

ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 15 OCTOBER 2009

BRIEFING PAPER OXFORDSHIRE APPROACH TO THE DELIVERY OF THE NATIONAL DEMENTIA STRATEGY

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 On 3 February 2009, the Government published *Living Well with Dementia*, the first ever national dementia strategy. The national strategy outlines the following impacts of dementia:
- There are currently approximately 700,000 people with dementia, which will double to 1.4 million over the next 30 years.
 - The national cost is currently £17 billion which will treble to £50 billion per year.
 - Dementia is predominantly a disorder of later life but there are at least 15,000 people under the age of 65 who have the illness. It affects men and women in all social groups.
 - The level of diagnosis and treatment in the UK is generally low, with comparisons suggesting that the UK is in the bottom third of performance in Europe.
- 1.2 Recent reports and research have highlighted the shortcomings of the current provision of dementia service in the UK. For example, healthcare market analyst Laing & Buisson examined the services provided for 142,000 residents of care homes across Britain for whom dementia was a known cause of admission. It found that only 57% are receiving specialist care. One third of care homes claiming to offer dedicated dementia provision had no specific dementia training for staff.
- 1.3 Two thirds of people with dementia live in their homes. Apart from informal carers, home care is probably the most important service involved in supporting people with dementia in their own homes. Current practices tend to specify tasks which are carried out in 15 minute time slots. This approach is particularly problematic for people with dementia, and the strategy suggests that a less structured approach helps achieve better outcomes for these people.

2. Oxfordshire context

- 2.1 Outlined below, is the prevalence of dementia in Oxfordshire as well as the predicted increase (source: POPPI & PANSI).

Over 65 by 2016 (19.3%) increase from current 6829 to 8150.

Under 65 increase from current 155 to 158 in 2016.

District	Over 65 Below current numbers and predicted % increase by 2016	Under 65
Oxford City	1249 to increase by 4.1%	26
Cherwell	1376 to increase by 24.1%	36
South Oxfordshire	1496 to increase by 20.8%	35
Vale of White Horse	1391 to increase by 23.1%	32
West Oxfordshire	1316 to increase by 23.0%	28

- 2.2 As part of the health needs assessment completed in 2007(South Central), there were a total of 2,506 people with a definitive diagnosis of dementia. This means that approximately 40% of the expected population of people with dementia has actually been diagnosed. Oxfordshire is therefore, in line with the national picture in terms of diagnosis of people with dementia (Nationally between 20 and 40% people get a diagnosis of dementia).

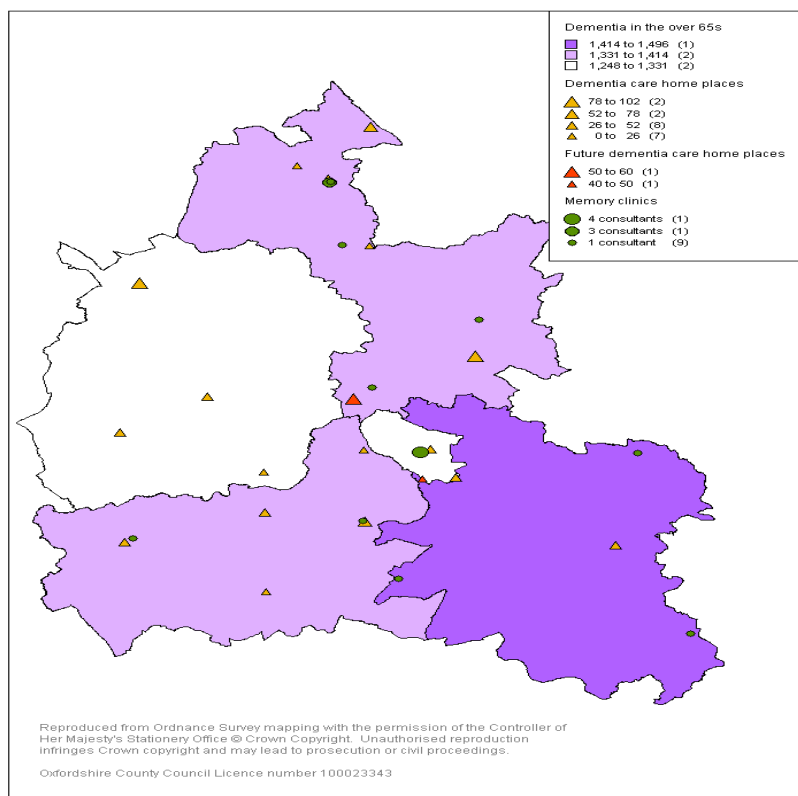
3. Issues and Gaps

- 3.1 The following service provision exists in Oxfordshire. However it is clear that there is lack of universal access across the County to these services. More detailed analysis is required to assess the quality of provision. Some gaps in services are clearly evident.

Services	Comments
Memory clinics	The provision of memory clinics is not evenly distributed against need.
Just Checking and Wandering technology	This is identified as an area for development.
OBMHT Specialist care	This is an area of further development.
Care Home beds	South of the County under supplied (Map attached).
Home support	No specialist dementia service. Service provision is task focused and not outcome focused.
Day services	Range of quality available. Majority is traditional in approach. Need to explore café style provision.
Alzheimer's society	Information and carers support. Area of further development.

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Carers support	Range of services in place, however still an area of development.
Intermediate care	CPNs, Mental health OTs & specialist support workers are part of the service. Requires an evaluation to ensure that the provision is effective and is meeting the rehabilitation needs of people with dementia.



3.2 Areas of gaps in provision and developments needed have been identified:

- GP training to aid early diagnosis within primary care
- Specialist in reach teams from MH teams
- Local dementia advisory service with a single point of contact
- Range of housing options that support people with dementia, e.g. specialist ECH, technology to support extended assessment and support safe wandering
- Specialist care homes to support people with complex dementia. Nationally it is said that only 57% of care home placements were provided in settings dedicated to the condition. There is an assumption that Oxfordshire is no different.
- Develop skills, and awareness of dementia for staff that deliver generalist care, in hospital, care homes and in people's own homes.
- Skilled and trained staff to deliver person centered care to improve quality of life and reduce the use of dangerous antipsychotic drugs.
- Research into the provision of day time opportunities for people with dementia.
- Specialist Home Support Teams to provide care and support to people with dementia.

4. Progress to date

- 4.1 Existing investment: PCT £1.943 million and Social & Community Services £21.2million (Care homes, day services, telecare and carer services).
- 4.2 The Department of Health announced a two year investment of £150 million, to deliver the National Strategy. This allocation was not ring fenced to PCTs and although there is some increased funding (non-ring fenced to PCT), the Department of Health is supporting and sponsoring the implementation of the strategy nationally as well.
- 4.3 Adult Social Care has not been allocated any ring fenced funding to deliver this strategy. However an initial sum of £150,000 has been identified from the pooled budget to deliver key priorities.
- 4.4 Oxfordshire is one of the 22 demonstrator sites for dementia advisors. A total of £207,000 has been allocated by the Department of Health to deliver this project (Pilot information prescription for people with dementia and their carers).
- 4.5 A specific workforce development project has been established to consider workforce competencies.
- 4.6 Care home work – we have had initial discussions to implement improved standards of care for people with dementia in care homes by reducing the use of anti psychotic medication.
- 4.7 Projects are being scoped to provide intensive support to carers, to enable them to continue caring.

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Glossary

- CPN = Community Psychiatric Nurse
- ECH = Extra Care Housing
- MH = Mental Health
- OBMHT = Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Mental Health Partnership Trust
- OT = Occupational Therapist
- PCT = Primary Care Trust