

SOCIAL SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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| Date of Meeting | 4th March 2021 |
| Report Subject | Flintshire Dementia Strategy |
| Cabinet Member | Cabinet Member for Social Services |
| Report Author | Chief Officer (Social Services) |
| Type of report | Strategic |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the development of a strategy for care and support services for people living with dementia in Flintshire. The dementia strategy is being developed collaboratively by Flintshire County Council Social Services and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB), with input from care providers, third sector organisations and community groups. This reflects a co-productive approach to integrated health and social care.

The BCUHB Dementia Strategy 2018-2020 responded to the Dementia Action Plan for Wales by supporting a local emphasis on creating 'dementia supportive communities'. The BCUHB strategy commits to listening to and respecting the voice of people affected by dementia, ensuring services are accessible and responsive to the needs of the community. BCUHB will continue this strategic approach in alignment with the priorities defined in the North Wales Regional Dementia Strategy published in March 2020, with the aim of improving the experience of all people living with dementia who access health services.

In alignment with BCUHB and regional strategies, the Flintshire 'Council Plan' includes an objective for Social Services to continue to improve the lives of people living with dementia in Flintshire. This includes a specific objective to develop a Flintshire dementia strategy that sets a shared vision to develop dementia support for individuals, families, carers and communities. This objective is fully supported by the Council's Cabinet Member for Social Services and Older People's Champion, who has developed strong supportive links with service teams, third sector providers, community groups and residents.

The Flintshire dementia strategy is being developed to prioritise and implement projects, activities and initiatives to support people living with dementia, initially for the next two years. The strategy and action plan will be reviewed on an ongoing basis in line with the North Wales dementia strategy and the North Wales Population Needs Assessment, scheduled to be revised in 2022.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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| 1 | That the Committee members note the progress made to develop a Dementia Strategy for Flintshire, in collaboration with Health and Social Care partners, to meet the Council Plan objectives. |
| 2 | For Members to support the further development and implementation of a detailed strategy and action plan to support people living with dementia in Flintshire and their families and carers, in alignment with the North Wales Regional Dementia Strategy that was published in 2020. |

REPORT DETAILS

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| 1.00 | EXPLAINING THE FLINTSHIRE DEMENTIAL STRATEGY |
| 1.01 | <p>Support for people living with dementia is a priority in the North Wales Regional Plan based on what people said was important to them in a North Wales Population Needs Assessment. There is also a legal duty in the Social Services and Well-being Act 2014 for Regional Partnership Boards to prioritise the integration of services in relation to older people with complex needs and long term conditions, including dementia.</p> <p>In response to these duties and priorities, the North Wales Social Care and Wellbeing Services Improvement Collaborative group published a North Wales Dementia Strategy in March 2020. The strategy was developed jointly by the six North Wales Councils and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) supported by Public Health Wales and other partners. The strategy sets out how Public and Third Sector organisations will work collaboratively to develop and maintain integrated dementia services in North Wales.</p> |
| 1.02 | <p>The Regional strategy is based around the themes of the Welsh Government Dementia Action Plan with the addition of a specific priority for carers. These themes were supported by the regional consultation findings, and are summarised here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Risk reduction and delaying onset• Raising awareness and understanding• Recognition and identification• Assessment and diagnosis• Living as well as possible for as long as possible with dementia• The need for increased support• Supporting carers• Putting the strategy into action• <p>The Flintshire dementia strategy is aligned to the regional strategy and provides a framework to support people living with dementia and their carers in Flintshire, responding to population needs and delivering what matters to people.</p> |
| 1.03 | The Flintshire dementia strategy is being developed with key stakeholders, including health and social care professionals, third sector organisations, |

