Housing workshop – 17 November 2021

1. Have things have got better or worse or stayed the same since the last examination in 2017?

Worse

No real plan to tackle existing crisis or for future

2.​Which if any of the Committee’s recommendations from 2017 and 2016 have been implemented by the government?

None

For example

Rights eroded under covid conditions, in social care (reduced duties of local councils to provide support), “Do Not Resuscitate “ orders placed on patients without consultation ; and people with MH diagnosis and learning disabilities in homes/units having no visits or inspections

3.​Have any new issues emerged since 2017?

Loss of right to council/social housing (tenancies) for life

This will impact on disabled people who are more likely to live In poverty/have rent arrears (main reason for losing property)

Councils/social housing landlords being forced to sell “more valuable “ stock. Often these are larger family homes

These homes are needed by an ever increasing number of disabled people having families. Larger homes are more easily adapted and accommodate equipment and losing them will have a disproportionate impact on disabled people

4.​Which are the top three issues in this area are most important to bring

Impact of housing related welfare/benefits changes eg bedroom tax & universal credit

Having direct impact on rent - more people getting into arrears

Lack of availability, in fact diminishing future stock of accessible public/social housing properties , particularly outside london.

Patchwork/postcode lottery in terms of local authorities building new accessible homes

Lack of any availability of accessible homes in private rental market

Lack of awareness of landlords of legislation, rights of tenants, support for adaptations/equipment

Lack of legislation to make landlords ensure properties meet minimum access standards where appropriate (especially new developments)