

Other articles are provided in this report for information

Market renting – best practice guidance from CIH

In October 2013, the CIH has produced guidance for housing associations on establishing a market rental presence. A number of KPMG clients contributed to this study. A key section is that of “how to get it right” which identifies 7 critical questions:

- Do you understand the local housing market?
- Do you understand your target market?
- How will you secure the necessary finance?
- Do you understand the risks and are you equipped to manage them?
- How will you structure your business?
- Do you have the right skills?
- Can you respond to the differing expectations of tenants?

<http://www.cih.org/resources/PDF/Policy%20free%20download%20pdfs/New%20approaches%20to%20market%20rented%20housing.pdf>

Allocation of social housing - DCLG guidance

In late December DCLG issued statutory guidance to local authorities in relation to allocating social housing. Two main elements within this include:

- Councils are strongly encouraged to apply a two year residency test as part of their qualification criteria. This can be seen as part of the government’s desire to ensure local people are not disadvantaged in the social housing allocation system, for example in response to publicity over immigration; and
- Encouragement to ensure armed forces personnel and their families are not disadvantaged in the process, for example as a result of residency tests.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/allocation-of-accommodation-guidance-for-local-housing-authorities-in-england>

Improving the quality of care for older people in residential care homes

This report from Joseph Rowntree Foundation explores what care homes can learn from other sectors about improving quality of care. The study looks at delivery of care in residential services for children and young people, residential services and supported housing for people with learning disabilities and hospice care, and considers how this can be applied in care homes for older people. There are promising ideas that could improve the culture of care homes, experiences of care and support for staff.

Themes emerging from other care settings that could help improve the quality of care in residential homes relate to increased involvement of service users, personalisation of care services, and holistic approaches that help create a positive organisational culture.

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/publications/learning-for-care-homes>

