

<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2009</b>
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>LIVING WELL WITH DEMENTIA – A NATIONAL STRATEGY - UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION</b>
<b>PORTFOLIO AREA:</b>	<b>ADULT SOCIAL CARE</b>

**CLASSIFICATION:** Open

### **Wards Affected**

County-wide

### **Purpose**

To update the committee on Herefordshire's implementation of the national dementia strategy – Living well with Dementia.

### **Recommendation**

**THAT: subject to any comments that the Committee may want to make, the report be noted**

### **Key Points Summary**

#### **Introduction and Background**

1. Dementia is a national priority not only because of the ageing UK population but because research has shown shortcomings in current services. As a result of this in February 2009 the government published 'Living Well with Dementia – A National Strategy'
2. The aim of the Strategy is to ensure that significant improvements are made to dementia services across three key areas: improved awareness, earlier diagnosis and intervention, and a higher quality of care.
3. The strategy identifies 17 key objectives which when implemented locally should lead improvements in local delivery and a better understanding of the causes and consequences.
4. This report evaluates how far we have implemented the 17 objectives, what further work needs doing and how this will be achieved.

### **Key Considerations**

5. There are currently 700,000 people in the UK with dementia, of whom approximately 570,000 live in England. Dementia costs the UK economy £17 billion a year and, in the next 30 years, the

number of people with dementia in the UK will double to 1.4 million, with the costs trebling to over £50 billion a year.

6. Dementia is a key priority for Herefordshire given that the county's population has a relatively old age structure, with the proportion of older residents expected to increase.
7. A quarter (25%) of Herefordshire's population is of state retirement age (60 for females; 65 for males) or above (44,800 people), compared to a fifth both regionally and nationally (20% & 19% respectively).
8. Numbers of older people have grown more rapidly locally than nationally: there are 12% more people aged 65+ living in Herefordshire in 2008 than in 2001, compared to 6% more in England & Wales.
9. This growth is expected to continue, but even more rapidly - with 61% more people aged 65+ forecast to be living in Herefordshire by 2026, from 37,800 in 2008 to 61,000 in 2026 (see Figure 4.2). In particular, the number of people aged 85+ is expected to almost double, from 5,200 in 2008 to 10,200 in 2026.
10. One in 14 people aged over 65 have dementia, this rises to one in six over the age of 80 and 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of people over the age of 95.
11. In 2005 the number of people with dementia in Herefordshire was estimated to be 2,660 people which is the highest in the west midlands. This figure is predicted to rise to 3029 in 2010 and 3450 by 2015 (an increase of 30% over 10 years)
12. Currently commissioned services (Health and Social Care) for older people with MH problems (including Dementia) are in excess of £3.8m. Of this total almost 78% (2.95 million) is spent on residential and nursing care placements.
13. This spend will need to be realigned over the coming years to allow for greater investment in prevention, early intervention and intermediate care services which can delay or prevent the need for long term expensive care placements.
14. Within the strategy there are 17 objectives (or themes) of which 14 are for local delivery these are:
  - Improving public and professional awareness and understanding of dementia.
  - Good-quality early diagnosis and intervention for all.
  - Good-quality information for those with diagnosed dementia and their carers.
  - Enabling easy access to care, support and advice following diagnosis.
  - Development of structured peer support and learning networks.
  - Improved community personal support services.
  - Implementing the Carers' Strategy.
  - Improved quality of care for people with dementia in general hospitals.
  - Improved intermediate care for people with dementia.
  - Considering the potential for housing support, housing-related services and telecare to support people with dementia and their carers.
  - Living well with dementia in care homes.
  - Improved end of life care for people with dementia.
  - An informed and effective workforce for people with dementia.

