase in supported housing/supported living arrangements from 53 units to 103 units.
- An increase in mainstream housing with care/support package from 41 units to 52 units.

Table 26. Ceredigion. Housing and accommodation need for adults with learning disabilities to 2037

	Adult pop. 2017	% benchmark for housing & accommodation types	Adult pop. 2027	% benchmark for housing & accommodation types	Adult pop. 2037	% benchmark for housing & accommodation types
Housing & accommodation types	306		324		344	
Residential care	59	19	49	15	34	10
Shared Lives	11	4	19	6	28	8
Supported housing/living	53	17	75	23	103	30
Mainstream housing with care/support package	41	13	45	14	52	15
Living with family/informal carers	142	46	136	42	127	37
Totals	306	100	324	100	344	100
Net additional housing & accommodation requirement (units)			34		77	

3.3. Pembrokeshire

The housing/accommodation need predictor model ('tool') set out in section has been applied to the adult learning disability population in Pembrokeshire.

A. Establishing the population baseline

For 2017/18 the baseline population of adults with learning disabilities in Pembrokeshire was 421 individuals (source: Pembrokeshire County Council/HDHB). The housing/accommodation status of these 421 individuals is shown below in section B (below).

B. Identifying the current housing/accommodation status and characteristics of the baseline population

Table 27 sets out the types of housing/accommodation where the baseline population in Pembrokeshire is living.

Table 27. Housing/accommodation status of baseline population

Accommodation/housing provision	Number of people accommodated
For the population of adults 18+ with learning disabilities for each authority, the accommodation/housing provision and types:	<i>421 adults aged 18+ with learning disabilities.</i>
• residential care (residential colleges)	89 (8)
• nursing care	0
• secure accommodation	3
• Shared Lives (adult placement)	18
• supported housing/supported living	110
• other forms of independent housing with a care package	56

Source: Pembrokeshire County Council/HDHB

In summary, of the 421 adults aged 18+ with learning disabilities in Pembrokeshire:

- 22% live in residential care services.
- 4% live in adult placements.
- 26% live in supported housing/supported living arrangements.
- 13% live in independent housing with a support/care package.

The implication of this pattern of housing/accommodation provision is that 145 (34%) of adults with learning disabilities live with family or informal carers.

Table 28 shows the location of residential care placements.

Table 28. Location of residential care placements, adults with learning disabilities 2017/18

	In Pembrokeshire	In other areas in Wales	In England	Total
No. of residential care placements	72	12	5	89

Source: Pembrokeshire County Council

The locations of supported housing/supported living arrangements are shown in table 29.

Table 29. location of supported housing/supported living, adults with learning disabilities 2017/18

Supported Living Location	Number of Clients
Boncath	3
Fishguard and Goodwick	11
Haverfordwest	28
Milford Haven	37
Narberth	4
Pembroke	9
Pembroke Dock	6
Saundersfoot	5
Tenby	2
Outside of Pembrokeshire	5
Total	110

Source: Pembrokeshire County Council

Table 30 shows the size of properties that adults with learning disabilities are occupying.

Table 30. Size of properties occupied by adults with learning disabilities (%)

1 bed house	2 bed house	3 bed house	4 bed house	5 bed house	Total
19%	10%	33%	29%	9%	100%

Source: Pembrokeshire County Council

Table 31 shows the supported housing provision by landlord type.

Table 31. Supported housing provision by landlord type (%)

Private landlord	Registered Social Landlord	Local Authority	Care provider is landlord	Total
59%	33%	3%	5%	100%

Source: Pembrokeshire County Council

Table 32 shows the level of care provision provided and suitability for wheelchair users within the supported housing provision.

Table 32. Level of care provision and suitability for wheelchair users, supported housing provision (%)

24/7 onsite care	Less than 24/7 onsite care
82% ⁹	18%

Source: Pembrokeshire County Council

The locations of independent housing where the person with learning disability is receiving a support/care package are shown in table 33.

Table 33. Location of independent housing where a person with learning disability is receiving a support/care package 2017/18

Location	Number of Clients
Fishguard and Goodwick	4
Haverfordwest	18
Milford Haven	12
Kilgetty	1
Pembroke	9
Pembroke Dock	7
Tenby	5
Total	56

Source: Pembrokeshire County Council

In summary the characteristics of the provision of housing/accommodation for adults with learning disabilities in Pembrokeshire are:

- 22% live in residential care services. Of these 19% are living outside Pembrokeshire.
- 4% are living in Shared Lives adult placements.
- 26% live in supported housing/supported living arrangements. Of these:
 - 34% live in Milford Haven.
 - 25% live in Haverfordwest.
 - 10% live in Fishguard.
- 82% of supported housing provision has 24/7 onsite care.
- 34% of adults with learning disabilities aged 18+ live with family/informal carers.

