



Changing Policy & Practice:

Older Persons' Health & Housing –
a Conversation Waiting to Happen

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ON 12th APRIL 1980
THESE EXTENSIONS
WERE OFFICIALLY OPENED
BY
THE HON. D.F. QUIGLEY
MINISTER OF HOUSING

In the beginning...



“Elderly people, including those in need of care and support should, wherever possible, be enabled to continue living in their own homes, and where this is not possible, they should be enabled to live in a sheltered and supportive environment which is as close to their community as possible, in both the social and geographic sense”

(OECD, *Caring for frail elderly people: new directions in care*, 1994).

Ageing in Place



A great philosophy...

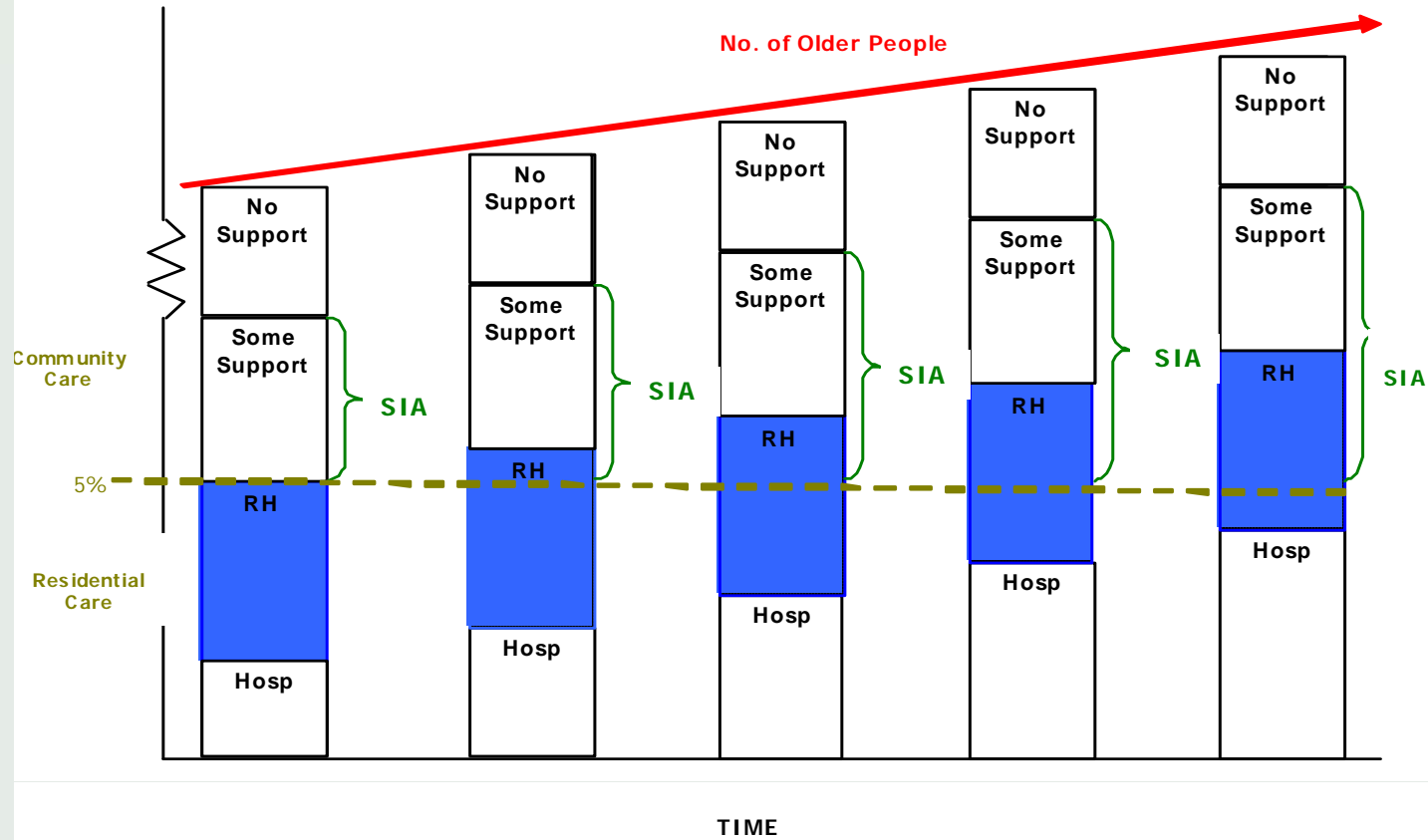


response?

