

Supplementary written evidence submitted by North Yorkshire County Council (PHS0525)

Introduction:

North Yorkshire has a population of around 604,900 (ONS mid-2016 population estimate). The population of the county has grown in recent years, partly by indigenous growth and partly by inward migration. It has a healthy economy with low unemployment and a preponderance of small to medium sized businesses.

North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) is the county council governing the county of North Yorkshire; an area composing most of North Yorkshire in England. The council currently consists of 90 councillors.

Health and Adult Services is the directorate responsible for delivering health and social care services to all North Yorkshire residents. The directorate works with local partners to improve public health and adult social care.

In response to the call for evidence for the Prevention Inquiry, the Health and Adult Services directorate of NYCC wishes to submit eight proposals for consideration by the Health and Social Care Committee.

These will be submitted separately but they are:

1. Overweight and obesity in adolescence
2. Tobacco
3. Air quality
4. Alcohol IBA
5. Homelessness
6. Extra Care
7. Strengthening Communities
8. Living Well

The four questions posed in the call for evidence have been used to structure the proposals. All individual proposals are up to 750 words (excluding the titles and four questions).

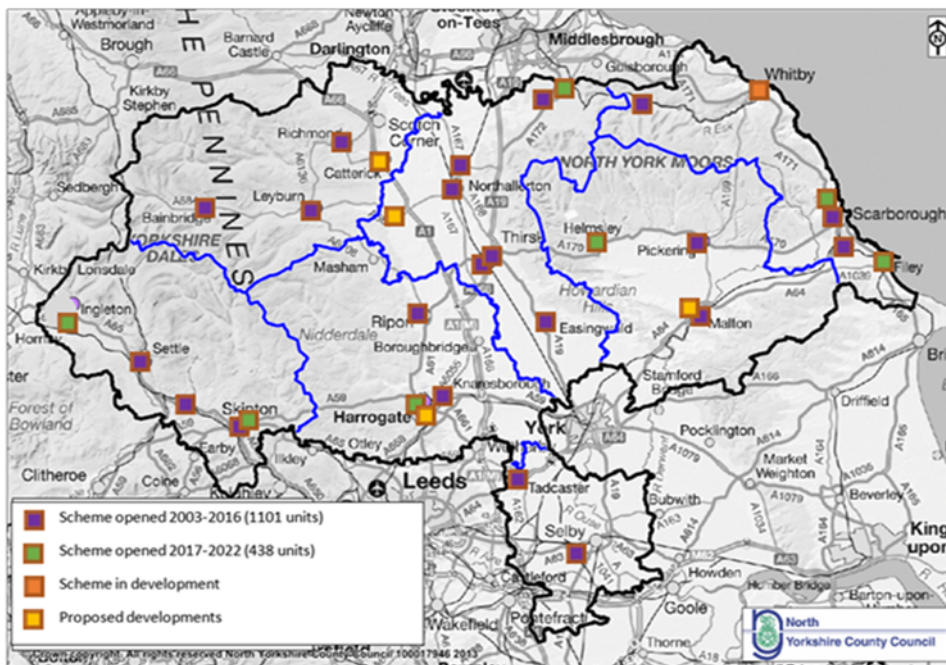
On behalf of NYCC, we would be more than happy to provide additional information, evidence or ideas, should any of our proposals are chosen.

Extra care approach to prevention

Why the Health and Social Care Committee should consider this issue as part of its Prevention inquiry

Choosing where they live has a huge impact on people's quality of life, and having well-designed supported accommodation is an important part of prevention. An Extra Care approach has been implemented at North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) for some time.

NYCC has developed 28 Extra Care schemes in all parts of the County from urban centres (e.g. Harrogate and Scarborough) to small towns (e.g. Bainbridge and Castleton). These schemes deliver over 1500 units of high-quality accommodation with support, allowing people to remain independent and live in their own communities for as long as possible.



In addition to accommodation, Extra Care in NY offers a range of services, including step-up/step-down units to support people in returning home from hospital or to prevent a discharge. Some schemes also act as community hubs, libraries, shops and hairdressing services as well as having cafes open to the public.

Extra Care is well established and highly successful in NY, with a 20-year track record of delivery across the county. Plans are in place to further develop the programme with additional schemes and moving towards schemes that can support people with more complex needs and operate at a smaller scale in rural communities.

As part of the Extra Care programme, NYCC has:

- Developed local accommodation, services and activities that support people to be safe and live independently at home for longer
- Improved the way people can choose, buy and fit equipment and Telecare so that they can live independently

- Expanded the number of extra care housing schemes across the county and developed community hubs in some of them
- Explored different models of accommodation, such as Homeshare, to see if they might be beneficial for residents
- Increased the availability and choice of accommodation and services for people with:
 - complex needs
 - mental health issues
 - learning and/or physical disabilities
 - sensory impairment
 - autism
 - young people with disabilities moving from childhood into adulthood
 - age-related frailty and disability
- Established a regular basis for involving current and future service users in having their say about services.

This approach has been beneficial for NY residents, and it has the potential to benefit people across the UK particularly around preventing the need for complex, social care involvement whilst allowing people to live independently for longer.

Why the Committee should look at it now: in particular, whether there is an opportunity for it to add value to existing research and evidence

On their own, traditional models of residential living are unlikely to meet the changing expectations of adults across the country. The numbers of people needing care and support where they live has increased substantially and an increase in the development of modern, fit for purpose accommodation with care across all areas of the country is needed. This provision must support the needs of the next generation of people who will need care and support where they live and needs good partnership working with the NHS and other partners, including local communities.

Extra care approaches are likely to support and give more control to people thereby empowering them and improving their wellbeing. There is also a likelihood of additional benefits linked to these approaches such as improving transport, information and advice services, supported employment, supporting the wider use of technology (e.g. Telecare and Telehealth).

More research is needed to explore the intentional and unintentional benefits of extra care schemes and their potential as preventative approaches.

Why this area would benefit from scrutiny

Evidence shows that extra care housing can offer the dual benefit of improved outcomes for people as well as a better financial position for local authorities. NYCC has been working with people who have had to move out of the county to find the right accommodation and support to meet their needs so that they can return to live independently in their local community. This includes people with a physical disability, learning disability, mental health issues or more complex needs who have specific accommodation requirements that the council was unable to provide at the time they needed them. Development of more accommodation with support, especially the specialist services, will support people stay close to family and informal support networks.

Why the Government needs to take action in this area

The Dilnot Commission on Social Care found that the current social care system is regarded as inadequate, unfair and unsustainable. Eligibility criteria for council-funded services mean that in most areas only people with critical and substantial care needs qualify for support and financial help.

This means that more affordable solutions need to be found for people who will self-fund, or whose needs are less intensive. A key element of social care practice is that people should have choice and control over how their needs are met, including where they live.

Feb 2023