

PLYMOUTH'S JOINT DEMENTIA STRATEGY

Living Well with Dementia



I. Prime Ministers Dementia Challenge

There are a number of work streams at national, regional and local level around the commissioning of dementia provision. Dementia care is a highly important policy area for central government and there is a requirement on health and social care commissioners to have joint plans in place and to report progress against key areas. On the 26th March David Cameron launched his **Challenge on Dementia** which has 4 key elements:

Improving health and care services

- This includes improved prescribing and application of NICE guidelines around antipsychotic medication;
- Improved care across all settings with a strong focus on Care Homes and in peoples own homes;
- Improved diagnostic rates with a national return to central government outlining local plans.

Creating dementia friendly communities

Developing a focus on inclusive services for people with dementia and their carers and raising the awareness of dementia within communities.

- An example of this work includes the developing specialist designed housing such as extra care;
- The use of assistive technology;
- And locally a ***Dementia Action Alliance***.

Better research into dementia treatment and care

The government will be announcing a bidding round to accelerate research programmes over the autumn.

I.2 Creating Dementia Clinical Networks

The Department of Health via the SHA will be establishing 12 *National Dementia Clinical Networks* aimed at spreading clinical expertise.

A key function of the Dementia Clinical Network will be to contribute to engagement on service redesign across wider health communities. It will be important to challenge whole systems' thinking, to assert the position of social care and champion the role of Councils in supporting people with dementia. Two lead commissioners from the region have been asked to represent the ADASS Social Care perspective.

1.3 NHS South of England Dementia Challenge Fund

This fund provides an opportunity for local areas to respond to the Prime Minister's Dementia Challenge and a £10m pot has been made available to Clinical Commissioning Groups through a formal bidding process. This will be the first opportunity CCGs will have in directly commissioning provision for their local communities and health services. Plymouth commissioners are working closely with the Western Locality Clinical Commissioning Dementia lead on the local bid.

2. Local Commissioning Arrangements

In addition to these key areas outlined by the Prime Minister we also need to report on the areas outlines in the Joint Action Plan, appended.

Plymouth has a Joint Strategic Programme Board chaired by Paul O'Sullivan which monitors delivery of local plans against the national priorities. The Programme Board reports into the Joint Commissioning Partnership chaired by Carole Burgoyne and will report into Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Terms of Reference for this group is currently under review to reflect the Western Locality Clinical Commissioning arrangements.

2.1 Dementia Care and Support in Plymouth – Commissioning Plans 2010-13

Commissioning work streams include the following:

2.2 Dignity in Care Homes

We recognise that there will always be a requirement for good quality care home provision in Plymouth. These are the commissioning principles upon which the strategy to improve quality of care in Plymouth is based.

- To commission services that improve the quality of life for those people who are living, dying and working in care homes in Plymouth;
- For people who move into a care home setting ensure that they are able to make supported decisions wherever possible and choices about everyday activities;
- Ensuring that there is access to health and health care and that best practice guidance is embedded;
- To commission a skilled workforce.

As a result of this we have established a Dignity in Care Homes Forum supported by My Home Life Plymouth.

2.3 Dementia Quality Mark

With the ending of Care Quality Commission (CQC) ratings and changes to registration conditions for care homes, the Dementia Quality Mark for Care Homes Project was set-up in partnership with Councils across the South West to provide a single standard of dementia care within Care Homes. Plymouth City Council was selected to take the lead on this project and is currently working with 5 regions Bristol, Gloucester, Wiltshire, Dorset and Bath.

Quality standards and expectations will always be subject to changes, so the award of a Dementia Quality Mark places onus on the provider to assure care and will indicate that:

- The care service has a sound approach to the provision of dementia care;
- The essential building blocks are in place to deliver good care;
- The care service has an effective quality assurance system to check that the outcomes for people with dementia are good;
- The service is committed to ongoing improvement and development.

We have 17 care homes that have been awarded the Dementia Quality Mark with a further 20 in the pipeline.

2.4 Care Home Improvement Team

This team supports care homes to improve the quality of their care to residents and prevent safeguarding. We have commissioned My Home Life to develop 12 Dignity Champions to improve leadership within care homes in Plymouth.

Our work with Care Homes has been acknowledged through a national award.

2.5 Specialist dementia and enabling Domiciliary Care Teams

In 2011 we commissioned specialist domiciliary care teams in the independent sector to support people with complex dementia and their carers

2.6 Community and Voluntary Sector

We commission the Alzheimer's Society to work alongside our memory service to support early intervention and prevention including extending the number of memory cafes and increasing access to trained volunteers to support with befriending and Singing for the Brain. We have commissioned a range of short break services for people with dementia and their carers.

2.7 Workforce Development

Plymouth has been able to identify budgets to support the independent and community and voluntary sector with Dementia Awareness programmes. These programmes will be funded by the Council in 2012 as we see the priority of improving standards of care.

Training programmes include – Jackie Pool – Bee Inspired and our “Dementia Detectives” training and awareness programme for all carers of people with Dementia.

Over 300 people have accessed this awareness training.

This programme extends to GP training and awareness.

2.8 Libraries and Community Hubs

We have invested £200k over 2 years into our Plymouth Libraries to become Community hubs and provide advice, support and drop in events for people with dementia and their carers.

2.9 Extra Care Housing

Plymouth has the only specialist extra care housing for people with dementia in the south west region.

2.10 Improving Diagnosis

Plymouth Community Memory Service has received national accreditation in recognition of the quality of service it provides. This service will be re-accredited in 2012. Adult Social Care have commissioned the Alzheimer's Society to work with individuals who are newly diagnosed or are awaiting diagnosis to ensure they are referred into support services at an early stage .

2.11 Reducing Anti Psychotic Medication

Projects in place led by Health commissioners to deliver this work stream through Plymouths Dignity in Care Homes Forum. (A full report is available)

2.12 Support to Carers

Support to carers is an absolute priority for the Council and our Health partner's. These are the headline developments in Plymouth for our Carers.

- GPs and health staff have direct access to services which support Carers
- Health commissioners have invested into the Councils offer for Carers which includes:
- Carers Emergency Response Service
- Hardship Fund
- Training for Carers through St Johns Ambulance service
- Counselling Support from Simply Counselling – a free service which operates on a self referral basis rather than through GP referral.
- Carers Champions – emotional support information and advice.

In 2012 we will be jointly commissioning health and social care support for Carers in the form of a new **Carers Enhanced Carers Support Service** to include access to personal budgets and short break provision through a Carers Support Fund. Services will be tailored to carers of people with dementia.

2.13 Increase in re-ablement support for people with dementia

Increased investment and gone into reablement services to support people with dementia leaving hospital or to prevent in appropriate admission.

3. Plymouth as a Dementia Friendly City 2012 and Beyond

We feel that our commissioning achievements will provide a good foundation to extend awareness of dementia and the Dementia Challenge into the community through city centre business and intergenerational work with schools. In November 2011 City Centre Businesses signed up to the **Plymouth Dementia Action Alliance**.

The City Council will work with the Alzheimer's Society to develop this programme further in 2012 through strengthening partnerships with the private and community and voluntary sector which will include:

- Meeting with strategic partners in the City to develop the memorandum of understanding to deliver awareness training across the City. – April 2012
- Framework of dementia specific accredited training organisations. July 2012
- Second event to publicise training framework July /August 2012
- Extension of Dementia Quality Mark to encompass City Centre Business
- Intergenerational projects with schools.

Additionally Plymouth City Council will be incorporating Dementia Awareness as part of the induction for front line Council staff.