

Report focuses on dementia friendly initiatives



We joined the regulars at Chippenham Memory Cafe in April

Healthwatch Wiltshire is set to publish a report detailing its work on how dementia friendly initiatives are working in the county.

Over the last four years, dementia has been a priority area for us, and we have gathered over 1,600 views and experiences from people affected by dementia.

One of the key things we were told is that dementia awareness is improving and that this is important.

Two-part project

This project had two elements, the first aimed to gather information from dementia friendly initiatives – such as support groups, awareness sessions and social events – and the second to talk to people living with dementia and their carers on what they

value most about these initiatives.

Our key findings included:

- Most people living with dementia and their carers feel that their local community is dementia friendly and feel part of it,
- The effects of dementia friendly initiatives are positive and wide-ranging, including improved physical and mental health, independence and community involvement,
- The successes of these initiatives closely aligned with what people said they found most useful,
- Dementia friendly initiatives would value support with promotional materials and publicity.

Thank you to our partners for their support with this project. The report will be published in July.