

Adults and Health Committee

Date of Meeting:	23 rd January 2023
Report Title:	CEP Dementia Plan - Final Version
Report of:	Nichola Thompson, Director of Commissioning & Integration
Report Reference No:	AH/07/2022-23
Ward(s) Affected:	ALL

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update Adults and Health Committee on the final version of the Cheshire East Place Dementia Plan (including the easy read version). As part of this report, there will be a request for permission to fully adopt the final version of the plan for publication.
- 1.2. This proposal meets the Council's priority within the Corporate Plan to:
Reduce the reliance on long-term care by improving services closer to home and providing more extra care facilities, including dementia services

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The plan is informed by what people have told us about their experiences either as a person living with dementia or as a carer and is written for those people; specifically, those with memory concerns, those with a dementia diagnosis, their families and carers and the organisations supporting them. Other stakeholders who have also been involved in developing this plan include, Dementia Friendly Community members, individuals living with dementia and their Carers, local health, social care, and voluntary organisations.

- 2.2 This report builds on the previous report taken to Adults and Health Committee in January 2022 (see Appendix) which requested permission to formally consult on the draft version of the plan.
- 2.3 Once the plan becomes a finalised document, there will be engagement events to promote and create awareness with stakeholders including those living with dementia and their carers / families.
- 2.4 Following the approval of the plan, a fully costed implementation plan will be completed.
- 2.5 The draft CEP Dementia Plan (including an easy read version) was out for consultation from the 23rd of March until the 15th of June 2022.
- 2.6 Commissioners from Cheshire East Council and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB have both analysed the response report supplied to them from Cheshire East Council Research and Consultation team and have met to discuss next steps. (See Appendix)

3. Recommendations

- 3.1. That Committee provide permission to adopt this plan as the final version.

4. Reasons for Recommendations

- 4.1. The plan sets out the Cheshire East Place ambitions to support people to live well with dementia. One of Cheshire East's Corporate Plan objectives is to "Reduce the reliance on long-term care by improving services closer to home and providing more extra care facilities, including dementia services". It also reflects the national strategic direction outlined in the Prime Minister's Challenge on Dementia which detailed ambitious reforms which were to be achieved by 2020.
- 4.2. Cheshire East Council and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB have drafted the Cheshire East Place Dementia Plan to identify and consider local support needs in relation to dementia and to map service provision with a view to ensuring that the right services are delivered, in the right place, for the right people at the right time. The aim is to make a real and positive difference to the lives of people living with dementia in Cheshire East and to ensure that people with dementia and their carers receive high quality, compassionate, and timely care whether they are at home, in hospital or in a care home. The overarching vision is to make Cheshire East a truly dementia friendly community.

4.3. Included as a separate part of the plan are a set of Action Plans which set out the work which is to take place between 2023 and 2027 to improve outcomes and services to those living with dementia and their carers / families.

5. Other Options Considered

5.1. Another option would be not to adopt this version as the final plan for publication. However, this would not demonstrate an inclusive approach, transparency, or good practice. Furthermore, it could damage the reputation of the Council and other key stakeholders.

5.2.

Option	Impact	Risk
Do nothing	<p>Doing nothing could lead to a lack of trust in the Council and key stakeholders from people living with dementia, their carers and families.</p> <p>Future consultations may be impacted.</p>	<p>Dementia support services could be undermined if the plan is not developed. Gaps in services may not be identified and dementia support services may not have the opportunity to share the impact and learning of dementia interventions and the benefits these can bring to Cheshire East may not be realised.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There needs to be a joined-up approach across the whole dementia journey. • Those living with dementia and their carers feel they don't have a voice at a strategic level with the Council. • Too much information is online.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More young onset dementia and age-appropriate services / activities are required. • There is a need to address the difficulties faced by those socially isolated, for example access to appropriate dementia friendly transport
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6. Background

6.1. A Dementia Steering Group was created in January 2021. Membership consists of Dementia Friendly Community Leads, Dementia leads from each of the local Hospitals, Alzheimer’s Society, Dementia Reablement Team, Carers Hub, End of Life Partnership and Cheshire Fire Service. This group has been instrumental in shaping the draft plan. They have provided vital information to support the drafting of the document and will take ownership of the implementation of the Action Plans, to ensure there is a consistent approach to developing dementia services across the borough.