- A joint commissioning strategy for dementia.
  - Improved assessment and regulation of health and care services and of how systems are working for people with dementia and their carers.
  - A clear picture of research evidence and needs.
  - Effective national and regional support for implementation of the Strategy.
15. Appendix 1 shows a detailed assessment of work undertaken in Herefordshire to implement each local objective.
16. Key achievements are:
17. **Dementia Awareness Training for All** – Development and implementation of a Dementia training programme to improve the quality of care delivered to dementia sufferers across the dispersed rural population supporting and enabling people to ‘live well with dementia’. This is being achieved by delivering tailor-made training meeting the needs of a wide range of professionals and carers who come into contact with a person with dementia focusing on developing person centred care and raising awareness of dementia issues in the county. The goal is to educate and train EVERYONE who comes into contact with a person with dementia so that they can deliver person centred care at all levels in all situations to a high standard. The training encompasses care givers from various professional and informal groups and includes support for carers and service users through carers education sessions and Al’s Café (informal dementia café support group that provides help and information) in partnership with the Alzheimer’s Society.
18. **Specialist Intermediate Care** – Establishment of a specialist domiciliary Intermediate Care service delivered through a partnership between Herefordshire Council, Herefordshire Mental Health services and a domiciliary care provider. The aim is to provide short-term reablement support to individuals with dementia to enable them to remain living at home by providing a treatment environment more able to respond to the needs of individuals with dementia at times of crisis. The team have integrated developments in assistive technology (the Just Checking activity monitoring system, Safe Walking technology – GPS location devices, Telecare – exit sensors, fall detectors, automatic medication dispensers etc) with a person centred therapy based approach to deliver an innovative and responsive service. The assistive technology monitors the activity of service users and alerts a care specialist if they are at risk or stray outside their normal daily routines. The technology is part of a wider improvement programme designed to promote the independence of people with dementia and support them to live at home and reduce instances of costly emergency hospital or care home admissions. Another aim is to work closer with family carers and provide improved carer support. The technology provides information about a service user’s daily routines and patterns of activity and this can be accessed securely on-line. This greatly improves the relationship between professionals and family carers because both parties have access to objective information when conducting risk assessments. It has also given service users a genuine voice within the decision making process because it provides concrete evidence of their strengths and capabilities.
19. However, there remain a number of objectives which have not been fully implemented. Key priorities in relation to these are:
- **Identify named leads for the four outstanding Objectives** (Public & Professional Awareness; Quality Information; Community Personal Support; Housing & Telecare). This will enable the establishment of working groups of informed individuals who can actively improve the care pathway in those areas.
  - **Undertake Capacity and Demand Mapping Study and updating 2007 Gaps Analysis**

20. We also need to place a greater emphasis on achieving progress on the six national and regional priority areas of the dementia strategy which are:
- a) **Early Diagnosis and Intervention** – i) Enhance our current memory assessment services so that all people with dementia have access to a pathway of care that delivers rapid and competent specialist assessment, an accurate diagnosis and treatment, and care and support following diagnosis. This service requires the capacity to see all new cases of dementia in the locality. ii) Development of a Younger Person with Dementia service – early detection and intervention services can enable younger people with dementia to take actions that can reduce or delay the impact of dementia.
  - b) **Improving the quality of care in general hospitals** – i) Requirement to develop an explicit care pathway for the management and care of people with dementia led by a senior clinician with responsibility for quality improvements. ii) Enhance current Psychiatric Liaison Services to provide a comprehensive, standardised, multi-disciplinary approach to older people with psychiatric illness in the acute and community hospitals.
  - c) **Improving the quality of care in care homes** – i) Requirement to identify lead staff members in each care home to lead on quality improvement and strategy development ii) Development of specialist in-reach services from older people's mental health teams to support care homes to improve care provision iii) Implementation of a comprehensive training plan.
  - d) **Implementation of the Carers strategy** – Ensure that the needs of carers for people with dementia are strongly supported in the implementation of the carers strategy.
  - e) **An informed and Effective Workforce** – i) Undertake a scoring exercise examining the skills mix and competencies of the workforce ii) Develop a workforce profile, skills mix, recruitment and retention strategies and competencies framework to provide future services iii) Implementation and rolling out of 'Dementia Awareness Training for All' programme.
  - f) **Develop a Joint Commissioning Strategy for dementia**
21. In summary it can be seen that although substantial work has been done to implement the Dementia strategy, progress has been inconsistent with some objectives not being fully implemented.
22. The integrated commissioning directorate has now taken the lead for coordinating the implementation of the strategy in Herefordshire and to support this process has identified a senior officer to be Dementia Lead, - Amanda Edwards, Service Improvement Manager.
23. Resources from within the planning and service redesign sections of Integrated Commissioning have also been identified to support the development of a detailed dementia commissioning strategy.
24. Integrated Commissioning will be undertaking a further assessment on progress against the key objectives in March 2010.

## Appendices

25. Assessment against local key objectives/themes

## Background Papers

- Living Well with Dementia – A National Strategy