

Please email your response to evidence@cpa.org.uk by **14th November 2014**.

12. *We would like to hear of any services, activities or initiatives which you believe are good practice and innovative with regard to an ageing society – please note – please provide a short description. If there are any reports or evaluation documents please attach.*

Heatherstones Court is a new intermediate step forward service which is designed to be a temporary 'home from home' for adults of any age who are ready to be discharged from hospital but are unable to go home. This might be because their home needs adapting, they need a period of rehab or actually need to find a new home. Once assessed, the person can come into the scheme for up to 6 weeks whilst they are supported to reach their optimum level of independence via physiotherapy, reablement and finding the right housing. The team is multi-disciplinary, made up of staff with housing, health and social care skills. The environment is a more independent one compared to what is currently on offer through the intermediate care service which currently only offers temporary beds in care homes. Heatherstones Court is made up of 12 apartments that have wet rooms, telecare and the latest telehealth technology. We also have 3 wheelchair accessible apartments which can accommodate the customer and their partner/carer through a transition of change.

The service is available to adults of any age as we have previously seen a barrier for younger adults returning home. However, from data projections we estimate that 60% of customers will be 55yrs+ and the criteria is based around someone who may have experienced a reduction (temporary or permanent) in their mobility (e.g. stroke, amputation, joint replacement, COPD).

The main benefits are that it will provide an alternative option to temporarily staying in a bed in a care home where sometimes this stay turns into a permanent placement. It also means that suitable customers can step up from the community and avoid a stay in hospital.

The service is due to launch this winter and we expect to be able to share some of the initial performance data by the end of the financial year.