...or a pragmatic

The Result?

A Shift From Residential to Community Models of Care



A Research Response



“Supported Independent Accommodation for Older New Zealanders: A Review of Current Policy and Innovative Practice”

(MA in Social Policy, Victoria University)



"You are completely free to carry out whatever research you want, so long as you come to these conclusions."

- Lit review (incl. *JRF Housing with care for later life*, Croucher et al, 2006)
- Review of population and accommodation demographics
- Review of Health Policy and Housing Policy
- 6 Case Studies – innovation in SIA
- Thematic analysis

6 Case Studies



- Case Study 1: Hospital operated in conjunction with retirement village. Privately owned. Hospital-based health services available to retirement village residents on a user-pays basis.
- Case Study 2: Retirement village – part of national chain – holding a site-specific Home Support contract as part of a pilot initiative with their DHB. Enables more efficient and flexible ‘bundling’ of care delivery.

Case Studies cont'd



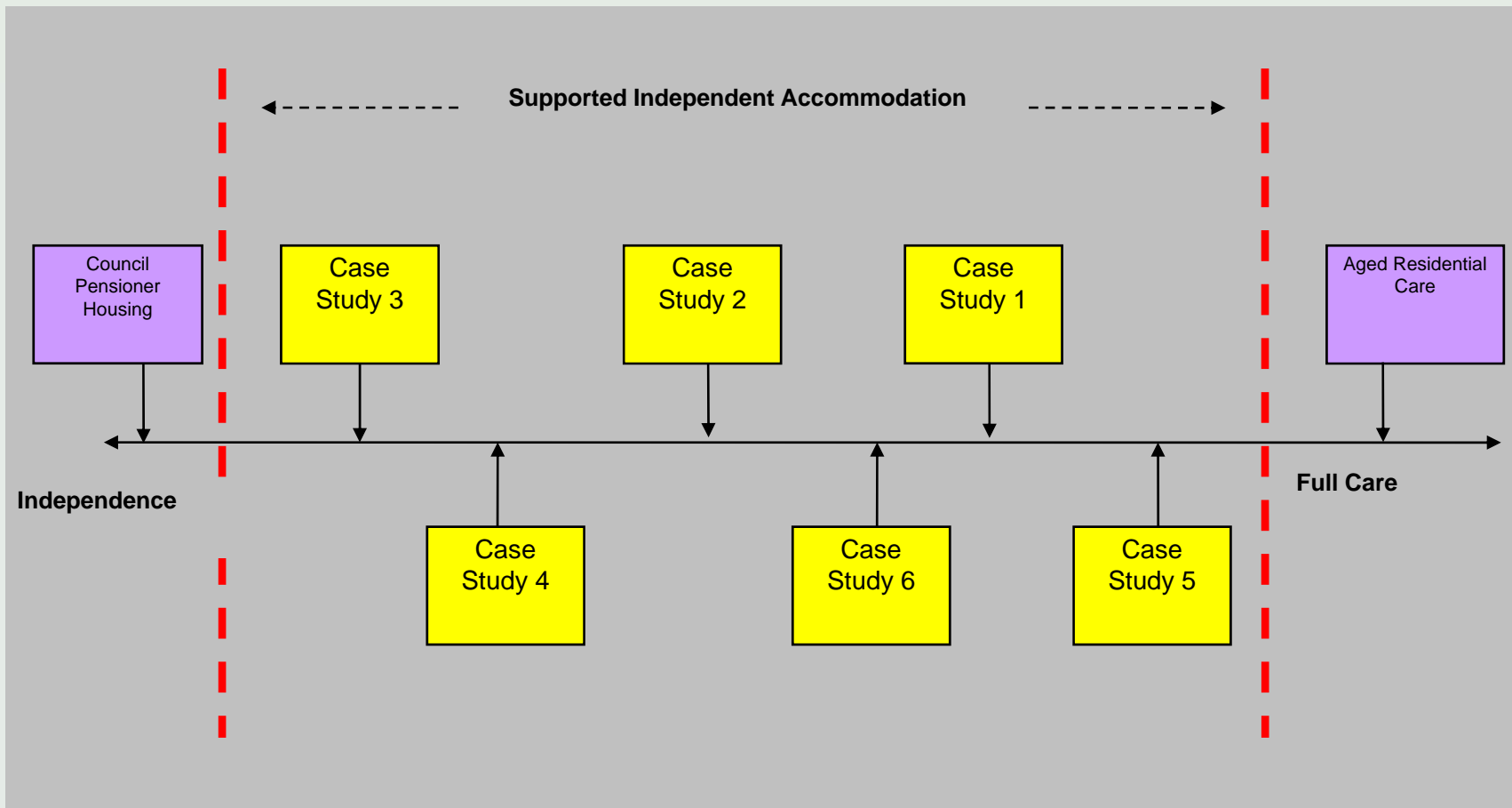
- Case Study 3: Rural initiative – a partnership between social service provider and District Council. Providing low-level management and support for existing council flats
- Case Study 4: Rental housing option, with 9-10 older people residing together, supported by live-in housekeeper. Established by local trust, with financial support from HNZC in return for allocation rights.