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| | <p>community groups and importantly, people with a lived experience, to ensure that all activities are working towards shared objectives and goals to deliver the best outcomes for people living with dementia. The strategy is aligned to the North Wales Dementia Strategy, and will be delivered in collaboration with the new Regional Dementia Project team.</p> <p>The strategy incorporates the provision of formal services by Health and Social Care teams. It also promotes the importance of community activities and initiatives led by community groups supported by third sector organisations. The strategy has a strong foundation due to the high quality of innovative services and activities developed in Flintshire over the last five years. The strategy builds on the success of dementia initiatives in Flintshire and provides an ambitious framework for future development.</p> <p>The success of the strategy is dependent on community involvement and collaboration between all groups to provide engaging activities and support networks across the whole County.</p> |
| 1.04 | <p>The Flintshire dementia strategy sets key priorities, initially for 2021 and 2022, and to be reviewed in response to a revised population needs assessment and regional strategy. The priorities will include the following projects and activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapt dementia care services in response to Covid-19 restrictions by redirecting or increasing support to meet demands in residential care settings to keep people safe and connected with families and friends; • Develop community and home based services to provide person-centred 'wrap-around' care and support, including flexible night-time respite services, delivered by a multi-disciplinary team including care workers, social workers and community psychiatric nurses; • Continue to develop Dementia Friendly Communities, including rural areas, supported by a Dementia Friendly Council, extending the roll-out of inter-generational projects, training and awareness programmes and provide additional support for the recovery and restart of community activities; • Support Health led projects, research and initiatives to reduce risks, delay onset, and early detection and ensure that the support and care arrangements are age and life stage appropriate; • Improve awareness and access to health services, including GP surgeries, clinics and emergency departments; • Explore new and innovative care and support processes for dementia, including supportive technology and arts based therapies, informed by best practices across the region; • Maintain and expand dementia services in Extra Care schemes, with seven dementia supportive apartments in the new Plas Yr Ywen Holywell scheme, adding to dementia and memory supported accommodation in the three existing schemes; • Establish the feasibility of a capital project to redevelop and extend Croes Atti care home, Flint to provide additional Elderly Mentally Infirm (EMI) nursing capacity under a pooled budget arrangement with Health partners, utilising Integrated Care Funding (ICF). |
| 1.05 | <p>The Flintshire dementia strategy document is currently in draft. A consultation and collaboration process is being undertaken with key stakeholders including Health and Social Care service teams, providers, third</p> |

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| | sector organisations and community groups. The completed strategy document will be validated with the Regional Dementia Strategy Steering Group in March 2021 to enable publishing and implementation of the key actions from April 2021. |
| 1.06 | A Flintshire Dementia Strategy Working Group will be established to oversee and implement the key priorities and actions. The working group will be chaired by the Head of Adults Social Services and will include representation from all key stakeholder groups. The group will meet bi-monthly, timed to precede regional strategy steering group meetings to maintain alignment of key priorities. |

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| 2.00 | RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS |
| 2.01 | Revenue: The draft strategy identifies no implications for the approved revenue budget for this service for either the current financial year or for future financial years. Existing core services and ICF projects for Dementia are funded for 2021/22. The Dementia Strategy will be developed to identify any future implications on revenue budgets. |
| 2.02 | Human Resources: The draft strategy identifies no implications for capacity or for any change to current workforce structures or roles. Staff leading the development and implementation of the strategy are in funded posts with specific objectives to develop a Dementia Strategy. The Dementia Strategy will be developed to identify any future implications on human resources. |
| 2.03 | Capital: The draft strategy identifies no implications for approved revenue budgets for dementia services for the current or future financial years. The strategy contains actions to enhance services in existing and new capital developments such as Plas Yr Ywen and Marleyfield House. The strategy will also inform designs and practices for future capital developments. |

| 3.00 | IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT | | | | | | |
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| 3.01 | <p>An Equality and Well-being Impact Assessment was undertaken as part of the Regional Dementia Strategy development, with a specific focus on the equality and well-being of people in protected characteristic groups that are living with dementia. The regional Impact Assessment contains a number of known benefits and risks and will provide the basis of a Flintshire Integrated Impact Assessment to be developed as a key next step.</p> <p>A summary of the Regional Impact Assessment, and how this will be developed in Flintshire, is provided here:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="323 1832 1369 2074"> <tr> <th colspan="2">Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Long-term</td> <td>Positive Impact</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>The Regional Strategy aims to develop Dementia services for the long term, responding to the current and future population needs. The</td> </tr> </table> | Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact | | Long-term | Positive Impact | | The Regional Strategy aims to develop Dementia services for the long term, responding to the current and future population needs. The |
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| | The Regional Strategy aims to develop Dementia services for the long term, responding to the current and future population needs. The | | | | | | |

