

## **The Impact of Healthy Housing Hubs on the health outcomes of Vulnerable people.**

### **Case Study Summary**

**The Healthy Housing Hub demonstrates how successful partnerships can reduce the negative impact of poor housing on health and increase positive outcomes for people experiencing housing inequalities in Derby.**

The Hub's 2019 - 20 annual report highlights the positive impact it has had on individuals, with 86% of clients reporting health & wellbeing benefits and 91% still occupying their homes 12 months after the intervention. The report also highlights how the interventions have eased pressure on the wider NHS and social care, noting a 39% reduction in A&E presentations, a 20% reduction in hospital admissions, and a 74% decrease in the use of Out of Hours services.

Vulnerable people are at greater risk of experiencing ill health as a result of unsuitable or unsafe housing conditions such as, cold homes or where an occupant is likely to experience a fall.

Derby City's Healthy Housing Hub is a partnership between Housing, Health, Social Care and Community which aims to assist vulnerable people who are at greater risk of poor health outcomes due to unsafe or unsuitable housing. Launched in 2012, it has been crucial in identifying and tackling poor housing conditions and housing related health inequalities in the city.


The Hub focusses on housing living conditions that are currently impacting or have the potential to have a detrimental impact on health, particularly for those most vulnerable and in need of assistance. The service receives referrals from the NHS, social care, emergency services, the community, for example, for people who are most at risk due to their health needs and living conditions.

Low-cost health focussed interventions are used, including support and advice, prescribed works, healthy housing assistance, handy-person services and partner links. These interventions have had a positive impact on both the individuals and their carer's health and wellbeing, enabling them to live more safely and independently at home.

This preventative approach helps to reduce the severity and/or avoid the incidents of poor health outcomes due to housing issues, which in turn reduces demand on and cost to the NHS and social care.

The Hub has assisted in:

- a reduction in home accidents, falls and general health risks
- a decline in demand on primary care, social care and emergency services
- assisting clients to maintain their independent living within own home
- facilitating hospital discharge and reduced readmissions
- a reduced reliance on medication/care
- increased client wellbeing.



Case study:

Mr Smith\*, a 77-year-old gentleman, was referred to the hub's services by a concerned neighbour. This was regarding the lack of heating in his home due to his gas fire and boiler being condemned and out of use. This gentleman suffers from comorbidities: Parkinson's Disease, COPD and poor mobility. Due to the referral, a new boiler was installed, and a handrail was installed in the stairs with grab rails around the house to decrease the likely hood of falls. His income was also increased with the addition of the Attendance Allowance award.

(\* Names have been changed)

**Please see the link to the report below.**

<https://www.derby.gov.uk/media/derbycitycouncil/contentassets/documents/housing/healthy-housing-hub-infographic.pdf>

<https://www.derby.gov.uk/housing/improvements-and-repairs/healthy-housing-hub/>

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