

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16 April 2009

Dementia Strategy: Update and Next Steps

Executive Feedback

1. At your last meeting you completed the first phase of your study on Dementia. The final version, slightly altered, received a positive response from the Executive, who agreed it should be adopted as the basis for further consultation with partners and as the framework of a joint commissioning strategy.
2. The Executive also supported the Committee's intention to continue working alongside the Directorate, representatives of the PCT and third sector colleagues.
3. If the proposals are ultimately implemented the Executive also agreed that the Committee should continue working with the new Dementia Network.

Dementia Collaborative

4. The Chairman then met with representatives of the Alzheimer's Society, CSIP and the Directorate to discuss informally what progress had been made under the previous dementia collaborative, what structures remained and how this might be revitalised/incorporated into whatever emerges as the countywide response to the Dementia Strategy.
5. The overriding conclusion was that whilst it may not be appropriate to recreate the collaborative, working in that "fashion" under a new network arrangement was something people wanted to see.

Joint Commissioning Strategy Meeting

6. The points raised at that last meeting clearly have commissioning implications. These views, together with the conclusions of your Report were taken forward when the Chairman, myself and colleagues the Committee has worked with thus far, met with a range of individuals from the independent, statutory and third sector on 31 March to begin the process of writing the Joint Commissioning Strategy.
7. The message your Chairman took to this meeting was consistent with something the committee has turned to repeatedly during the course of

its work - whatever monies are made available to progress the strategy would be well spent on infrastructure and project development.

8. The key points discussed and actions agreed at that recent commissioning strategy meeting included the following:

Mapping Services

- I. Comprehensive Mapping/Audit Exercise to identify current services on the ground and highlight gaps in provision and support. Identifying gaps relating to early diagnosis has been flagged up as the priority for action.
- II. Commissioners and providers from Adult and Community Services and the Primary Care Trust will draw together all responses from that analysis.

Dementia Network

- III. In line with earlier discussions, existing Dementia networks in the Harrogate/Craven, Hambleton/Richmondshire and Scarborough, Whitby/Ryedale and key people from around Selby will be brought together. The aim will be to develop a consistent approach to local networks and county wide operating framework. Acute Trust involvement will be key if these networks are to be fully effective. Leadership will come from the County Council and North Yorkshire and York Primary Care Trust.
- IV. Recognising the need for this new system to be located within existing partnership structures, every attempt will be made to ensure that it has a voice which feeds into the North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership.

Awareness Raising

- V. One of the tasks for the first year of commissioning will be for networks to take on the task of awareness raising, for example ensuring that all professionals especially GP's are aware of Care Pathways.
- VI. Awareness of Dementia and the work of all agencies will be highlighted in existing means of communications, North Yorkshire Times, Libraries and so on. Existing resources such as leaflets and information held by the Alzheimer's society will be used wherever possible. The understanding and learning from the POPPS projects will be fed into the process.
- VII. 20 September 2009 is world Alzheimer's day and there is an awareness week in July, every attempt should be made to make sure these are a success.

- VIII. The needs of hard to reach groups, for example, Learning Disabilities and BME will be encompassed in the work of the networks.

Transforming Services

- IX. The importance of Assistive Technology and Telecare was discussed. Case studies are to be made available to the network along with feedback on Telehealth pilots in Bedale and Reeth. The Committee in particular will be interested to hear the results of these pilots.
- X. The importance of services for people with Dementia being included in the work of the transformation of in-house personal services and PCT community services was emphasised. The extent of which current traditional services can be decommissioned to ease budget pressures needs to be considered.
- XI. Good practice around support for people will be built into the extra care housing model. Quality standards around support, treatment for people with Dementia will be incorporated within the County Council and North Yorkshire and York Primary Care Trust contracts.

Engaging People with Dementia

- XII. During the course of this exercise, consideration will be given to ways of engaging with people with Dementia and their carers in the wider population. This is a point the Committee itself identified, highlighting the best practice work undertaken in the previous collaborative of engaging with people with Dementia and their carers.

Funding and Commissioning: Initial Outline

9. Funding bids will therefore be worked up in time for 2009/2010 budget round, with particular consideration being given to
- a) The need for training, workforce development and centres of excellence in Dementia care.
 - b) Personalized approaches to respite and short breaks.
 - c) An infrastructure which will enable the network to take forward the agenda in years 2 and 3.

10. It is proposed that the Commissioning Strategy which will be developed out of this meeting and further discussions, be submitted to the first meeting of the new Committee on 9 July.

HUGH WILLIAMSON
Head of Scrutiny and Corporate Performance

County Hall
NORTHALLERTON

Author: Ray Busby
Contact Details: Tel 01609 532655
E-mail: ray.busby@northyorks.gov.uk

Presenter of Report: Ray Busby

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