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**Meeting:** Social Care Health and Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee  
**Date:** 8 April 2010  
**Subject:** National Dementia Strategy  
**Report of:** Cllr Mrs Carole Hegley, Portfolio Holder for Social Care & Health  
**Summary:** This paper sets out the progress that has been made within Central Bedfordshire in implementing the National Dementia Strategy and the 17 objectives contained within the National Dementia Strategy.

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**Contact Officer:** Julie Ogley, Director Social Care, Health and Housing  
Mark Janes, Interim Assistant Director: Commissioning

**Advising Officer:** Howard Shoebridge, Senior Mental Health Commissioner: NHS Bedfordshire

**Public/Exempt:** Public

**Wards Affected:** All

**Function of:** Council

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## **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

Dementia is a condition which affects predominantly older people. All services provided by the Council will be received by people with Dementia. It is important that services provided by the whole council are sympathetic to the needs of people with Dementia

### **Council Priorities:**

Improving the quality of care for people with Dementia across Health, Social Care and Housing is key to the council's priority of improving services for older people and their carers. Success in implementing the National Dementia strategy will help the council to achieve this.

### **Financial:**

This current report highlights the key aspects of the National Dementia Strategy. As the implementation develops investment may need to be realigned and services changed to make sure that services are able to deliver the aspirations of the strategy. These changes will emerge later in the implementation.

### **Legal:**

There are no particular legal issues that the Scrutiny Committee needs to be aware of in connection to this report.

**Risk Management:**

There are no direct implications.

**Staffing (including Trades Unions):**

There are no direct implications.

**Equalities/Human Rights:**

There are no direct implications.

**Community Safety:**

There are no direct implications.

**Sustainability:**

There are no direct implications.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

**That the Social Care Health and Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee:**

- (a) Support the progress made thus far in implementing the National Dementia Strategy**
- (b) Support the way forward in developing the local priorities and service developments necessary to meet the requirements of the National Dementia Strategy**

*Reason for Recommendation(s): To provide Members with an understanding that supports a system wide approach to improving the service user / carer experience and journey through a joined up care pathway from diagnosis through to end of life care.*

**Introduction**

1. The National Dementia Strategy was launched in February 2009.
2. There are 4 main themes contained within the National Dementia Strategy these are -:
  - i. **Raising awareness and understanding.** To specifically increase the public's understanding towards dementia with an emphasis on early diagnosis. Also, to reduce discrimination and to challenge the stigma of dementia.

- ii. **Early diagnosis and support.** This will include development of specialist memory assessment clinics, improving access to information about dementia following diagnosis, the development of dementia care advisors and developing peer support networks for people with dementia and their carers.
  - iii. **Living well with dementia.** This will include improved community support, implementing the Carers Strategy for people with dementia, improved care in general hospitals and improved intermediate care for people with dementia.
  - iv. **Making the change.** This will include improving workforce education and joint planning.
3. Within the 4 themes can be found 17 objectives. A self assessment baseline exercise against these objectives can be found in Appendix A.

## **Background**

4. Following the launch of the National Dementia Strategy in February 2009 NHS Bedfordshire organised a stakeholder event at the Rufus Centre. The event took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2009.
5. The stakeholder event included National, Regional and Local speakers.
6. 60 Stakeholders attended the above event.
7. In November and December 2009 NHS Bedfordshire organised a series of 4 workshops for Central Bedfordshire. The programmes are attached as Appendix B.
8. The first 2 workshops looked at the 17 objectives within the National Dementia Strategy; the third workshop was particularly set up to engage with service users and carers. The fourth workshop was looking at the baseline self assessment against the 17 objectives and looked at the 3 main priorities.
9. The workshops were attended by 120 stakeholders.
10. The Local Dementia steering group agreed that Central Bedfordshire would set up an implementation group to oversee the implementation of the National Dementia Strategy within Central Bedfordshire. This group would be co chaired by NHS Bedfordshire and Central Bedfordshire Council.

## **Current provision**

11. 2 memory clinics to support the diagnosis and treatment of Dementia. One of which is based in the south of the county and one in Bedford.
12. There are currently 57 In-patient beds across Bedfordshire that can be accessed for Organic Mental Health including Dementia.

13. Access to older peoples Mental Health community teams, where there are 3 older people community health teams across Bedfordshire.
14. Access to community care packages accessed through fair access to care criteria.
15. Access to residential and nursing accommodation through placement by the local authority and NHS under Continuing Health Care.
16. These are all countywide services accessible to Central Bedfordshire residents.
17. The local authority will also commission a range of community care packages for those residents that meet the fair access to care criteria.

### **Identified priorities from Baseline self assessment**

18. **Early diagnosis/Information/Advice & ongoing support for users and carers.** This can be achieved through development of Dementia advisors, better information and a directory of services.
19. **Improve community personal support services for people living at home.** Some work will need to be undertaken to understand the current workforce skills and capabilities to ensure we develop a range of services across the spectrum of need.
20. **Improve quality of care for people with dementia in general hospitals.** Evidence suggests people with Dementia in the acute setting receive a lower than adequate service. There are also issues about staff training, education and signposting that can be supported by Liaison posts within the acute hospital setting.

### **Training**

21. Ongoing training and development will be considered by the following groups and organisations in order to raise awareness of the 17 objectives and looked at the 3 main priorities of the Dementia Strategy. These being:
  - GPs, social workers, carers, family members
  - Police, Fire, Ambulance
  - Training in schools, dignity & respect for older people

### **Type & quality of support services**

22. The type & quality of support services proposed include
  - Support at home
  - Support at residential & nursing care

- Support at acute care
- Support at end of life

### 23. **Workforce development**

To meet this objective there will need to be a joint health and social care approach to workforce development that includes primary care and providers of all levels of care. If Central Bedfordshire supports the principle of residents being cared for within their own home longer there will need to be a review of the current workforce skills and knowledge and an understanding of the skills required to keep more complex cases within their own communities for longer.

### **Conclusion and Next Steps**

24. Support the work plan of local implementation group.
25. Populate the Dementia Executive Commissioning tool, which allows for the development of baseline information from demographic and prevalence information across the levels of care to the impact of potential commissioning developments.
26. Agree Dementia Pathway, which includes entry and exit points and gives a clear indication of the service user journey with what services they are likely to receive at any point along the pathway.
27. Agree implementation of service developments
  - i. Enhanced memory clinic that is mobile and accessible to Central Bedfordshire's rural communities
  - ii. Acute Hospital Liaison posts
  - iii. Dementia Support Workers
  - iv. Crisis resolution and home treatment team for Dementia care
28. Revisit the baseline self assessment against the 17 objectives, this is likely to be monitored by the regional Dementia advisor throughout 2010/11.

#### **Appendices:**

Appendix A - Draft baseline assessment against National Dementia Objectives (17)

Appendix B - Workshop programmes

Appendix C - Needs assessment / demographic information

#### **Background Papers:** (open to public inspection)

National Dementia Strategy (2009) alternatively click the link below:

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/dr\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/@dh/@en/documents/digitalasset/dh\\_094051.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/dr_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/documents/digitalasset/dh_094051.pdf)

#### **Location of papers:**

Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Chicksands

NHS Bedfordshire, Gilbert Hitchcock House, 21 Kimbolton Road, Bedford