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| | | Flintshire Dementia Strategy will replicate this approach. |
| | Prevention | Positive Impact A key aim of the Regional and Flintshire strategies is to develop preventative services. This includes working with partners to provide information and advice and to promote and support initiatives to reduce risks and delay onset |
| | Integration | Positive Impact The Dementia Strategy documents positively promote the integration of services across health, social care, third sector and community groups. |
| | Collaboration | Positive Impact The Regional Strategy was developed as a collaboration of public sector representatives across North Wales, working closely with people with lived experiences to inform the priorities of the strategy. The Flintshire strategy will continue this collaborative approach of engagement and coproduction. |
| | Involvement | Positive Impact The Regional Dementia Strategy was developed as a partnership strategy with involvement from all key stakeholders including people with lived experience. The Flintshire strategy will continue to provide this involvement. |
| Well-being Goals – Overall Impact | | |
| | Prosperous Wales | Neutral Impact The Regional and Flintshire Strategies have an opportunity to positively impact economic development, by enhancing the skills and knowledge of the workforce across the public, independent and third sectors to meet long service needs. It is not yet fully understood if the best models for meeting care and support needs are currently achievable with a low carbon model so this will need to be explored further. |
| | Resilient Wales | Neutral Impact The Regional Dementia Strategy is likely to have a minimal impact on biodiversity, waste, fuel consumption and flood risk management. All future accommodation related projects for |

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| | | dementia services will make due consideration to the provision of a resilient Wales. |
| | Healthier Wales | Positive Impact One of the key aims for the development of the Regional and Flintshire Dementia Strategies is to improve the health and wellbeing of all people impacted by Dementia. A number of current and future projects and initiatives will adopt a person centred approach to positively impact health and wellbeing. |
| | More equal Wales | Positive Impact A key aim of the Regional and Flintshire Dementia Strategies will be the introduction of new services and improvement of existing services for people living with dementia and their carers. |
| | Cohesive Wales | Positive Impact The Regional and Flintshire Dementia Strategies include specific objectives and actions to develop more cohesive dementia friendly communities. This will include initiatives to encourage more community participation, addressing specific inequalities relating to digital exclusion and rural isolation. |
| | Vibrant Wales | Positive Impact The dementia strategies aim to improve and provide services available in the Welsh language, adopting the 'more than words' model. Projects and initiatives will ensure equal access, promoting the Welsh language, culture and heritage. |
| | Globally responsible Wales | Neutral Impact The Regional Dementia Strategy identified more neutral impacts in relation to the environment and local development plan. This will be considered by the Flintshire Dementia Strategy to identify potential positive impacts. |
| 3.02 | <p>The development of the strategy and implementation of the action plan will be managed by the Wellbeing and Partnership Lead, reporting directly to Head of Service for Adult Social Services.</p> <p>Additional support and direction will be provided by the Flintshire County Council Cabinet Member for Social Services and Older People's Champion. Additional governance roles, to approve the strategy and actions, will be fulfilled by the BCUHB Assistant Director East Area, and Chief Officer,</p> | |

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| | <p>Flintshire Local Voluntary Council, through their governance roles for the Integrated Care Fund (ICF) East Area group.</p> <p>Regional governance will be provided by the North Wales Regional Dementia Strategy Steering Group, led by the Regional Dementia Project Manager.</p> |
| 3.03 | <p>An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) will be completed as part of the Flintshire dementia strategy development. This impact assessment will assess risk associated with the implementation of the strategy, with a specific focus on the equality and well-being of people in protected characteristic groups that are living with dementia.</p> <p>The Regional Dementia Strategy includes a completed equality and well-being impact assessment and this will be used to inform the Flintshire impact assessment.</p> |
| 3.04 | <p>Risk management will be undertaken as part of the initial development of the Flintshire strategy. The strategy document is currently in preparation, and will include a risk management plan to ensure that the strategy is developed and implemented using a participatory and co-productive approach.</p> <p>Risks will be managed by the Flintshire Strategy Working Group, with escalations to Flintshire Local Authority and Health Board senior managers, and to the Regional Steering Group where necessary.</p> |