The predominant housing options are either supported living typically in the form of a room in a shared house or an adult placement. The provision of supported housing is predominantly located in Milford Haven, Haverfordwest and Fishguard. The supported housing is all for rent; there do not appear to be any home ownership arrangements currently in place for people with learning disabilities. There are relatively limited housing and accommodation options currently available in other areas of Pembrokeshire.

⁹ Not all individuals within a setting will require a 24 hour service

There is a relatively high proportion of supported housing provided by private landlords; this may reflect a relatively unusual willingness of private landlords to make available property on long term letting arrangements for people with disabilities.

C. Projecting future adult 18+ learning disability population for Pembrokeshire.

The population of people with learning disabilities, based on those people registered with local authorities in Wales is shown in table 34.

Table 34. Number of people with learning disabilities on local authority registers (Wales)

Year	Total
2007	13,933
2008	14137
2009	14068
2010	14771
2011	14423
2012	14701
2013	15029
2014	15297
2015	15010
2016	14729
2017	14787

Source: Welsh Government Statistical Release (November 2017)

Over the last 10 years there has been an overall increase in the number of people with learning disabilities known to local authorities. There was a decline in the total number from 2014 to 2017, however since 2007 the overall population of people with learning disabilities known to local authorities has increased from 13,933 in 2007 to 14,787 in 2017, an increase of 6%. Analysis of the learning disability register data for people with learning disabilities indicates that this growth in overall population has been driven in large part by an increase in the 65+ population, i.e. as people with learning disabilities reach typical life expectancy levels. It is also partly driven by children with disabilities reaching 18 years and being eligible for adult services (typically referred to as in young people in 'transition').

Applying this overall population trend amongst people with learning disabilities in Wales to the population in Pembrokeshire is shown in table 35. This is based on the following assumptions:

- The population of people with learning disabilities in Pembrokeshire changes in line with changes in the overall population of people with learning disabilities in Wales
- An ongoing increase of 6% per 10 years is assumed amongst the population of people with learning disabilities in Pembrokeshire. This includes assumed population growth from:
 - A growing older population of adults with learning disabilities
 - Young people with disabilities becoming adults

Table 35. Estimated population of adults with learning disabilities aged 18+ to 2037

2017	2022	2027	2032	2037
421	433	446	459	473

D. The application of agreed 'benchmarks' for different housing/accommodation types to estimate housing need of the population of adults with learning disabilities to 2037.

This is based on:

- Comparison with Wales average 'benchmarks' of the use of different types of housing/accommodation for people with learning disabilities.
- Assumptions in relation to population growth factors in the need for housing.
- Analysis of the current provision of housing and accommodation to identify potential gaps in provision and suggested over/under supply of particular housing/accommodation options.
- Qualitative discussion with local authority commissioners and other staff to identify future commissioning intent.

The use of different types of housing/accommodation by people with learning disabilities is derived from local authority returns to Welsh Government. Analysis of this data¹⁰ provides comparator benchmarks for Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire compared to all Wales typical use of residential care by people with learning disabilities. This is shown in table 36; it shows the percentage of adults with learning disabilities accommodated in residential care in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire compared with the typical percentage of adults with learning disabilities accommodated in residential care for all of Wales.

¹⁰ <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Health-and-Social-Care/Social-Services/Disability-Registers/personswithlearningdisabilities-by-localauthority-service-agerange>

Table 36. Adults with learning disabilities accommodated in residential care (% of total) compared to Wales.

	Carmarthenshire	Ceredigion	Pembrokeshire	Wales
Use of residential care (as % of total population of adults with learning disabilities)	17%	19%	22%	9.69%

Source: Welsh Government

For the purpose of estimating future housing need it is reasonable to assume that the use of residential care for adults with learning disabilities in Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire should come down to the all Wales average by 2027, i.e. by that time no more than 9.69% of the population of adults with learning disabilities will live in residential care in West Wales.

For Pembrokeshire this suggests:

- A reduction in the use of residential care from c.22% to c.10% of the total adult population.
- A commensurate increase in the use of supported housing/living from c.26% to c.37% of the total adult population.

