

Living Well With Dementia: Shaping the Service - Summary



April 2010

Recommendations made by the LINK to improve training, information and user involvement are to be included in Hull's plan for improving dementia services.

A partnership including the NHS, local authority and voluntary sector is working to improve services to in line with the Department of Health's National Dementia Strategy.

The National Dementia Strategy...

As the population ages more people will develop dementia, and the cost of caring for them will increase. In Hull it is estimated that over 2500 people have dementia, a number forecast to rise to almost 3000 by 2020.

In February 2009 the Department of Health launched the new National Dementia Strategy to improve dementia care and boost awareness of the condition.

The strategy aims to deliver a better deal for people living with dementia, as well as their carers and families. The key aims are:

- Tackling stigma through better knowledge about dementia
- Improving the quality of services
- Ensuring earlier diagnosis of the condition.



What we did...

Hull LINK worked with local voluntary and community organisations to review local dementia services and explore how the sector can develop services. Those involved included the Alzheimer's Society, North Bank Forum and Age Concern Hull.

Our report following this work called for:

- Training to increase health professionals' knowledge and understanding of dementia.
- Information on dementia and local support to be made available in public places.
- The media to be used to increase awareness of dementia.
- Increased service user choice and control through seeking the views of users and carers and adapting services accordingly.
- More partnership working and consultation between the NHS, Local Council and the voluntary sector.

The response...

A group led by NHS Hull is working to implement the dementia strategy in Hull. Its role is to ensure that the key priorities of the strategy are put in to action, and that people with dementia see real benefits as a result.

The group has agreed to use the recommendations from the LINK's report in its plans, ensuring that people with dementia and their carers will have a higher quality of life.

The LINK has also taken up a place on the group implementing the strategy. We will keep everyone involved in the LINK informed of progress with putting the strategy in to action.

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