

<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date(s):</b>
Health and Wellbeing Board	05/09/2013
<b>Subject:</b> City of London Dementia Strategy	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Director of Community & Children's Services	<b>For Decision</b>

### **Summary**

This Dementia Strategy responds locally to the Prime Minister's 'Dementia Challenge' by establishing a City-specific approach to caring for our residents whilst tapping into the rich diversity of our community.

Synthetic estimates predict that within the City there are up to 67<sup>1</sup> people living with the symptoms of dementia, some of whom have been diagnosed, but a large proportion of whom have had no formal diagnosis. Whilst this may be a relatively small number, for those with the disease, the support that they receive is vital to their quality of life and their wellbeing and we are therefore committed to providing the best possible services to this particularly vulnerable group.

The aim of the strategy is to:

***Provide a responsive, high quality, personalised dementia service meeting the needs of residents of the City of London***

To achieve this, the strategy sets out 10 objectives:

- Improve public and professional awareness of dementia and reduce stigma
- Improve early diagnosis and treatment of dementia
- Increase access to a range of flexible day, home based and residential respite options
- Develop services that support people to maximise their independence
- Improve the skills and competencies of the workforce
- Improved access to support and advice following diagnosis for people with dementia and their carers
- Reduce avoidable hospital and care home admissions and decrease hospital length of stay
- Improve the quality of dementia care in care homes and hospitals
- Improve end of life care for people with dementia

<sup>1</sup> **Prevalence Source:** Dementia UK: A report into the prevalence and cost of dementia prepared by the Personal Social Services Research Unit (PSSRU) at the London School of Economics and the Institute of Psychiatry at King's College London, for the Alzheimer's Society, 2007 and Census 2011.

- Ensure that services meet the needs of people from vulnerable groups

The strategy commits the City of London Corporation to creating a 'Dementia Friendly City', where residents and local retail outlets and services will develop a keen understanding and awareness of the disease and offer support in a respectful and meaningful way. This builds on the longstanding tradition within the City of caring for residents and delivering individualised packages of care and support. The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has undertaken a similar project in York<sup>2</sup>. Skills for Care will work in partnership with the City using this model and other good practice examples in order to develop a safe environment for those with dementia.

An operational group chaired by the Interim Service Manager for Adult Social Care, comprising officers from the City of London Corporation, from the CCG and the GP practices and a representative of the Adult Advisory Group will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the strategy and the action plan. Regular update reports will be submitted to the Health and Wellbeing Board every 6 months.

### **Recommendation(s)**

Members are asked to:

- Approve the strategy
- Give authority to the Director of Community and Children's Services to action the strategy

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/dementia-communities-york-summary.pdf>

## Main Report

### **Background**

1. In 2010, the Prime Minister issued a 'Dementia Challenge' establishing a national commitment to developing services and responding to the needs of people with dementia and their carers.
2. The City of London Corporation jointly agreed the City and Hackney Mental Health Strategy for Older People 2008 – 2018 in 2008. This strategy lacked a specific focus on City residents and whilst it remains extant, this Dementia Strategy gives a renewed commitment and a strengthened position in relation to managing dementia within the City.

### **Current Position**

3. Synthetic estimates based on "Dementia UK: A report into the prevalence and cost of dementia prepared by the Personal Social Services Research Unit (PSSRU) at the London School of Economics and the Institute of Psychiatry at King's College London, for the Alzheimer's Society, 2007 and Census 2011" show that based on the national prevalence, there should be approximately 67 people living in the City who have dementia. Currently, the GP surgeries know of approximately 20.
4. In order to ensure that people's needs are not going unmet and in order to ensure that early help is offered appropriately, the GP practice is reviewing its diagnoses of patients who have symptoms that may suggest the very early stages of dementia in order to ascertain whether or not they should have a formal diagnosis of dementia. These patients will then be referred to the memory clinic and will be offered support in the community.

### **Proposals**

5. The strategy emphasises our approach of early diagnosis in order to offer support at an early stage so that we can support people to maintain their independence and control over decisions which will affect them. It is underpinned by 10 strategic objectives which form the basis of our action plan:
  - Improve public and professional awareness of dementia and reduce stigma
  - Improve early diagnosis and treatment of dementia
  - Increase access to a range of flexible day, home based and residential respite options
  - Develop services that support people to maximise their independence
  - Improve the skills and competencies of the workforce
  - Improved access to support and advice following diagnosis for people with dementia and their carers