Currently 34% of adults with learning disabilities live with family and informal carers. As some of those carers age and/or are no longer able to undertake this caring role for other reasons, then it can be assumed that a proportion of this 34% will require alternative housing. From this type of housing need assessment for adults with learning disabilities undertaken for other local authorities it is reasonable to assume that up to 15%¹¹ of this cohort of the adult population will need alternative housing/accommodation by 2037. In practice, given the relatively lower percentage of adults with learning disabilities living with family (compared with Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion) it has been assumed that half this reduction, 7.5%, would apply i.e. 10 people would need alternative housing.

If this additional housing need was taken up equally through supported housing/living and adult placements, this would require:

- Growth in adult placement provision to provide 12% of accommodation overall.
- Supported housing/living providing 37% of accommodation overall (including the reduction in the use of residential care).

Initial discussions with Pembrokeshire commissioners has indicated that future commissioning intent is to:

- Reduce the use of residential care.

¹¹ To be verified through local commissioner discussion.

- Increase the use of supported housing/living, including for people with complex needs.
- Increase the mix of supported housing options and locations.

Analysis of the existing provision of housing and accommodation for adults with learning disabilities in Pembrokeshire indicates that:

- There has been an historical over use of residential care compared to the all Wales average.
- Supported housing/living has been concentrated on a shared housing model

In summary the benchmarks, based on the analysis above, that will be used as part of the estimating future housing need, are shown in table 37.

Table 37. Estimating future housing need: housing/accommodation type benchmarks

Accommodation/housing type	Prevalence of provision (as % of total pop.) 2017	Benchmark for provision (as % of total pop.) 2037
Residential care	22%	10%
Shared Lives (adult placement)	4%	12%
Supported housing/supported living	26%	37%
Other forms of independent housing with a care package	13%	15%
Living with family/informal carers	34%	26%

E. Identifying estimated future housing/accommodation need for people with learning disabilities

This identifies changes in net housing requirements to meet estimated housing need and changes in the types of housing/accommodation required for the WWCP area and for each local authority area. This is based on applying the assumptions developed for stage D to the current housing/accommodation provision at Stage B. This is then adjusted for identified population change over time from Stage C.

The estimated need for housing/accommodation in table 38 is summarised below.

An overall increase in the need for an additional 57 housing/accommodation units by 2027. It is estimated that this represents:

- A reduction in residential care places from 92 to 76.
- An increase in Shared Lives placements from 18 to 36.
- An increase in supported housing/supported living arrangements from 110 units to 143 units.
- An increase in mainstream housing with care/support package from 56 units to 62 units.

An overall increase in the need for an additional 119 housing/accommodation units by 2037.

It is estimated that this represents:

- A reduction in residential care places from 92 to 47.
- An increase in Shared Lives placements from 18 to 57.
- An increase in supported housing/supported living arrangements from 110 units to 175 units.
- An increase in mainstream housing with care/support package from 56 units to 71 units.

Table 38. Pembrokeshire. Housing and accommodation need for adults with learning disabilities to 2037

	Adult pop. 2017	% benchmark for housing & accommodation types	Adult pop. 2027	% benchmark for housing & accommodation types	Adult pop. 2037	% benchmark for housing & accommodation types
Housing & accommodation types	421		446		473	
Residential care	92	22	76	17	47	10
Shared Lives	18	4	36	8	57	12
Supported housing/living	110	26	143	32	175	37
Mainstream housing with care/support package	56	13	62	14	71	15
Living with family/informal carers	145	34	129	29	123	26
Totals	421	100	446	100	473	100
Net additional housing & accommodation requirement (units)			57		119	

4. Context and trends: Long term supported housing

National (UK) policy in relation to long term supported housing has focussed almost exclusively on people with learning disabilities/autism with the most complex needs (following the Winterbourne View abuse case). Although it is a UK government strategy focussed on England, the associated guidance can be seen as relevant across all UK nations. This strategy is based on the principles of recent guidance "*Building the right support*¹²" (2015) and "*Build the right home*¹³" (2015). *Building the Right Support* state that people should have choice about where they live and who they live with. Inappropriate accommodation and a lack of robust support arrangements could potentially lead to placement breakdown and may result in an admission or readmission to hospital.

