

Briefing paper for Adult Services Scrutiny Committee 26th April 2011

The impact of Oxfordshire's approach to the delivery of the national dementia strategy

1. Purpose of the paper

The purpose of this paper is to update the Members of Adult Services Scrutiny Committee of the impact of the delivery of the national dementia strategy in Oxfordshire.

2. National Context and background

The National Dementia Strategy was published on 3rd February 2009, with the aim of providing a guide to high quality dementia services. The strategy is focused on outcomes and identifies 17 objectives, which have been grouped into three broad themes:

- Raising awareness,
- Early diagnosis
- Living well with dementia

In the revised NHS National Operational Framework for 2010/11, the coalition government made it clear that the development of support and care for people with dementia is one of its top priorities.

The publication of 'Quality outcomes for people with dementia: Building on the work of the National Dementia Strategy' in September 2010 set out revised priority objectives for the delivery of the national dementia strategy. These are:

- good quality early diagnosis and intervention for all
- improved quality in general hospital
- living well with dementia in care homes and
- reduced use of antipsychotic medication

3. Oxfordshire approach

Improved services for people with dementia and their carers, remains a key priority for the County Council and NHS Oxfordshire. Strategically, the approach to supporting people with dementia is contained within "Ageing Successfully", the overarching strategy document for older people in

Oxfordshire. Dementia is an issue that affects all areas of an individual's life and that of their carers, family and community.

A county wide Dementia Development and Implementation Board established in 2009 continues to oversee and direct the work of all partners, ensuring a shared vision and direction of travel.

4. Outcomes of change for Oxfordshire

The Dementia Commissioning Strategy agreed by the Dementia Development and Implementation Board have set out a vision and the following outcomes for people with dementia.

“People with dementia in Oxfordshire will retain as much control over their lives as possible; they will be enabled to participate as active and equal citizens. They will have the best possible quality of life and treated with maximum dignity and respect”

The overall aims for Oxfordshire are as follows:

- The number of people with dementia who have a formal diagnosis will increase to 70% by 2013
- Everyone diagnosed with dementia, and their carers as appropriate, will have access to a personalised package of information and a named point of contact
- People with dementia will receive the best possible care wherever they live and whatever services they receive
- People with dementia will retain as much control over their lives as possible and will be enabled to participate as active and equal citizens

5. Outline of the programme of work

Oxfordshire have set out an ambitious work plan to deliver the outcomes and the vision set in the Dementia Commissioning Strategy and agreed by the Dementia Development and Implementation Board. Four key project groups have been tasked to deliver the detail set out in the plan for this year.

These are:

1. Quality of care in the community delivered services
2. Improved quality of care for those with dementia in general hospitals
3. Early diagnosis for dementia and treatment in the community
4. Development of the wider community support

5.1 Quality care in the community:

- Improved care in care homes
- Reduction in the use of antipsychotic medication
- Support and training for carers of people with dementia

Progress to date:

- *Improved care in care homes*

Required standards have been written up. 4 carers or ex carers of people with dementia have been supported through training to undertake reviews of 3 homes in Oxfordshire. The carers have just completed their training and the reviews have only just commenced.

- *Reduction in the use of antipsychotic medication*

Base line information of prescription of anti psychotic medication is in place. We are now in the process of establishing variations in prescribing. We will also be modelling the impact of increased prescribing costs of Dementia drugs and ascertaining service and care support that will be required to manage the reduction in use of anti psychotic medication.

- *Support and training for carers of people with dementia*

To date a total of 126 Carers of people with dementia have received or are due to receive support from this project. Carers have accessed a range of training support. 22 'Caring with Confidence', 31 Cognitive Behavioural Therapy and 62 have taken part in the Carers Dementia Training.

5.2 Improved dementia care in general hospital

- Improving the training of ward based staff, resulting in a change of culture within the hospital regarding dementia care
- Reduce length of stay in general hospital (local audit work and an analysis of diagnostic codes identified that people with dementia stay in hospital significantly longer than those without dementia who are in hospital for the same reason. This is in line with national findings contained within the National Dementia Strategy)

Progress to date:

- *Improved the training of ward based staff*

Funding for enhanced mental health liaison for older people with mental health problems is included within the PCT QIPP plan for 2011/12. A business case has been prepared and awaits the approval of the dementia strategy implementation Board. A clinical champion has been identified.

- *Reduced lengths of stay*

Detailed financial analysis outlining levels of savings due to reduced length of stay has completed. Initially, a target of 1 day in the reduction in length of stay has been included within the outcomes for the service. Training provision will also be a key role for this service and will be included within the service outcomes.

5.3 Early diagnosis for dementia and intervention in the community

- To design and commission a single Memory Assessment Service for Oxfordshire, including an agreed point of access and information provision at diagnosis.
- Review and improve access to rehabilitation and intermediate care support for people with dementia

- Training and support for GP's

Progress to date:

- *Memory assessment service*

Review of the Memory Assessment Services has been completed and led to a revised specification for redesigned services being in place. Implementation of the revised specification is evidencing improved results. The rates of diagnosis are estimated to be 50% and this puts us on course to deliver the target of 70% by 2013.

- *Targeted information for people with dementia and their carers*
Oxfordshire is one of the 8 national demonstrators for Dementia Advisors. This work has involved the employment of 4 Dementia Advisors in GP surgeries, to provide tailored information to people with dementia and their carers, and also to provide a Dementia Advisors cover to all 85 surgeries across Oxfordshire

An innovative bespoke IT system has been developed to support the Advisors with the provision of information.

A volunteer led information line for dementia has been commissioned and work has been undertaken to improve the Dementia website, www.dementiaweboxfordshire.org.uk a countywide site created to be a straightforward clear resource to show services and information, accessible to people with dementia and carers. These services will tie into the wider information services available across the health and social care services and will also be linked to the work of the Dementia Advisor demonstrator site.

- *Training support for GP's*

There is an agreement that the support and training for GP's will focus on revised Memory services in Oxfordshire. The plan is due to be approved by the Dementia strategy implementation Board in early May.

- *Intervention in the community*

Oxfordshire has had intermediate care services in place for three years; we have recently re-specified the service delivered by Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust. This service is part of the whole system review in delivering improved community services to meet the growing demands of an ageing population.

5.4 Community support:

- Carers peer groups
- Information and awareness of dementia across the communities and wider public
- Strong communities to offer inclusion for people with dementia

Progress to date:

This area of work plan is now led and delivered jointly by Age UK Oxfordshire and the Regional Alzheimer Society. They have undertaken a review of

existing carer support groups. There is a proposal in development that is being formulated with Dementia Innovation. This will result in the formation of a Community Dementia Forum. It is anticipated that the launch will align with the dementia awareness week (Week commencing 9th JULY).

6. Next steps:

Considerable progress has been achieved over the last 2 years in the improvement of support and care for people with dementia and their carers. We now understand the current services, the aspirations of people with dementia, their family and carers, and where services in Oxfordshire are not meeting those aspirations.

Oxfordshire County Council and NHS Oxfordshire has a full year development plan in place for 2011/12, working in partnership with the voluntary sector, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust, Oxford Radcliffe Hospital Trust and smaller providers across the county. This work plan is overseen by a county board consisting of a wide range of participants and Chaired by a GP, who monitor the progress to meet the challenging targets we have set to improve services and outcomes for those with Dementia

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