

Chairman's Announcements

Subject:	Dementia Strategy Consultation
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Summary of announcement:

A draft dementia strategy for Wiltshire has been developed and a consultation process will be launching in mid February (anticipated to be 19th February) for three months.

The draft strategy was agreed by Wiltshire Council Cabinet and the Governing Body of NHS Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group in January and these organisations will be inviting people with an interest in dementia, whether through personal or professional experience, to contribute their comments and viewpoints.

The strategy outlines plans for how organisations in Wiltshire will work together to support people with dementia and their carers and families to live well in Wiltshire. With the number of people with dementia predicted to rise by 28% in 2020 to 8,350 people, the key message of the strategy is that dementia is everyone's business and we all need to play our part in making Wiltshire a good place to live with dementia.

To make this happen, one of the priorities within the strategy is to develop dementia friendly communities in Wiltshire. These will involve bringing together partners within local communities, including people with dementia, to deliver small improvements that make a difference to the quality of life for people living with dementia. Examples might include giving bus drivers dementia awareness training or local areas deciding that they want to set up dementia friendly activities. Community area boards will be central to this and Royal Wootton Bassett will be acting as the pilot area to test a new dementia friendly community toolkit, which will then be made available to all areas across Wiltshire. Work will be commencing in February and area boards will be kept informed of progress.

The strategy also looks at the care and support services that are available for people from the point at which they start to have concerns about their memory through to the end of lives.

The consultation documents will be placed upon the consultation pages of Wiltshire Council and NHS Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group websites on the launch date, allowing all interested parties to respond accordingly.