6.2. Commissioners have also engaged with front line organisations such as the Carers Hub and My Cheshire Without Abuse. As a result of this engagement a project group has been established which is working on supporting and improving awareness and knowledge of practitioners, residents and all those involved in pathways relating to Domestic Abuse and individuals living with dementia / carers. The group works in partnership with each other to agree strategic objectives, review current provision and develop best practice to ensure residents affected by dementia / carers, can get the care, and support they need

6.3. Due to the covid pandemic, face to face engagement with those living with dementia and their carers was limited, but the Council’s Community Development Officers spoke to individuals from such community cohorts as ethnic minorities, to obtain their feedback on their experiences of dementia, and these have been incorporated into the draft plan. Representatives from ethnic minority communities also provided feedback via the Dementia Survey:

- Asian / Asian British 2%
- Mixed: White and Black Caribbean / African / Asian 1%

- Other ethnic origin 1%
- Rather not say 5%

6.4. A formal consultation process took place between 23rd March and 15th June 2022, which provided a further opportunity for stakeholders to comment on the contents of the draft document. An opportunity to work in a co-productive approach on specific actions will be progressed once the final version of the plan and ambition action plans are published. This will take the form of the development of targeted task and finish groups which will look at specific actions and how to take this forward.

6.5. To ensure that as many people as possible could take part in the consultation process, the Commissioners ensured that all the stakeholders who attend the Dementia Steering Group had sight of the consultation link and how to access it. There are representatives from some of the Dementia Friendly Communities in the Cheshire East area who are part of the group, they ensured that those living with dementia and their carers who they support were aware of the consultation and had the opportunity to participate in the consultation.

6.6. It was identified that there was a need for “hard copies” of both the dementia plan and the easy read version to be available to residents. Therefore, there was information on the consultation, whereby, individuals could request a hard copy of the plan. Commissioners engaged 10 of the main libraries in Cheshire East, providing them with hard copies available for the public to take away and complete. This was also promoted by the Dementia Friendly Community leads, Dementia Reablement team etc.

6.7. As a result of the engagement and consultation, there were some common themes which have been identified as gaps / issues, these are:

- There needs to be a joined-up approach across the whole dementia journey.
- Those living with Dementia and their Carers feel they don't have a voice at a strategic level with the Council.
- Too much information is online.
- Lack of Bereavement Support and signposting.
- A need for Early onset Dementia and age-appropriate services / activities.
- A need for Early onset support for those people who also have Learning Disabilities – as above, also understanding of the specific issues they may face.
- Care at Home and Accommodation with Care providers being trained to Tier 2 level, to further enable understanding around those living with dementia and their differing needs.

- Difficulties faced by those socially isolated, for example access to appropriate dementia friendly transport.
- Dementia Friends awareness for such individuals as Community Groups, Voluntary sector, Health and Social care workers etc.
- Cheshire East Council staff members ALL need to be Dementia Friends.

6.8. The points above and the consultation feedback (below) have been used to inform the plan and ambitions action plans. Commissioners are working with stakeholders to develop solutions to the points identified which will include such things as, the development of focus groups especially around those action areas which addresses the needs of specific cohorts of the community, such as ethnic minorities, learning disabilities and young onset dementia, also including befriending services to address social isolation and signposting services to ensure that people with dementia and their carers are able to access available and appropriate support.

6.9. Dementia Friends Sessions are already in place for Members, Leadership team and staff members across Cheshire East Council, this is to ensure that as a Council we are moving towards becoming a Dementia Friendly Organisation.

7. Consultation and Engagement

7.1. Prior to the formal consultation period of the draft dementia plan, numerous aspects of engagement took place with local stakeholders, such as Carers Hub, Body Positive, Dementia Friendly Community leads and the council's Community Development officers. For example, due to the covid pandemic, face to face engagement with those living with dementia and their carers was limited, but our Community Development Officers spoke to individuals from such community cohorts as ethnic minorities, to obtain their feedback on their experiences of dementia, and these have been incorporated into the dementia plan / action plans.

7.2. As part of the development of the Cheshire East Place (CEP) Dementia Plan there has been engagement and consultation which has taken place to shape the final version.

7.3. The dementia survey formed one element of a comprehensive Consultation and Engagement plan for the Plan development.

7.4. It was supplemented by face-to-face group engagement which took place throughout parts of Cheshire East by our Dementia Friendly Community Leads and or members of the councils Community's Team / Dementia Reablement team, throughout August 2021. This consisted of a questionnaire which individuals were asked to complete. The findings of all engagement measures have been factored in the further development of the draft plan.

