

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

This is not a questionnaire. The questions included are for guidance and to act as a prompt. It is not necessary to answer all of the questions or even to use this form to submit your evidence if you find it more convenient not to do so.

The role of local authorities in preparing for the opportunities and challenges of an ageing society.

The Centre for Policy on Ageing has been commissioned by the Local Government Association (LGA) to undertake a call for evidence on the role for Local Government in respect of an ageing society. A cross-cutting Task and Finish group has been established by LGA to consider the opportunities and challenges that an ageing society presents and how local authorities might prepare themselves in the immediate and longer term to respond to these. The intention is for this programme to be completed and its report published by March 2015.

We would welcome your views on the contribution that Local Government can offer, and the changes Local Government should make, to adjust to their local ageing communities and to maximize the opportunities for local citizens and communities to age better. It would be helpful if you can cite examples where you are aware of good or innovatory practice

Section A

Person answering the call for evidence

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Section B

The questions that follow are for guidance and to act as a prompt. It is not necessary to answer all of the questions or even to use this form if you find it more convenient not to do so. We are also happy to receive local reports and evaluations where appropriate.

The call is particularly interested in looking beyond traditional 'care and support' services to strategies that improve older-age quality of life, provide an age-friendly environment and include 'prevention' measures that promote healthy ageing in place.

We would like to hear of any innovative and groundbreaking work that you are doing, or planning to do. Examples may come from any area including strategic planning, commissioning, service design and delivery or activities developed in partnership with local networks of older people and communities.

1. *What are the main benefits to your community with regard to an ageing society?*

A couple of strands include:

Citizenship led approaches covered in the Housing LIN case study of work undertaken by Plymouth City Council, download at:

http://www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/Practice_examples/Housing_LIN_case_studies/HLIN_CaseStudy81_PlymouthCharter.pdf

Work on age-friendly cities featured in Housing LIN viewpoint by Prof Chris Philipson, download at:

http://www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/Viewpoints/HLIN_Viewpoint_37_Age_Friendly_Cities.pdf

2. *What are the key issues for your community with regard to an ageing society?*

The Housing LIN has a selection of papers on building community capacity that may be of interest. They include:

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- *Work on Asset Based Community Development, explored in:*
http://www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/Viewpoints/Viewpoint30_Strength-Based_Approach.pdf
- *Building mutual support and social capital in retirement housing, featured In:*
http://www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/Viewpoints/Viewpoint_23_Mutual_Support.pdf
- *Local area coordination in Thurrock. Housing LIN case study at:*
http://www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/Practice_examples/Housing_LIN_case_studies/HLIN_CaseStudy72_Thurrock.pdf

3. *In your opinion or from your perspective - are local authorities important as contributors to a society adjusting to an ageing population? In what ways can they contribute? What should they do?*

There are several aspects in their health and wellbeing functions, regeneration and market shaping that are highly relevant. The Housing LIN has published a variety of resources covering strategic and operation issues that LAs are involved in that are directly relevant to an ageing society. These include:

- *Case study of the business case for extra care housing in East Sussex. Download at:*
<http://www.housinglin.org.uk/pageFinder.cfm?cid=8988&basePageID=0>
- *Examples of policy and practice in developing local market positions and housing intelligence at:*
<http://www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/browse/HousingExtraCare/ExtraCareStrategy/SHOP/>
-

4. *If you are not part of a local authority - How might local authorities complement and support your work and what might you envision or what are your particular hopes for local government to achieve?*

The Housing LIN has been working with LGA, ADASS and housing and health sector leaders on a Memorandum of Understanding to instill leadership, learning and actions to deliver better joined up services for older people and vulnerable people.

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In addition, LAs need to be more enterprising in stimulating the environment and creating the conditions for 'place making' and inward capital investment to help transform local communities

5. *How do local authorities need to adapt to enable older people to achieve their full potential?*

Leadership challenge. Supported by Public Health England and industry, the Housing LIN is working with several local authorities, housing associations, public health, and other health sector organizations to provide opportunities for creating thinking, research and development and knowledge and innovation exchange so that the conditions can be put in place to improve the local 'offer' for older people in the region.

6. *What are the key challenges facing local government in respect of health and social care as a result of population ageing? What needs to change (structurally, culturally or financially) to enable local government to tackle these challenges in cooperation with health and other partner organisations?*

Hidden need (especially self -under market and those not known to the social care system)

Eligibility and affordability of care (increasingly only critical and substantial ie it estimated that 500k people no longer in receipt of home care due to tightening criteria

Impact of welfare reform (new excluded groups, housing and income poverty)

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- 7. How is an 'ageing' strategy being developed in your area? What are the personnel, structures and processes necessary to support that strategy? What are the means by which 'buy-in' and engagement with the strategy are achieved? How is the strategy informed by the needs and aspirations of older people and how is integration achieved between officers and members and local authorities and partner organisations in the health and voluntary sectors?*

The Housing LIN has been working closely with a NW authority on this. Due to report by the end of the year. Willing to share once published.

In addition, LGA are keynote address at the Housing LIN annual conference on 17 February 2015

There are several examples of age-friendly approaches however, planning is one major obstacle. More information on the Housing LIN planning e-portal at: <http://www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/browse/Planning/>

In addition, current DCLG consultation on housing design standards and space is proposing a retrograde step on future accessibility and adaptability of new housing. It will create a postcode lottery on delivering quality buildings eg built to Lifetime Homes Standards or HAPPI criteria, in the absence of which could put pressure on more costly health and social services.

[If a strategy document exists please attach it].

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8. *If you are within a local authority – What are the governance arrangements on ageing issues? Which officer leads on the implementation of your ageing strategy or leads on ageing issues (in the absence of a strategy). If possible please include contact details? Which elected member or board or committee deals with ageing issues?*

9. *Which national policy levers and drivers assist you to prepare and respond for an ageing society locally? What has assisted you and what has been a hindrance? What would assist you to respond more actively or help you to undertake an appropriate role for your community?*

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In addition, current DCLG consultation on housing design standards and space is proposing a retrograde step on future accessibility and adaptability of new housing. It will create a postcode lottery on delivering quality buildings eg built to Lifetime Homes Standards or HAPPI criteria, in the absence of which could put pressure on more costly health and social services in the future. LAs therefore urgently need to produce robust age-friendly plans otherwise there will be a presumption in favour of developers

10. *Do local authorities have a role in addressing digital exclusion or in helping their older populations deal with the national government's 'digital-by-default' strategy?*

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11. *How can or should local authorities support older workers and address the ageing of their own workforces?*

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.*

I have supplied several links in response to other questions. In addition, the 2 APPG inquiry reports are highly relevant to this call. They can be found at:

http://www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/Other_reports_and_guidance/living-well-at-home.pdf

http://www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/Other_reports_and_guidance/Housing_our_Ageing_Population_Plan_for_Implementation.pdf

*And finally, useful comparative analysis done as part of the Long Term Care Revolution, available at:
http://www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/Reports/HLIN_Report_LTC_Revolution.pdf*

Access to our extensive resources, further information and initiatives feature on the Housing LIN website

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