

### Dementia Strategy- Engagement

In October we attended “We Must Do Better” Dementia Conference in Lincolnshire and were fortunate enough to have a slot on the agenda that gave us the opportunity to gain people’s thoughts on the draft dementia strategy for Lincolnshire and developing our goals.

The Conference being well attended by a variety of people meant that we were lucky enough to get a significant amount of feedback in one go. The tabletop exercise generated lots of discussions about what the issues are for Lincolnshire and what the strategy needs to look like, people also shared ideas on what we need to do to raise awareness of how we could prevent up to 40% of dementia cases, improve timeliness of diagnosis, support people diagnosed with dementia their carers and families so they are able to get on with living their lives.

We have also attended several focus groups to listen to what people had to say about their experience of health and care services and what other things important to them, including sharing ideas of what actions we need to take.

Some of the key things people told us:

- The question that comes out loud and clear is: who will take these laudable actions? There is plenty of talk but action from a dedicated source is desperately needed.
- Local dementia support groups also play a vital part. It has become apparent to us that people with dementia, and often their carers, need face-to-face contact in times of crisis; we have seen the benefits of this both from the older adults’ service and also, from our dementia support group.
- Ensure that carers were included across all the pathways in the Strategy.
- Early diagnosis and information and access to community support.
- Dementia is more prevalent in society with many people being diagnosed all the time.
- There isn’t sufficient after care, waits are too long.
- Day support services, I think. I may have missed it.
- Support within the home. We needed help with connecting to resources. Wellbeing Lincs have helped me and connected me to digital support in our home.
- There should be a person dedicated to following someone through their dementia journey. That person should be consistent and there until post diagnosis.
- The strategy recognises the importance of raising awareness on dementia for people with Learning Disability and Autism and what type of support will be needed.
- Bereavement support is important and is available across borders where family no longer reside in Lincolnshire.
- On-going training and support for staff in health and care

- People are supported to stay in their place of residence.
- Raising awareness on the importance of people planning care in advance
- Primary care Dementia Coordinator
- Increase awareness about dementia and respect that this is a life limiting disease.
- Coordinated care (point of contact) from diagnosis to end of life.
- People having and personalised care and support plan that can be accessed by people involved in care.
- More information, advice, and support at the point of diagnosis including information around end-of-life care.
- Listen and involve people with lived experience, to improve services and support.
- Support available at the right time, no wrong door.
- Use data to plan and design care, ensuring equal access for all the population.
- More training for care home staff and home carers
- Day care services to include weekends too with transport
- Specialist Dementia nurse/practitioner in each GP surgery
- Simplify the information given following a diagnosis. Check list of what to do
- Direct line for support for families
- More groups like memory lane to give carers time to focus on themselves
- More options for bookable respite - More affordable