

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **CABINET**

DATE: **TUESDAY, 17TH DECEMBER 2013**

REPORT BY: **DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

SUBJECT: **DEMENTIA COMMISSIONING PLAN**

1.00 **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01 The Dementia Commissioning Strategy and Summary documents appended to this report describe Flintshire County Council's vision for long term care services for people living with dementia in Flintshire over the next five years.

1.02 The focus of the document is primarily residential care services, but it recognises that much work is needed to improve the quality of life for people living with dementia in all settings.

1.03 This strategy document describes an overall direction of travel for these services and it is acknowledged this will be subject to review on an ongoing basis.

2.00 **BACKGROUND**

2.01 Specific guidance and legislation in relation to providing dementia care within residential care homes remains limited. There are however a number of research and best practice documents, which, allied with service user and carer feedback have supported us to develop this strategy.

2.02 The key messages from this research into best practice, and our knowledge of current services is that :-

- In Flintshire we want people living with dementia to be able to live fulfilled and meaningful lives, to feel safe and be supported in their communities
- We know that currently we have limited specialist care home places available in particular EMI Nursing provision within Flintshire boundaries.
- Our goal at present is to keep people with dementia at home for as long as possible. Our 'Living Well Home Care Service' delivers a highly effective specialist service to support people in their own home. Living Well does however have limited capacity to support all people requiring that care.

- Carers of people with dementia need timely support from professionals who really understand dementia and can offer a flexible response to their individual situations, including night time services.
- Carers should expect more than just 'bed and board' from EMI Care Homes and should be involved in care planning as equal partners with Providers.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

Demography

- 3.01 Between 2013 and 2020 it is estimated that the overall number of people with Dementia over 65 will increase by over 20% from 1859 to 2343. Using current care trends as a guide this could result in the council needing to support up to 135 more people either within their own homes or in long term places by 2020.

Carers

- 3.02 Caring for a person with dementia can be difficult as the intensity of caring required increases as the illness develops.

- 3.03 In helping carers to support those diagnosed with dementia we acknowledge that flexible and appropriate support is needed from professionals both day and night along the "dementia road". When a person requires care within a long term establishment, we know that we must support carers to understand what good care looks like.

3.04 Key Issues

- There is shortage of EMI Nursing Home placements and a lack of places for people with early onset dementia in Flintshire. A significant number of people requiring EMI Nursing placements are currently supported in EMI Nursing Homes outside Flintshire.
- The quality of existing residential dementia care services requires improvement. If the quality of care in EMI residential care homes improved less people would be admitted to EMI Nursing homes. This in turn would aid investment earlier in support services.
- Skills of the current workforce require enhancing to deliver person centred dementia care.
- Flintshire has developed effective community based support for people with dementia. This includes our 'Living Well Home Care Service
- Flintshire has developed 15 apartments for people with dementia to live independently within its recently opened Llys Jasmine Extra Care unit in Mold.
- There is a need to develop further 'in reach support' into the EMI residential care sector. Appropriate support could prevent hospitalisations.
- There is a need to improve the quality of care in all care home

settings.

In order to address these issues our strategy indicates that :-

1. We will produce a Market Position Statement based on this strategy which will clearly state what we want from dementia care long term placements.
2. We will work with colleagues from across North Wales Regional Commissioning Hub to develop an enhanced specification for the delivery of dementia care in long term settings.
3. We will seek to engage commissioners within BCU Health Board to agree a shared vision of integrated community based services, specifically to meet the needs of people with dementia and their families.
4. We will reach a shared understanding with all our providers and families on what 'good' dementia care should look like. (See Section 6.3 of Commissioning Strategy.
5. We will seek to develop a Carer's Course that is specific to the needs of carers of people with dementia. We will ensure they are treated as equals within the care management process, and maintain an open dialogue with them.
6. We will continue to invest in commissioning a range of specialist training for providers supporting people with dementia.
7. We develop more Extra Care facilities in future schemes with designated apartments for people with dementia.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 That Cabinet considers and approve the Dementia Commissioning Strategy.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 The Dementia Strategy aims to ensure that future provision can be met within current budgets. This takes into consideration likely increases in demand and the need to encompass that demand within current services. This task is challenging in the context of the scale of increase, but the strategy seeks to minimise any additional demand on the service.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 6.01 Not Applicable.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 7.01 Not Applicable.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 An Equalities Impact Assessment of this Strategy and its development has been completed.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 There are no specific personnel implications within the strategy.

9.02 The Strategy prioritises improved training for carers working with those with dementia.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Standard 2 of Fulfilled Lives Supportive Communities Commissioning Framework states that *'Representatives of service providers need to be engaged at each stage of the analysis process as they can make valuable contributions towards identifying changes in need and with regard to the existing capacity to deliver services and options for future developments'*

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 In developing this strategy, we received an enormous amount of feedback from a wide range of stakeholders. This is described in Appendix 9b of the main strategy document.

11.02 This consultation included:-

- Information gathered from national consultation work
- Local listening events
- Surveys to obtain the views of people with dementia in Flintshire care homes and from family and carers of those supported in the community
- Specific work with current providers of EMI Home Care & Residential provision

11.03 The report was considered by Social and Health Overview Scrutiny on the 25th November 2013. The Committee was supportive of the report and recommendations.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1 - Dementia Commissioning Strategy
2013- 2018

12.02 Appendix 2 - Summary Dementia Commissioning Strategy
2013- 2018

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None

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