Increasing housing options for people with a learning disability, autism, or both is intended to enable access to the right accommodation with personalised care and support provided to offer sustainable solutions. It is anticipated that this underpinned by the necessary community infrastructure will also reduce reliance on inpatient services.

Recent trends in the development of supported housing for people with learning disabilities include wholly private funded long term supported housing, where the head landlord is a housing association, but the capital for development is privately funded. This is more prevalent in England but there is some evidence of this model of development taking place in Wales.

Private investors, working typically with small housing associations, have been attracted by relatively high rates of return secured by higher rents and service charges typically charged in this model of supported housing and underwritten by Housing Benefit (under the UK Government's approach to supported housing funding).

However there has also been development of new supported housing by mainstream housing associations particularly in relation to developing small-scale 'clusters' of flats with modest communal space of between 6-10 1-bed flats in the same building, typically a 'micro' version of extra care housing, with local authorities funding the 24/7 care costs.

Examples of new build clusters for people with learning disabilities include a scheme in Kidderminster developed by Community Housing Group¹⁴. It is a block of 10 flats with communal space. This supported housing scheme has 24/7 care on site and is aimed at people with learning disabilities with a range of care needs.

¹² <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/ld-nat-imp-plan-oct15.pdf>

¹³ <https://www.england.nhs.uk/learningdisabilities/wp-content/uploads/sites/34/2015/11/building-right-home-guidance-housing.pdf>

¹⁴ <https://www.sanctuary-supported-living.co.uk/hazel-court>



In relation to people with complex needs who need to move from NHS inpatient settings, or who may be at risk of placement in such settings, an example of a bespoke supported housing scheme has been developed by MCCH¹⁵. This is an example of a supported housing scheme, including 5 self-contained units with staff facilities, designed for people with complex needs related to 'challenging behaviours', e.g. including features such as curved (and removable) internal walls, soft impact finishes to floors and walls.



Other examples of contemporary housing for people with learning disabilities include;

¹⁵ <http://www.mcch.org.uk/our-services/housing-services/index.aspx>

A housing scheme by Advance Housing developed in Cornwall, for people with learning disabilities with age related needs. This includes a small new build block of flats with design features specifically suited to people with learning disabilities living with dementia and refurbishment of an existing building to provide housing for people with lower level needs.



A 'cluster' of self-contained apartments linked to a college facility for young people in 'transition' in Swindon. This has been developed by Sanctuary Housing Association to provide self-contained housing that promotes independent living in a supportive environment (with 24/7 on site support) with the tenants attending local colleges.



Local authorities developing 'in-house' new-build supported housing schemes for people with learning disabilities e.g. Hampshire County Council. This is part of a currently small but

growing trend for local authorities to undertake the development of supported housing directly in order to secure the most appropriate designs to meet local needs and to provide a property based income as well as providing high quality homes.

Policy Context: West Wales

The policy objectives across the West Wales Care Partnership include supporting people with learning disabilities to live well and to widen the range of housing choices available. The following plans and strategies are designed to deliver these policy objectives:

- *Ceredigion Learning Disability Strategy 2018-2023*
- *Pembrokeshire Learning Disability Strategy 2017-2022*
- *Carmarthenshire Learning Disability Strategy 2018-2022*
- *Market Position Statement for Learning Disabilities Services 2018*

Supported housing funding policy

UK Government announced in August 2018 its approach to future funding of supported accommodation including supported housing for people with disabilities. As a result, there is no longer a plan to introduce changes to the current system of meeting housing costs through Housing Benefit. The existing Housing Benefit regulations will continue to apply for the funding of eligible housing costs in supported housing and older people's housing for eligible individuals.

5. West Wales Care Partnership area: Summary of housing need and commissioning implications

The tables below summarise estimated future need for housing and accommodation for people with learning disabilities to 2037 across the West Wales Care Partnership area.

Table 39. Carmarthenshire: Estimated housing need to 2037

Carmarthenshire	Current supply	Estimated need 2027	Estimated need 2037
<i>LD Adult population</i>	677	718	761
Housing & accommodation types			
Residential care	115	86	68
Shared Lives	47	57	76
Supported housing/living	136	215	251
Mainstream housing with care/support package	32	36	46
Living with family/informal carers	347	323	319
Totals	677	718	761
Net additional housing & accommodation requirement (units)		94	158

