

**Decision Session - Cabinet Member for
Health, Housing and Adult Social Services**

22 November 2011

Report of the Assistant Director (Adult Assessment and Safeguarding)

Dementia Strategy and Action Plan

Summary

1. This report asks the Cabinet Member to approve the North Yorkshire and York Dementia Strategy, and the local plan to deliver the Strategy in York. It also seeks agreement to sign up to the Dementia Declaration

Background

2. The National Dementia Strategy for England was published on 3 February 2009.
3. It identified 17 key objectives which, when implemented, should result in a significant improvement in the quality of services and promote a greater understanding of the causes and consequences of dementia.
4. In 2010 the Department of Health produced an updated implementation plan 'Quality Outcomes for people with dementia; building on the work of the National Dementia Strategy'. It identified four priority outcomes:
 - good quality early diagnosis and support
 - improved care in hospital
 - living well with dementia in care homes
 - reducing the use of anti-psychotic drugs
5. North Yorkshire and York Primary Care Trust have been leading work since 2009, to develop a joint local dementia strategy, covering both City of York Council and North Yorkshire County Council.

6. In York a working group has been looking at the strategy, on behalf of the York Mental Health and Modernisation Partnership Board, since early 2010. The working group has identified the priorities for York from the National Strategy, and produced suggestions for a plan to address these priorities.
7. 45 national organisations launched the 'Dementia Declaration' and invited wider sign up to the declaration as a way of committing organisations to the delivery of the outcomes within the Quality Outcomes.

Consultation

8. The national strategy was developed following extensive consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, including significant input from people living with dementia, and their carers.
9. The North Yorkshire and York Strategy used information from Overview and Scrutiny Committee reviews in both North Yorkshire and York, and undertook local mapping exercises involving a wide range of key stakeholders. Separate discussions were held with groups of people with dementia and their carers to gain their views on the current services and what they felt could be improved to provide better treatment and care. The main issues raised were:
 - not knowing who to turn to for support when symptoms cause concern
 - not being listened to particularly in the early stages and particularly by primary care
 - carers not being listened to when the cared for person is having tests or treatment for the dementia or another condition
 - lack of respite for the carers
10. The York Dementia Working Group has involved a wide range of stakeholders including service providers from health, the independent sector and the Council, the voluntary sector and service users and carers.
11. Further work is in progress within the city, led by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, to engage more actively with people living with dementia to give them a stronger voice in the development of services, as the strategy is implemented. 'Dementia Without

Walls' is a 12 month project to support people living with dementia to suggest how a city can become more dementia friendly.

Options

Option 1

- 12: (a) To approve the North Yorkshire and York Dementia Strategy attached at Annex A
- (b) To note the Executive Summary of the report of the York Dementia Working Group (Annex B)
- (c) To sign up to the Dementia Declaration (Annex C)
- (d) To agree the action plan proposed in Annex D

Option 2

13. To propose changes to the North Yorkshire and York Dementia Strategy, and/or the York Action Plan.

Analysis

Option 1

14. (a) The North Yorkshire and York Strategy (Annex A) outlines the high level information about dementia services in the whole of the Primary Care Trust (PCT) area, and provides an outline framework for action to address the objectives of the original National Dementia Strategy. The principles and direction of travel are consistent with the national strategy, and the subsequent four priority outcomes, but because of its overarching nature it does not give a strong sense of the priorities and action proposed in York. Within North Yorkshire County Council and the PCT there is a commitment to the Dementia Network driving the actions within the county. The Network was set up, in part, as a result of a North Yorkshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny review. On its own the county wide strategy is unlikely to provide a strong focus for action in York, and reliance solely on the Dementia Network could mean that specific York issues are lost. There are, however, strong advantages to maintaining contact with the Network to ensure learning and good practice is shared widely.
15. (b) The report of the York Working Group (Annex B) provides a more detailed review of the services for people living with

Dementia in York. During the development of the report progress has already been made with the city in respect of the objectives of the National Strategy, with work on a local pathway led by local GPs, and the commissioning of a new memory advisor service by the previous GP commissioning group in York. Care home providers have started to share good practice, across the independent sector and council providers, and social care commissioners have begun to work more closely with care homes to assure and improve quality. Our review of residential care homes and the proposal to develop more community based care and improve the quality of care homes will also contribute to the delivery of the strategy and action plan. The Working Group's report gives a good sense of where, collectively, providers and commissioners believe the priorities lie in York.

16. (c) The Dementia Declaration (Annex C) was signed by 45 organisations in October 2010. Created in partnership with people with dementia and their carers, the declaration explains the huge challenges presented to our society by dementia and some of the outcomes we are seeking to achieve for people with dementia and their carers. Outcomes range from ensuring people with dementia have choice and control over decisions about their lives, to feeling a valued part of family, community and civic life. Commitment to the declaration requires publication of and action plan setting out what we will do to secure these outcomes and improve the quality of life of people with dementia by 2014.
17. (d) The Action Plan, (Annex D) is a response from the council to the York Dementia Working Group report, and shows what can be achieved within the resources currently available to the council. It also addresses the commitment requested through the Dementia Declaration.

Corporate Priorities

18. The proposals within this report support the Council Plan and priorities in respect of ensuring those who are most vulnerable are protected.

Implications

Financial

19. There are no financial implications to the recommendations in this report. The proposals within the action plan would be delivered within existing resources.

Human Resources (HR)

20. There are no immediate HR implications to this report. The action plan does, however, include the further development of the York Workforce Development Strategy, in conjunction with our partners.

Equalities

21. The issues addressed within this report have implications for the following equality strands: age; disability; gender; carers. None of the recommendations would disadvantage people within these groups – the purpose of the strategy is to improve access to services and support, and the quality of life for people within these strands.

Other

22. There are no implications relating to Legal, Crime and Disorder, Information Technology or Property arising from this report.

Risk Management

23. There are no risks associated with the recommendations in this report that need to be considered for active management.

Recommendations

24. That the Cabinet Member approves the recommendations in Option A to:
 - (a) approve the North Yorkshire and York Dementia Strategy attached at Annex A
 - (b) note the report of the York Dementia Working Group (Annex B)
 - (c) sign up to the Dementia Declaration (Annex C)
 - (d) agree the action plan proposed in Annex D

Reason: To improve the quality of life for those living with dementia

Contact Details

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**Report
Approved**



Date 7 November 2011

Specialist Implications Officer(s)

Financial

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Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex A: North Yorkshire and York Dementia Strategy

Annex B: Report of the York Dementia Working Group

Annex C: Dementia Declaration

Annex D: CYC Dementia Strategy Action Plan