

Adults and Safer City Scrutiny Panel

26 January 2016

Report title	Progress on Joint Dementia Strategy for Wolverhampton 2015 – 2017	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Elias Mattu Cabinet Members for Adults	
Wards affected	All	
Accountable director	Linda Sanders, People	
Originating service	Commissioning ,Older People	
Accountable employee(s)	Anthony Ivko	Service Director, Older People
	Tel	01902 555310
	Email	Anthony.Ivko@wolverhampton.gov.uk
	Paul Smith	Head Older Peoples Commissioning
	Tel	01902 555318
	Email	Paul.Smith@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report has been considered by	Adults and Community Scrutiny Panel	8 July 2014
	Health and Wellbeing Board	3 September 2014

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Panel is recommended to:

1. Receive an update on the Joint Dementia Strategy for Wolverhampton 2015-17.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the progress made against the refreshed Joint Dementia Strategy for Wolverhampton 2015 - 17.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Dementia is one of the biggest health and social care challenges of the present day and the number of people with dementia living in Wolverhampton is expected to grow by 45% over the next twenty years.
- 2.2 There are approximately 3,604 people with dementia living in the city, and this figure is set to grow by 45% over the next 20 years. Two thirds of people living with dementia live in the community, in their own homes and approximately one third live in nursing or residential care homes across the city.
- 2.3 The refreshed Joint Dementia Strategy for Wolverhampton is progressing at a time of increasing pressure on public spending, with local authorities facing severe cuts and the National Health Service expected to find significant efficiencies to meet increasing demand. The needs of a growing number of people with dementia are a high priority challenge for all public sector organisations.
- 2.4 Wolverhampton's health and social care economy is working in an integrated way to deliver the most efficient and effective response to the needs of people with dementia and their carers. It will recognize and protect early stage interventions and the contribution they make towards restoring and maintaining independence; reducing unnecessary hospital admissions; facilitating discharges back home and improving the quality of care for all.
- 2.5 One of the ways forward is the Better Care Fund which operates as a single multi-agency programme. This includes a Dementia Work-Stream where one of the priorities is to develop Wolverhampton's approach to the challenge of increasing numbers of people with dementia.
- 2.6 In line with the national proposals and the Better Care Fund agenda, it is clear that system wide transformational change is necessary and best delivered through integrated working across the health and social care economy. In relation to dementia, the Better Care Fund resources will be targeted on those areas that can achieve independent living with dementia as a real choice, shifting the emphasis away from acute and residential care to community and self-care.

2.7 The scope for this is included in the Better Care Fund workstream as part of a fully integrated service that focuses on achieving a localised and person centered approach. In order for this to happen, the Council has prioritised early intervention and timely diagnosis; to maintain and restore independent living at every opportunity.

3.0 Progress

3.1 The Joint Dementia Strategy for Wolverhampton has been updated with an integrated pathway approach that is inclusive of the following:

- To deliver a dementia aware community;
- To ensure people with dementia live well with a stable condition
- To ensure people with dementia live well with complex conditions
- To respond to changing needs
- To ensure good quality secondary care when needed
- To deliver good quality end of life support when needed

3.2 In October 2015 Commissioners and Quality Assurance Compliance completed an evaluation of community based services, delivered in partnership by the Alzheimer's Society for Dementia Cafes and Dementia Support Services. Feedback from service users, carers and families who attended the Dementia Cafes identified some of the benefits of the Cafes as follows:

- Dementia Cafes have made a positive difference to well-being and improve the lives of people with dementia and their families and carers
- Dementia Cafes offer increased social opportunities and these opportunities are highly valued
- Dementia Cafes offer an opportunity to share experiences with peers and learn from these experiences, which is very important

3.3 In addition to the six Dementia Cafes, the contract also includes the Dementia Support Workers responding to families who require support, information and advice on all aspects of living with dementia or caring for someone with dementia, through a case management approach. This composite role is recognised as an effective way to support families as well as sign posting on to the dementia cafes for further peer support and on-going information. The Dementia Support Workers seek to empower carers and people with dementia to solve problems early, avoid crisis and live as independently as possible.

3.4 The evaluation concluded that these community based services are highly valued by people with dementia and their carers. The impact of not having these services can result in unnecessary admission to hospital; a delay in discharge from hospital or an admission to a care home. Work is now underway to re-commission these services with new contracts being issued by 1 April 2016.

- 3.5 The following statements outline responses received from those who have accessed direct services from Dementia Cafes or Dementia Support Workers:
- *“Cafes helped to improve my confidence after the shock of dementia diagnosis”*
 - *“Being able to come somewhere with mum where I don’t have to worry what people are thinking about her behaviour, because they understand”*
 - *“It’s fantastic. I would have been lost especially on my low times”*
 - *“It took away the fear from a horrible diagnosis”*
 - *“My mum would have been a recluse”*
 - *“Coming to a café is also an opportunity to socialise with other people who are in the same situation”*
 - *“I don’t know what I would have done without the cafes”*
 - *“The best thing about the café is the socialisation”*
- 3.6 In partnership with many local stakeholders such as the University, major retailers, major banks and colleagues from other organisations, the Council has developed a local Dementia Action Alliance (DAA). DAA aims to encourage and support local communities and organisations to bring about a society wide response and practical actions to enable people to live well with dementia.
- 3.7 Engaging people diagnosed with dementia and their carers will be a continuous process in all areas of development. People diagnosed with dementia and their carers will also form part of the Local Dementia Action Alliance.
- 3.8 The Dementia Friendly Communities programme commenced late 2013 included the development of Dementia Friends in towns and cities. The Council commissioned the Alzheimer’s Society to create Dementia Friends and the number grew from 1,435 in October 2014 to 4,876 in October 2015. These figures include people who completed the on-line training from the Alzheimer’s Society. We will continue to promote the training to increase the number of Dementia Friends in the next twelve months across partners, stakeholders and the Dementia Action Alliance.
- 3.9 Over a third of people with dementia are living in care homes and people with dementia represent two thirds of the care home population. All care home staff members should have an ongoing dementia awareness training programme and homes should have nominated dementia champions. Commissioners will build on the development of Dementia Champions and Leaders across care setting and re-launch dementia care champions into all care homes.
- 3.10 In partnership, Wolverhampton City Council and the University of Wolverhampton have obtained Grant Funding to develop a pilot project using Near Field Communication (NFC) smartphone technology to increase awareness of dementia. The “Smart Posters” project has been supported at all stages by services users and other experts in dementia care. The outcomes will be subject to independent evaluation, resulting in a report on the project findings together with a recommendation of future applications. The project is targeted towards people of all ages within the community and the workforce who may be involved in providing universal services. It is planned that the Smart Posters will be

launched within the City with partners from the DAA, local community and local businesses.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report. Any future actions arising from the strategy will have to be funded from existing budgets.

[AS/14012016/Y]

5.0 Legal implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications associated at this stage within the report.

[RB/14012016/V]

6.0 Equalities implications

- 6.1 The provider is required to submit regular information in relation to the protected characteristics protected under the Equality Act .
- 6.2 The Care Act 2014 will benefit people with dementia and their carer's, giving them more choice and control over their care, better information and better quality care.

7.0 Environmental implications

- 7.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

8.0 Human resources implications

- 8.1 There are no Human resource implications arising from this report.

9.0 Corporate landlord implications

- 9.1 There are no corporate landlord implications arising from this report.

10.0 Schedule of background papers

- 10.1 The Joint Dementia Strategy has previously been considered by Adult and Community Scrutiny Panel on 8 July 2014 and Health and Wellbeing Board 3 September 2014.