



HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

TO:	Health and Wellbeing Board
FROM:	Vicky Shepherd, Chief Executive, Age UK Blackburn with Darwen
DATE:	30 th June 2015

SUBJECT: Dementia Strategy update

1. PURPOSE

To update the board as to progress with delivery of the Blackburn with Darwen dementia action plan

2. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- note the update and good progress that has been made to date
- to support the continued development of a local Dementia Action Alliance
- to consider the risks highlighted and if they can support the reduction of these.

3. BACKGROUND

The needs of individuals diagnosed with Dementia has been high on the agenda in Blackburn with Darwen for some years and has been subject to ISNA and the development of a commissioning review of Dementia services 'Shaping the Future' in early 2012, which was endorsed by the Health and Wellbeing Board. Since Shaping the Future we have seen the introduction of the Better Care Fund with a specific local indicator regarding dementia diagnosis, the Integrated Care programme and new requirements on GP's in relation to over 75's and complex cases. As a result dementia diagnosis and the appropriate support of people with dementia and their carers is a key priority within Blackburn with Darwen, and forms one of the priorities within the Age Well section of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. For the period October 2014 – March 2016, Age UK Blackburn with Darwen has been jointly commissioned by the Local Authority and CCG to host a Dementia Co-ordinator, who works for the 50+ Partnership to co-ordinate, develop and deliver a local action plan, working with a range of partners across the public, voluntary and private sectors. There are two key priorities for this work:

- To co-ordinate and progress developments and facilitate communication between all partners to ensure an effective and efficient whole-life pathway for individuals who develop dementia including an increase in diagnosis rates for people with dementia to meet agreed targets
- To develop Blackburn with Darwen as a dementia friendly community

The key deliverables identified for 2015/16 within the draft Age Well section of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy are:

1. Develop a local dementia action group
2. Engage with people with dementia and their carers to support service design
3. Develop strong links between local dementia services and Integrated Locality Teams
4. Develop dementia friendly organisations
5. Increase the number of dementia friends

4. RATIONALE

Since the local dementia action plan has been developed, significant progress has been made in establishing an effective partnership approach to the challenge of dementia. In order to build on these achievements and continue to develop a sustainable system of support for citizens who are diagnosed with dementia, it is important that dementia continues to be regarded as a priority and that opportunities are explored to continue to improve the effectiveness of the range of support available to people. This report highlights some of the achievements to date and the future plans along with potential challenges, to ensure that the Health and Wellbeing Board are fully up to date and can support as appropriate.

Key achievements:

- Diagnosis rates increased to 68.5% of prevalence exceeding national target of 67% across BwD, with a target of 70% by 2017
- The introduction of Dementia Support Workers across BwD and East Lancashire to support primary care
- The piloting of local Memory Assessment Service (MAS) clinics through the locality development
- Reduction in waiting times for MAS, with 96.7% of referrals seen within 4 weeks
- The setting-up of a Dementia Strategy Steering Group BwD, to improve co-ordination of service improvements.
- ELHT Dementia strategy developed and a steering group established to oversee delivery
- Dementia Friendly wards developed at Royal Blackburn Hospital
- Initial development of a Dementia Action Alliance with sign up from CCG, Local Authority, LCFT and ELHT
- A Dementia Friendly borough programme has been developed which includes working with businesses including banks and supermarkets, transport providers, schools, and activities such as walking groups. Initial focus is on organisations with customer facing staff to improve practice and environment.
- Establishment of a 'community action group' that brings together businesses and organisations signed up to be dementia friendly to share good practice and support and to drive further development
- Recruitment programme for dementia champions and dementia friends with 629 Dementia Friends and 20 Dementia Champions in place at end March 2015
- The carers service have been commissioned to provide breaks for carers with a strong focus on carers of people with dementia.
- Attila research study in place to explore the impact of assistive technology on people with dementia and their carers
- Strengthened links with developments across Pennine Lancashire
- Successful Dementia Awareness Week programme delivered with 20 events hosted and delivered by partners throughout the week of 18th – 24th May – the most in any area in England. The Week included the successful Healthy Minds event on 19th May which was attended by over 100 members of the public, plus partners, who heard from a gentleman with dementia about his experience of living with dementia, and from a carer who had looked after her mother with dementia. Participants also took part in activities to increase awareness of keeping our minds healthy and what support is available. During the week 140 new people signed up as dementia friends and feedback was extremely positive.

Forthcoming priorities:

- To better engage with people with dementia and their carers to enable co-production of service design
- Ensure that commissioning strategies are aligned and deliver appropriate post diagnosis

support

- Focussed work with GP practices which are not meeting the target for diagnosis.
- Particular focus on access to dementia diagnosis and support services amongst the BME community through targeted work with One Voice and through a piece of research supported by Public Health through a PhD student to inform future commissioning.
- Further development of the Dementia Action Alliance targeting additional key local partners including housing providers, other public sector organisations and voluntary sector
- Continued development of BwD as a dementia friendly community including an audit of activity around training and support for front line staff.
- Development of a co-ordinated offer of assistive technology support for people with dementia living in the community and their carers

Risks

Some risks have been identified and the Board are asked to note and consider if they can support the reduction of those identified below:

- ELHT – whilst there has been some positive involvement including with the delivery of the ELHT strategy the trust is not fully engaged in the BwD developments and there is a risk of disjointed development
- LCFT – again whilst there has been some positive engagement from the Mental Health network within LCFT we have yet to engage meaningfully in relation to the provision of community services leaving a potential gap in development

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Developing the borough as a dementia friendly community is a priority in the Age Well section of the Health and Wellbeing strategy

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct legal implications as a result of this report

9. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct additional resource requirements as a result of this report

10. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Dementia is itself a condition which causes cognitive and other impairment, and affects a range of local people. It is suggested that a lack of awareness of the condition, and stigma attached to it, may present particular barriers to diagnosis and support in some minority ethnic groups.

Age is the main risk factor linked to dementia, and thus dementia is most prevalent in the more affluent and rural areas where life-expectancy is longest. However, at any given age, the risk of developing dementia is highest in the more deprived, inner town areas of Blackburn with Darwen.

11. CONSULTATIONS

VERSION: 1

CONTACT OFFICER:	Vicky Shepherd, Chief Executive, Age UK Blackburn with Darwen
DATE:	9 th June 2015
BACKGROUND PAPER:	