7.5. An Easy Read version of the plan was also published as part of the consultation.

7.6. As part of the consultation there were a total of 59 responses

- 40 main survey responses
- 17 easy ready survey responses
- 2 emails

Out of the 40 respondents who answered the main survey:

- 18 were carers, close family or a relative of a local resident living with dementia
- 11 were interested Cheshire East residents
- 1 was an elected Cheshire East Ward Councillor, or Town/Parish Councillor
- 4 were healthcare professionals,
- 3 were care home providers
- 1 was an employee of Cheshire East
- 1 was answering on behalf of a group organisation or club
- 1 was a volunteer

Out of the 17 respondents who answered the easy read survey

- 11 were females
- 12 were aged 65 or older

Overall, 24 out of 38 respondents agreed the plan was easy to understand and 27 out of 39 agreed it takes account of all the right evidence.

23 respondents provided an overall comment regarding the dementia plan. The comments received are summarised by theme below:

- Need more support / providers
- Needs more detail / awareness to those who don't fit the standard template
- Document is long / not easy to read

Those who answered the easy read version of the survey were asked if they thought there is anything else we can do to support those living with dementia, their families or their carers. 9 respondents chose to leave a comment. The comments received are summarised into 3 key themes:

- Improve support and care

- Improve training and staffing
- Improve communication

7.6 We have taken into consideration the comments and feedback from the engagement and consultation and applied them where appropriate. The main changes as a result of the consultation which we have made are:

- We have made the document smaller
- We have made the information easier to find
- As detailed in **6.7** above, we have further developed the ambition action plans which sit alongside the plan.
- There is more information detailed in the plan and ambition action plans around those who do not fit “the standard template”

8. Implications

8.1. Legal

8.1.1. Legal advice will be sought as the plan develops. Where the plan identifies a need to commission and procure services this will be undertaken in accordance with CEC Contract Procedure Rules and, where applicable, Contract Procurement Regulations 2015. Where any in kind support (including training) and/or grant funding be made available, consideration will be given to applying the criteria under the Council’s corporate grants policy, to ensure organisations are treated in a fair manner. The data of the responders will be retained in accordance with the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018, and identities subject to anonymisation.

8.1.2. The plan demonstrates the Council’s adherence and commitment to its legal duties under the Care Act 2014. Any specific issues arising as the plan develops, will be the subject of specific requests for legal advice as required.

8.2. Finance

8.2.1. There are no financial implications requiring changes to the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as a result of the recommendation in this report.

8.2.2. The services which support the implementation and delivery of the plan will continue to be bound by the financial limits within the Councils MTFS.

8.3. Policy

- 8.3.1. This draft plan aligns with one of Cheshire East's Corporate Plan objectives, which is to "Reduce the reliance on long-term care by improving services closer to home and providing more extra care facilities, including dementia services".
- 8.3.2. The draft plan reflects the national strategic direction outlined in the Prime Minister's Challenge on Dementia which detailed ambitious reforms to be achieved by 2020.

8.4. Equality

- 8.4.1. An Equality Impact Assessment will take place prior to the publication of the final Cheshire East Place Plan

8.5. Human Resources

- 8.5.1. There are no Human Resource implications arising from this report.

8.6. Risk Management

- 8.6.1. There are no Risk Management implications arising from this report.

8.7. Rural Communities

- 8.7.1. One of the issues raised within the draft plan is the impact of dementia on those who find themselves socially isolated, this would include those living in rural areas. The strategy looks at how isolation can be reduced with appropriate transport or peer support groups and sights the Rural Action Plan as a document to be considered.

8.8. Children and Young People/Cared for Children

- 8.8.1. The plan looks at how we can ensure that young people are part of the community support for people living with dementia, and also how we can work with those in education to improve their awareness around dementia.

8.9. Public Health

- 8.9.1. Dementia has a significant impact on individual and population health and wellbeing in Cheshire East. Support provided by services is crucial for those already living with dementia and this plan both acknowledges the often-avoidable difficulties faced by those affected by dementia and provides a welcome step forward in improving support for those living with dementia, their families and carers.

8.9.2. It is important to note that to reduce the population-level impact of dementia, we also need to actively work on prevention by supporting and enabling our residents to reduce their risk of developing dementia in the first place; a healthy diet, regular physical, mental and social activity, low alcohol consumption, and not smoking all reduce the risk of developing dementia.

8.10. Climate Change

8.10.1. There are no Climate Change implications arising from this report

Access to Information	
Contact Officer:	Joanne Cliffe Joanne.cliffe@cheshireeast.gov.uk 07785 556499
Appendices:	Appendix A - Final CEP Dementia Plan Appendix B - Final Easy Read CEP Dementia Plan
Background Papers:	Appendix C - Previous Committee Report Appendix D - Dementia Friends Awareness Sessions Briefing Appendix E - Dementia Plan Consultation Report Appendix F - Questionnaire used to engage to inform Plan