

HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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KENT AND MEDWAY DEMENTIA STRATEGY BRIEFING

Report from: James Williams, Director of Public Health

Author: Su Irving, Head of Partnership Commissioning (Adults) and
Lead on the Better Care Fund.

Summary

This report provides an overview of the joint Kent and Medway Dementia Strategy that is being developed by the Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (KMPT), Medway Council and Kent County Council. This brief provides an overview for the Strategy, the vision, and the chapter headings with assurance that Medway Council is engaged in the development and scrutiny of this Strategy.

1. Budget and policy framework

1.1 This preliminary paper describes the development of a joint strategy that will be aligned to Council policies. This Strategy will support the Medway Council Strategy priority 'Supporting residents to realise their potential'.

2. Background

2.1 Dementia is a key priority for both NHS England and the Government. One of the ten priorities identified by NHS England as part of the Five Year Forward View is to upgrade the quality of care and access to mental health and dementia services.

2.2 In 2021/22, there is a new focus on dementia in Kent and Medway. The Mental health, Learning Disability and Autism Improvement Board - which includes representation from the NHS, local authorities, social care, and other partners - has identified dementia as one of the six priorities for the system to provide leadership, oversight and partnership working to improve the mental health and mental wellbeing outcomes of the population of Kent and Medway. The Kent and Medway Dementia Strategy will set the direction and establish priorities for the system.

- 2.3 There are currently about 23,469 people in Kent and Medway living with dementia. The projected number of older people aged 65 and over living with dementia in Kent and Medway by the year 2025 is 32,230. Between 2012 and 2037, the number of older people living in Medway with Dementia is expected to increase from approximately 2,500 to 5,600.
- 2.4 The key challenges experienced in Kent and Medway include:
- An ageing population will continue. This will have a place demand on capacity within existing services.
 - Timely diagnosis and support. Long waiting times for diagnosis.
 - Access to consistent information, advice and support at all stages of someone's journey.
 - Access to urgent care for those living at home and in care homes.
- 2.5 Covid-19 has resulted in new challenges for people living with dementia. These include the inability to access support in traditional ways, longer waiting times for diagnosis, and new approaches including telephone and videoconferencing support.

3. Kent and Medway Dementia Vision Statement

- 3.1 Following the Dementia Care for Kent and Medway Workshop, which took place 29 April 2021 with a range of stakeholders, the Vision Statement for the Kent and Medway Strategy was agreed as the following:

“Every person with dementia, their carers and families are supported to live well and as independent as possible, receive high quality, compassionate care from diagnosis through to end of life care. This applies to all care settings, whether home, hospital or care home.”

4. Kent and Medway Dementia Strategy Chapters

- 4.1 The National Health Service England Transformation Pathway -The Well Pathway for Dementia has five key focuses: Preventing Well, Diagnosing Well, Supporting Well, Living Well and Dying Well. Kent and Medway's dementia care pathway has seven thematic areas which are:
- Raising Awareness and Reducing Risk Factors
 - Improving Diagnosis
 - Support After Diagnosis
 - Supporting Carers
 - Care at Home
 - Care in Hospitals and Care Homes
 - End of Life Care
- 4.2 It was agreed that these thematic areas would inform the structure of the Dementia strategy.

5. Advice and analysis

5.1 A Strategy development group is in place that currently meets twice weekly, the group includes members of: The Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group, Kent and Medway NHS Partnership and Social Care Trust (KMPT), Kent and Medway Public Health Commissioning and Operations, NHS England/Improvement Regional Team, and Allied Research Centre.

5.2 This report provides a high level briefing of the Dementia Strategy for early comment by Members. Consultation of the draft Kent and Medway Dementia Strategy was begun in June 2021. As the Kent and Medway Dementia Strategy is a joint strategy it will be approved via the respective governance arrangements for KMPT, the Kent and Medway CCG, Medway Council and Kent County Council. The Strategy will be presented to:

- The Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- The Health and Wellbeing Board
- The Cabinet (for adoption).

6. Risk management

Risk	Action to avoid or mitigate risk	Risk rating
If a full range of stakeholders are not engaged in the development of the strategy, then we will not jointly focus on achieving the services and outcomes for people living with dementia and the people who care for them.	Strategy development group in place Stakeholder Engagement Plan developed	E2

7. Consultation

7.1 Following the Kent and Medway Dementia Workshop it was decided that further engagement sessions would take place including with:

- People with Learning Disabilities
- BAME Communities
- Care Homes
- Substance Misuse Service Users and
- Those with rarer dementias including early onset.

8. Progress to date

8.1 The draft Supporting Carers chapter has been shared with Medway and we are currently populating the draft with Medway's offer. This is the first chapter of the new Strategy to have been drafted.

9. Financial implications

9.1 There are no final implications at this stage in the Strategy development. Any proposals arising from the Strategy will be reviewed by Officers and would need to be approved through the appropriate governance processes.

10. Legal implications

10.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

11. Recommendation

11.1 The Committee is asked to note the direction of travel at this preliminary stage of the Kent and Medway Dementia Strategy.

Lead officer contact

Su Irving, Head of Adult Partnership Commissioning and the Better Care Fund, Gun wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent. ME4 4T, 01634 331280,
su.irving@medway.gov.uk

Appendices

None

Background papers

None