

# REPORT TO: Health and Wellbeing Board

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**Date of Meeting: 24th September 2013**

**Report of: Jacki Wilkes / Rob Walker**

**Subject/Title: Best Practice Dementia Care**

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## **1.0 Report Summary**

- 1.1 The Joint Commissioning leadership team have identified best practice dementia care as a key priority. There is an established strategy which now requires updating and individual organisational groups developing and delivering aspects of care which need to be aligned to optimise outcomes for patients and their carers.

## **2.0 Recommendation**

- 2.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Board receive the report and comment on the proposed next steps.

## **3.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 3.1 To ensure that the Health and Wellbeing Board focuses upon the priorities contained within the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and has in place a mechanism for delivering outcomes on the ground.

## **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications in relation to this report.

## **5.0 Dementia Best Practice**

- 5.1 The Joint Commissioning leadership team have identified best practice dementia care as a key priority.

### High level Outcomes:

- Improved awareness and timely diagnosis
- Increased support for patients and carers including the right care package and treatment
- Appropriate support when care needs change
- Preparing for and support in end of life care

### Strategy development:

Initial thoughts have been gathered based on previous strategy, national guidance and local evidence

A wider stakeholder event is planned for 3 October to agree high level outcomes, priorities and action plans

Plan on a page:

See appendix 1 for an initial draft of a Best Practice Dementia plan on a page with grouped Initiatives aiming to capture and address a life course approach to best practice care:

- Focus is on Early diagnosis
- Living with dementia
- End of life care

5.2 Progress to date - The following progress has been achieved to date this year:

- Cheshire East have signed up to the dementia alliance
- Pilot programme with RVS commenced in Eastern Cheshire
- Hospice supported Dementia end of life initiative funding secured to support quality services in the community
- Business case in development for commissioning additional diagnostic and support services
- Education event, led by clinical leads in Eastern Cheshire held for medical and nursing staff and third sector colleagues on early recognition and care of Dementia patients. Approximately 60 people attended

**6. Risks and mitigation**

- 6.1 There was a plan in place to create additional consultant capacity for memory services and diagnostic, by shifting the prescribing responsibility to primary care. Whilst primary care have taken on this role there has been no increase in capacity for memory clinics. Clinical leads are to meet and discuss the way forward.
- 6.2 Only 44% of people who are have dementia have been formally diagnosed – Education programmes and supporting GP DES aims to increase the number of patients formally diagnosed and registered with Dementia.
- 6.3 Following diagnosis not all patients are provided with sufficient support – proposals to ensure all patients seen by CWP to be offered a referral to the AS.
- 6.4 The true cost of the existing model of care is unknown- further work required to model best practice and demonstrate the improved outcomes this will deliver

## **7. Communications and Engagement**

- 7.1 Strong links established with Alzheimer's society and other 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations who are supporting the strategic development and offer opportunities for wider consultation and engagement to further support their significant contribution to the commissioning process.

## **8. Next Steps**

- Establish a health economy project group to lead the delivery of a new integrated strategy for best practice dementia care;
- Agree terms of reference and membership of the group who will meet 2.30 – 4pm on the last Thursday in every month starting from 26 Sept;
- Agree projects and timescales and measures of success at the stakeholder event scheduled for 3 October;
- Oversee and support the delivery of the RVS pilot to inform future commissioning plans;
- Establish timescales for delivery of end of life service pilot.

## **9.0 Access to Information**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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