- Reduce avoidable hospital and care home admissions and decrease hospital length of stay
  - Improve the quality of dementia care in care homes and hospitals
  - Improve end of life care for people with dementia
  - Ensure that services meet the needs of people from vulnerable groups
6. Awareness-raising is a key factor in the strategy which will be integral in allaying people's fears and misconceptions about dementia. This, alongside a project that will be managed by Skills for Care to create a 'dementia friendly city' will ensure that those with dementia and their carers can feel confident that they can maintain their independence in a community that understands their needs and can adapt how they communicate to minimise anxiety and frustration.
  7. A dementia group is to be commissioned that will be open to anyone in the community who has dementia and their carers. The Adult Advisory Group have assisted with the specifications for the group and it will include specific advice and support as well as activities to minimise the effects of the disease and to improve cardio vascular health. Similar schemes around the country include reminiscence work and music, art and drama which help to maintain good brain health. It is our intention to work with the vast range of cultural services available in the city, including the museums, art gallery, the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the Barbican and encourage volunteers to support the work of the group, offering time credits for their support. Whilst some of those diagnosed will not meet the eligibility criteria for social services, this will not preclude them participating in the Dementia Group.
  8. Adult Services undertake regular care plan reviews for those in receipt of formal services. In order to safeguard our clients and understand their needs better, the format of these reviews will be modified. The revised review form will include specific questions in relation to safeguarding to protect this particularly vulnerable group and will include questions on the use of medication to enable our social workers to appropriately challenge the use of anti-psychotic medications and in order to better focus on the wishes and feelings of the clients.
  9. Better reviews and discharge planning when people are leaving hospital will contribute to shorter stays in hospital where someone with dementia may have been admitted and will help to focus on maintaining and caring for people within their own home where this is their wish. The reviews will focus on the quality of care received where the client is in residential care and will ensure that their views on the quality of their care are captured and inform future plans.
  10. Once this dementia strategy is agreed, it is the intention of the directorate to sign up to the national Dementia Action Alliance Compact. It sets out the commitment to supporting the delivery of the National Dementia Strategy and improving care and support for people with dementia, their carers and families. The City's goal is to challenge the perceptions surrounding social care services for people with dementia. Our services will provide the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

11. The Dementia Action Alliance Dementia Care and Support Compact commits to:
  - Focus on quality of life for people with dementia, as well as quality of care. By knowing the person, their life history and their personal culture, our staff will deliver a personalised package of care and support.
  - Set a benchmark for high quality, relationship-based care and support for people with dementia. We will inspire and encourage our sector to take responsibility for delivering this, building on existing good practice
  - Engage and involve the wider community to improve their support for people with dementia, including GPs and healthcare professionals
  - Play our part in supporting the wider community, sharing the knowledge and skills of our staff, and inviting people into our care settings
  - Work with commissioners of care for people with dementia to ensure they commission quality care services appropriately
  - Clearly set out how we have delivered on this Compact to make a difference for people with dementia, their carers and families. This will link into the work on quality and transparency being taken forward as part of the Care & Support Bill.
  
12. The last objective of the strategy is particularly important as it relates to equalities and the needs of those with dementia who may also be impacted by other vulnerable factors, such as age, sex, history, race, religion, sexual orientation. The strategy commits to supporting clients who may be 'doubly vulnerable' because of one or more of these factors coupled with dementia. The department is very aware that particular attention will need to be paid to supporting these groups.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

13. The Dementia Strategy has a direct link to the City of London Corporation's Corporate Plan 2013 – 2017 under the priority:  
  
***KPP4: Maximising the opportunities and benefits afforded by our role in supporting London's communities.***
  
14. The core values of the Corporation have a perfect fit with the Dementia Strategy:
  - **The best of the old with the best of the new**  
Securing ambitious and innovative outcomes that make a difference to our communities whilst respecting and celebrating the City's traditions and uniqueness, and maintaining high ethical standards
  
15. Within the action plan, we want to build on the talents and resources that exist locally that are unique to the City, including its historical, artistic and musical traditions. These unique resources are part of the fabric of the local area and

will engender familiarity with the residents being supported through the Dementia Strategy.

- **The right services at the right place**

Providing services in an efficient and sustainable manner that meet the needs of our varied communities, as established through dialogue and consultation.

16. By creating a Dementia Friendly Community, we will be harnessing the spirit of our community to support this particularly vulnerable client group. Local services will be aware of issues related to dementia and will be able to signpost our residents appropriately to help and support locally.

- **Working in partnership**

Building strong and effective working relationships – both by acting in a joined-up and cohesive manner, and by developing external partnerships across the public, private and voluntary sectors – to achieve our shared objectives

17. The Adult Advisory Group has been consulted on this Strategy. The members of this group are representative of our community and integral to its development and delivery. Furthermore, a Dementia Strategy Implementation Group reporting to the Safeguarding Adult Sub-Committee which comprises other partners will oversee monitoring the delivery of the Dementia Friendly Community. The concept of co-production is integral to delivering good or outstanding services and we propose having a continual dialogue with our community groups in delivering this strategy:

## **Implications**

18. The structure of the budgets and the small client base makes it fairly difficult to ascertain the spend on dementia services. Currently £250k is spent on dementia clients, of which £138k is spent on residential care and £84k on individualised budgets. £8k has been allocated to the commissioning of the dementia group from Section 256 monies and a further £5K is to be spent on developing the Dementia Friendly City alongside Skills for Care. £10K is to be set aside for awareness raising and the development of a 'dementia section' within the Adult Services Directory resource pack.
19. Key risks relate to the sustainability of the dementia group and the development of the Dementia Friendly City. Whilst funding is only for the first year, it is understood that people will become reliant on these services and therefore the specifications for these projects give responsibility to those from whom the service is commissioned to develop a sustainable model for future years.
20. An operational group chaired by the Interim Service Manager for Adult Social Care, comprising officers from the City of London Corporation, from the CCG and the GP practices and a representative of the Adult Advisory Group will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the strategy and the action

plan. Regular update reports will be submitted to the Health and Wellbeing Board every 6 months.

## **Conclusion**

21. In agreeing this strategy, the City of London Corporation will establish a clear commitment to the most vulnerable members of the community. It will also provide a firm basis for minimising the effect of the changes that will be coming with the enactment of the Care and Support Bill.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – City of London Dementia Strategy: A Dementia Friendly Community: A strategy and action plan for dementia services within the City of London 2013-2015

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