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| 4.00 | CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT |
| 4.01 | <p>The regional dementia strategy was based on findings from consultation events, surveys and citizens panels carried out as part of the population assessment and regional plan.</p> <p>This consultation and research process estimated that there are between 10,000 and 11,000 people living with dementia in North Wales. This number is likely to increase as the number of older people in the population increases.</p> <p>It is understood that women are more likely to develop dementia than men, with possible links to higher life expectancy statistics for women. In North Wales an estimated 6,300 women have dementia and 3,700 men. It is also estimated that 2,700 people living with dementia in North Wales will be Welsh speakers.</p> |
| 4.02 | <p>The scope and prioritisation of the Flintshire dementia strategy is informed by, aligned to, the regional strategy. The Flintshire strategy will be developed co-productively in close collaboration with social care and health care professionals, independent and third sector providers, community groups and citizens impacted by dementia.</p> |
| 4.03 | <p>All key stakeholders will be represented at the Flintshire Dementia Strategy Working Group to ensure ongoing consultation to set and adapt priorities for care, support and community development.</p> |

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| 5.00 | APPENDICES |
| 5.01 | Flintshire Dementia Strategy 2021 v1.0 Draft |

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| 6.00 | LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS |
| 6.01 | North Wales Dementia Strategy available at: https://www.northwalescollaborative.wales |

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| 7.00 | CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS |
| 7.01 | Contact Officer: Michael Jones. Wellbeing and Partnership Lead Telephone: 01352 702546 E-mail: michael.jones@flintshire.gov.uk |

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| 8.00 | GLOSSARY OF TERMS |
| 8.01 | Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board are a key partner in the delivery of health and social care services in Flintshire. |
| 8.02 | Dementia The term dementia describes symptoms that may include memory loss and difficulties with thinking, problem solving or language. There are many different types of dementia. The most common is Alzheimer's disease but there are other causes such as vascular dementia or dementia with Lewy bodies. |
| 8.03 | Elderly Mentally Infirm (EMI) EMI nursing refers to dedicated nursing for older people with emotional well-being challenges or frailties that incorporate Alzheimer's and different types of dementia. |
| 8.04 | Flintshire Local Voluntary Council (FLVC) Flintshire Local Voluntary Council provide a lead role in supporting citizens of Flintshire, liaising with, and coordinating voluntary sector activities. |
| 8.05 | Integrated Care Fund (ICF) The Welsh Government Integrated Care Fund programme provides revenue and capital founding to support integrated health and social care projects and activities in Wales. The ICF Programme targets four key themes: Older People; Early Intervention; Learning Disabilities, Children With Complex Needs and Carers; and Dementia. Regional ICF funding allocation and management is undertaken by the North Wales Regional Partnership Board. |
| 8.06 | Mild Cognitive Impairment Mild cognitive impairment is a decline in mental abilities greater than normal |

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| | <p>aging but not severe enough to interfere significantly with daily life, so it is not defined as dementia. It affects an estimated 5% to 20% of people aged over 65. Having a mild cognitive impairment increases a person's risk of developing dementia but not everyone with a mild cognitive impairment will develop dementia.</p> |
| 8.07 | <p>North Wales Population Needs Assessment The North Wales Population Needs Assessment was undertaken in 2017 and The population assessment brings together information about people's care and support needs and the support needs of carers in North Wales. The assessment will be reviewed and updated in 2022.</p> |
| 8.08 | <p>North Wales Regional Partnership Board (NWRPB) The Regional Partnership Board (RPB) provides a collaborative board to oversee the implement of integrated health and social care projects and activities in response to the North Wales population assessment published on 1 April 2017.</p> |
| 8.09 | <p>Young Onset Dementia Young onset dementia is where someone is under the age of 65 at the point of diagnosis and affects about 5% of people who have dementia. The numbers of younger people living with dementia are relatively small however the impact for them and their families can be very significant and quite different in a number of ways. Younger people are more likely to still be working when they are diagnosed, and many will have financial commitments and some may still have dependent children.</p> |