Case Studies cont'd



- Case Study 5: LTO apartments operated by not-for-profit provider in conjunction with adjacent rest home and hospital. Rest home level care able to be delivered to apartment residents, with accommodation component deducted from residential care subsidy – a pilot arrangement with local DHB
- Case Study 6: LTO villas operated by not-for-profit provider in conjunction with adjacent rest home and hospital. Home Support available to residents utilizing rest home staff – the result of a sub-contracting arrangement with local Home Support contract-holder.

Supported Independent Accommodation: Independence Continuum



Key Themes:



- Promoting independence
- Health, wellbeing and quality of life
- Social integration
- Home for life
- Alternative to residential care
- Cost effectiveness (funder/provider)
- Affordability (resident)

(Croucher et al - Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2006)

And a further 'emergent' theme:

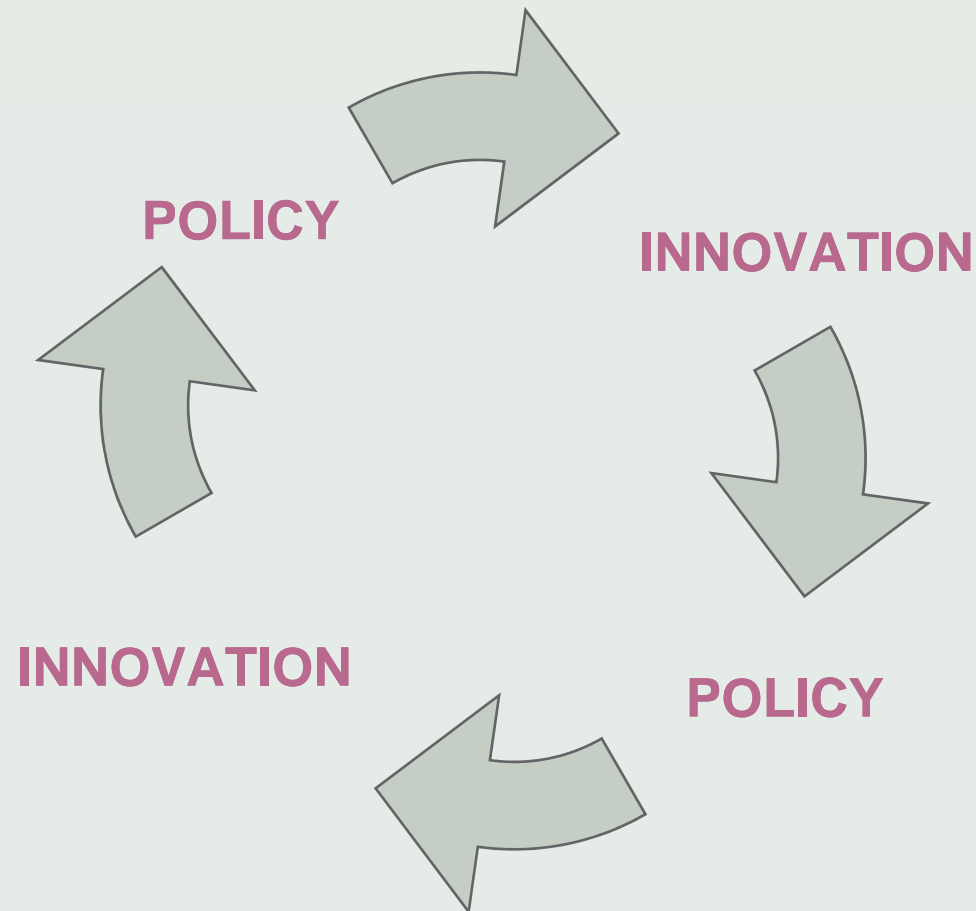
- Intersectoral collaboration

Key Findings



- Importance of intersectoral collaboration
- Tension between 'ageing in place' and prevalent economic model for SIA
- Anomalies between 'ageing in place' and current government subsidy regime for older people

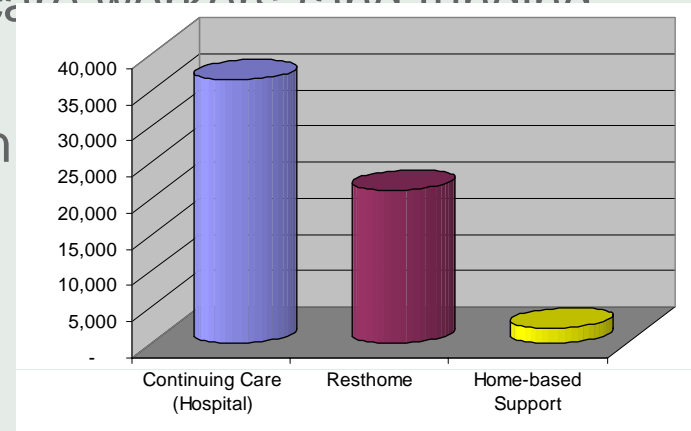
Key Issues for the Sector: the 'conversation(s) waiting to happen'



'Conversation(s) waiting to happen' cont'd



- If the older person who, 5 years ago, was assessed as RH level care would have been admitted to a RH because that was the only option available, *today* would have a choice ... what are the *implications* of that?
 - Training and support of care workers (and funding implications)
 - Risk of institutionalisation
 - Cheaper for whom?



Average Annual Cost per Aged Person 05/06 (Canterbury DHB, used with permission)

'Conversation(s) waiting to happen' cont'd



- The critical interaction between health and housing:
 - Health interventions compromised by unsuitable accommodation
 - Assessment of health status *and* housing status?
 - Earlier intervention (lower level = lower cost)
- The need to think (and talk, and act) *inter-sectorally* rather than *intra-sectorally*



References



Croucher, K., Hicks, L., & Jackson, K. (2006). *Housing with care for later life*. York: Joseph Rowntree Foundation, University of York.

OECD. (1994). *Caring for Frail Elderly People: New Directions in Care*. Paris: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Reid, M. (2008) *Supported Independent Accommodation for Older New Zealanders: current policy and innovative practice*.

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