



HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD - 27 FEBRUARY 2025
REPORT OF LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND DEMENTIA
STRATEGY UPDATE

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to share information on the 2024-28 Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) Dementia Strategy and provide an update on the development of the Leicestershire Dementia Strategy Delivery Subgroup.

Recommendation

2. The Board is requested to:
 - (a) Note the information provided on the 2024-28 LLR Dementia Strategy and the consultation that informed the development of the strategy;
 - (b) Note the information provided on the development of a Leicestershire Dementia Strategy Delivery Subgroup and Action Plan.

Policy Framework and Previous Decision

3. This is the third LLR Living Well with Dementia Strategy. The previous Strategy running from 2019-2022 was developed in partnership with key Stakeholders across LLR with a public consultation. It was underpinned by the guiding principles from the NHS Well Pathway for Dementia. The previous strategy was considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board at a meeting on 24 May 2018 and received Cabinet approval on 16 October 2018.
4. This new strategy continues to follow the Well Pathway for Dementia first introduced in the 2020 Prime Ministers Challenge on Dementia. This is a well understood pathway locally.
5. The strategy has been developed by the 3 Local Authorities, Integrated Care Board (ICB) and NHS providers and local voluntary sector organisations.

Background

6. Due to unprecedented circumstances caused by the pandemic it was decided by the joint LLR Dementia Programme Board (DPB), who support and monitor the Strategy's action plan, to extend the previous strategy to 2023.

7. The current strategy was approved by Cabinet at a meeting on 24 November 2023. The current strategy aims to be live until late 2028 and sets priorities across LLR for ways in how we can support people living with Dementia, their families and carers.
8. The strong partnership within the Dementia Programme Board will continue to highlight, influence and manage the dementia strategy and its progress.

Strategy Vision

9. The focus of the strategy is to create a Health and Social Care system that works together so that people with dementia and their families move towards personalised and integrated care to support them not only prior to diagnosis but post diagnosis through to end of life care.
10. The strategy considers the impact that dementia has on people's lives and as a partnership there is commitment to minimise the impact of dementia by providing the best possible care.
11. The strategy will aim to promote dementia awareness and understanding across society to ensure inclusivity of all people living with dementia and their carers to enable equal access to services.

Delivery Subgroups

12. All three LLR authorities have created subgroups to ensure that the strategy aims and objectives are delivered, monitored and measured.
13. The LLR Dementia Programme Board has the overarching responsibility for ensuring that the aims and objectives of the strategy are delivered and each local authority area has a delivery plan to track progress on delivery.
14. Each member of the Leicestershire sub group has been tasked with reviewing the Leicestershire delivery plan and identify how their organisation can contribute to achieving the aims and objectives. A final version of the delivery plan will be agreed and signed off at the next meeting of the subgroup before going to the Dementia Programme Board.
15. In Leicestershire the key areas in the delivery plan (under development) are as follows:
 - Promote strengths-based approach to supporting families living with dementia;
 - Identify, promote and support access to good quality dementia training;
 - Promote dementia prevention methods such as lifestyles behaviour changes;
 - Continue to raise awareness of dementia and its symptoms;
 - Encourage opportunities for community engagement and a reduction in loneliness and social isolation;
 - Improve patient access to the pre and post Dementia Support Service;

- Support, review with the goal to manage pathways for people who have complex needs including where there are behaviours that challenge.
 - Engage with people living with dementia and their carers including people with lived experience, to be involved in strategy development and to inform our work.
16. One of the key issues identified is the disparity in the dementia diagnosis rate across LLR. The Leicester diagnosis rate (77.5%) is well ahead of the national target (65.8%) but Leicestershire (West Leicestershire 61.8%, East Leicestershire 60.8%) lags well behind both the City and the national target. Whilst this is in line with national trends, and most City areas have high diagnosis rates, it shows that targeted work is required to improve the diagnosis rate in the County. For information, the diagnosis rate in Rutland is even lower (54.8%). Improvements have been made in the County diagnosis rate since the recovery from Covid but evidently, more work is required to meet the national target.
17. Membership of the Leicestershire Sub Group is extensive and includes representatives from all relevant LCC teams, VCSE providers, Hospice providers, NHS colleagues from commissioning and provider functions, clinical leads for dementia and groups working to amplify service user voice. The initial meeting was held in December 2024 and the Sub Group is meeting again in February 2025 to ensure that actions are delivered to move the strategy forward.

Consultation recap

19. Across the three Local Authorities a formal consultation took place from 17th July- 22 September 2023
20. Leicester City Council hosted the consultation on their website – Leicestershire voice was heard and represented, through public consultation and was available in various accessible formats.
21. The overall LLR Consultation report was presented to the Dementia Programme Board on the 21st November 2023. The information gathered during this consultation was used to inform the way forward and the final version of the strategy and associated, place-based action plans.
22. The total responses relating to Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland was 358. 61 responded from Rutland, 206 responded from Leicestershire and 91 responded from Leicester City. This is a high number of responses when compared to previous Dementia in Strategy. Overall, responses to the consultation indicated that there is a broad agreement with the aims identified with many respondents agreeing that the actions listed in the strategy are beneficial.
23. Some of the key themes that emerged from the extensive consultation were:

- Lack of joint up working between health and social care and that some staff are not confident or competent to support people with dementia
- Raising awareness about Dementia
- Provide culturally appropriate support and access across the well pathway
- Memory Service should refer all people to DSS support at diagnosis
- More support for seldom heard groups

24. Recognise standard of training for all professionals and staff working with people living with dementia

Resource Implications

25. No resource implications at this stage. There are no additional resources attached to the dementia strategy and each organisation is expected to tailor their associated budgets in accordance with the priorities in the strategy.

Background papers

Report to Health and Wellbeing Board 24 May 2018:

<https://democracy.leics.gov.uk/documents/s137656/Draft%20Dementia%20Strategy.pdf>

Report to Cabinet 16 October 2018:

<https://cexmodgov01/documents/s179785/LLR%20Dementia%20Strategy.pdf>

Report to Cabinet 24 November 2023:

<https://cexmodgov01/documents/s179785/LLR%20Dementia%20Strategy.pdf>

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

None

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Relevant Impact Assessments

Equality Implications

26. There are no equality implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

Human Rights Implications

27. There are no human rights implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

Crime and Disorder Implications and Environmental Implications

28. Not relevant

Partnership Working and associated issues

29. Partnership working across statutory bodies and with VCSE partners has been vital in the preparation of the strategy and during the consultation process. Delivery on the strategy relies on strong partnerships and will be monitored through the LLR Dementia Programme Board.

Risk Assessment

30. Not relevant to this report

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