Table 40. Ceredigion: Estimated housing need to 2037

Ceredigion	Current supply	Estimated need 2027	Estimated need 2037
<i>LD Adult population</i>	306	324	344
Housing & accommodation types			
Residential care	59	49	34
Shared Lives	11	19	28
Supported housing/living	53	75	103
Mainstream housing with care/support package	41	45	52
Living with family/informal carers	142	136	127
Totals	306	324	344
Net additional housing & accommodation requirement (units)		34	77

Table 41. Pembrokeshire: Estimated housing need to 2037

Pembrokeshire	Current supply	Estimated need 2027	Estimated need 2037
<i>LD Adult population</i>	421	446	473
Housing & accommodation types			
Residential care	92	76	47
Shared Lives	18	36	57
Supported housing/living	110	143	175
Mainstream housing with care/support package	56	62	71
Living with family/informal carers	145	129	123
Totals	421	446	473
Net additional housing & accommodation requirement (units)		57	119

Table 42. West Wales Care Partnership: Estimated housing need to 2037

West Wales Care Partnership	Current supply	Estimated need 2027	Estimated need 2037
<i>LD Adult population</i>	1404	1488	1578
Housing & accommodation types			
Residential care	266	211	149
Shared Lives	76	112	161
Supported housing/living	299	433	529
Mainstream housing with care/support package	129	143	169
Living with family/informal carers	634	588	569
Totals	1404	1488	1578
Net additional housing & accommodation requirement (units)		185	354

In summary:

- A reduction in the use of residential care from 266 places to 149 places.
- An increase in provision of supported housing from 299 housing units to 529 housing units.
- An increase in the provision of shared lives places from 76 places to 161 places.
- An increase in access to mainstream housing with support from 129 to 169 housing units.
- A reduction in the number of adults with learning disabilities living with family carers from 634 to 569 people.

Implications for West Wales Care Partnership commissioners

46% of adults with learning disabilities aged 18+ live with family/informal carers.

Accommodation and housing choices are relatively limited; the predominant options are either a place in a residential care home or supported living in the form of a room in a shared house. There has tended to be an historic over reliance on the use of residential care well above the Welsh average.

The provision of supported housing skewed towards provision in locations where there has been lower cost property available. There are relatively limited housing and accommodation options currently available in more rural areas.

The supported housing is all for rent; there do not appear to be any home ownership arrangements currently in place for people with learning disabilities.

There is relatively limited housing based provision for people with complex needs related to behavioural needs or complex health/social care needs.

To address these constraints on widening housing options and to meet the identified increase in future need for housing to 2037, the commissioning implications include:

- Developing at a scale appropriate to locations in West Wales, small 'clusters' of self-contained flats (6-10 units) with 24/7 support as alternatives to both shared supported housing and residential care.
- Developing supported housing schemes on a regional basis for people with the most complex needs to avoid the use of residential care.
- Reviewing the current use of shared supported housing, to identify any individuals who could move to more independent forms of housing (such as clusters of flats or mainstream housing).
- Developing sufficient housing adapted for full wheelchair accessibility (typically either within a shared housing or cluster of flats environment).
- Further development of the Shared Lives scheme, e.g. to be better able to support service users to 'move on' once they have acquired greater independent living skills; to recruit carers better able to support service users with more challenging needs.
- Consideration of the reuse or 'remodelling' of some current residential care services including potentially through 'deregistration'.
- Make available provision within existing and planned extra care housing schemes for people with learning disabilities.
- Developing information and advice resources for families/carers of people with learning disabilities that explain options for investing in/developing housing options for their disabled family member in the context of providing clarity about the extent of the local authorities' funding for care packages in such arrangements.
- Planning systematically with older carers (who have adult children with learning disabilities living with them) for the housing and care/support options required for their adult children, particularly carers aged 75 years and over.
- Identify cohorts of young people aged 15-17, particularly those with complex needs who would otherwise be at risk of being placed in residential care, to commission supported living alternatives.

- Engage with a wide range of housing providers to stimulate interest in developing a wider mix of supported housing options for people with learning disabilities including their knowledge of and expertise in, for example, developing higher cost and privately funded supported housing schemes making use of the Housing Benefit 'exempt accommodation' regulations.

The Housing Learning & Improvement Network (Housing LIN)

Previously responsible for managing the UK Department of Health's £227 million Extra Care Housing Fund, the Housing LIN is the leading 'learning lab' for a network of 40,000+ housing, health and social care professionals in England and Wales. The Housing LIN both draws on the expertise within this network and is recognised and supported nationally and locally by key industry players, research and professional bodies.

www.housinglin.org.uk