

Report to: **Adult Social Care and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee**

Date: **8 November 2012**

By: **Director of Adult Social Care**

Title of report: **Scrutiny Review of Dementia – caring for people with challenging needs: six month update**

Purpose of report: **To inform Members of the progress made against the action plan resulting from the above Scrutiny Review**

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- 1. Consider and comment on the progress made during the previous six months.**
 - 2. Request a further progress report in June 2013.**
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1. Financial Appraisal

1.1. There were no specific financial implications arising from the review.

2. Background and Supporting Information

2.1 Appendix 1 is the action plan arising from the Scrutiny Review of Dementia – caring for people with challenging needs. Immediately following the review, a report was received by Cabinet in July 2012 detailing the work underway in response to the review. This report provides a further update on the implementation of the action plan.

2.2 Good progress is being made against the body of recommendations.

2.3 Homecare providers have co-developed ‘dementia champions’ within their organisations. These staff meet on a regular basis supported by Adult Social Care.

2.4 Prompted by the Prime Minister’s Dementia Challenge, four bids were submitted for funding to support development proposals in East Sussex. Results will be announced soon.

2.5 The Dementia Good Practice Guide produced by Adult Social Care has been well received and is being considered for ‘roll out’ across other service areas.

3. Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendation

3.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the progress against the recommendations as outlined in appendix 1 and to request a further update in six months.

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Appendix 1: Action Plan in response to the Scrutiny Review of Dementia: Caring for people with challenging needs

	Recommendations June 2012	July 2012	October 2012 Update
1	<p>To endorse the implementation of the recommendations from the Adult Social Care report: <i>Framework homecare providers and the care of people with dementia – a report on the current position with regard to specialist training</i>, which envisage a stepped approach to upskilling homecare providers in relation to dementia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by actively promoting training to independent sector providers (initially managers); • by co-producing action plans with providers to embed the nationally recognised ‘Common core principles for supporting people with dementia’; and • by proposing changes to future contract specifications that will require providers to have achieved specific targets. 	<p>The report recommending improvements to the training available to Independent sector Home Care Providers (particularly those on the East Sussex Adult Social Care Framework) is being implemented.</p> <p>Training for Independent Sector Home Care Managers and owners has been provided and well attended. Feedback from providers that attended has been positive. This training has initiated additional planning for further staff training.</p> <p>The emphasis on the Common Core Principles provides an effective standard for quality and consistency of the training.</p> <p>The ASC training for dementia that is provided for Independent Providers is being enhanced and promoted more actively in order to increase the take up of existing training packages by Home Care staff.</p> <p>This matches work that is underway within residential care homes to raise the quality of dementia training and support.</p> <p>The Home Care Framework is not due to be re-tendered until 2014, however the lead in time for this work will commence in 2012. Discussions with Home Care Providers through the Home Care Provider Forum have commenced and will continue through the re-tender process. Any changes to the requirement for training staff will be included in the new specification and contract.</p>	<p>Implementation of the recommendations within the report continues.</p> <p>The development of Carer Champions from within the independent homecare provider organisations has been a very positive initiative. This is developing confidence and awareness that can subsequently be shared in the workplace.</p> <p>Homecare skills are being developed in the homecare environment and this is enabling more effective support of people in the community.</p> <p>Initial work is underway to develop a specification for the delivery of the new services to replace the homecare contract in 2014.</p>

2	<p>An evaluation of the Carer's Breaks Dementia Service should be undertaken, to encompass the wider roles that have been developed by the service.</p>	<p>The evaluation of the Carers Breaks Dementia Service will be commissioned by December 2012. The service has received recognition as a model of good practice through the Department of Health national evaluation of Carer Demonstrator sites. The service has continued to develop and an the evaluation will inform the future commissioning of the service.</p>	<p>The scope of the evaluation has been agreed and work is now underway to identify the data requirements. The evaluation will consider; current activity and unit costs, appropriate use and deployment of staff, expansion of the service to other referral routes and expansion of the service to other client groups. Early findings are planned for late December 2012 with a full report and recommendations in early 2013.</p>
3	<p>The Adult Social Care and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee should consider the evaluation of the Continuous Improvement Strategy for Dementia Care Homes project in order to identify further actions required to develop practice.</p>	<p>The Launch of the Good Practice Guide is in July 2012 and there will be a review of the Improvement Strategy for Dementia Care Homes in December 2012.</p>	<p>The Good Practice Guide for homes providing dementia care was launched in July 2012. This has been developed with partners (including the NHS and Skills for Care) along with care homes who have contributed to the content and look of the Guide, ensuring that it meets their needs for information requirements.</p> <p>The Guide's content focuses on personalisation and features examples of what homes can consider doing to ensure high quality care within existing resources and include extensive chapters on safeguarding, staff management/development and what should be included in a good support plan.</p> <p>Feedback from providers has been positive, with homes already adopting ideas from the Guide.</p> <p>Staff from the Quality Monitoring Team will be incorporating the Guide into their audits in support of any action plans arising and other teams within the Council (along with our partners) are also promoting the use of the Guide.</p>

4	Adult Social Care should examine all potential avenues to encourage or incentivise care homes to continue to develop the skills of their staff in relation to dementia.	ASC is in the process of establishing Strategic Suppliers who will work closely with the Council in respect of training and improving quality outcomes for clients.	Approaches are being considered, however, this is a delicate time in terms of fee rates, savings targets and clarifying the Adult Social care 'offer' in the future.
5	The evaluation of the impact of the Care Home In-Reach Service should be reported to the Scrutiny Committee for consideration.	The Care Home In-Reach Service will be evaluated in the latter part of 2012 and its findings will be reported to the Scrutiny Committee for its consideration.	<p>The Care Home In-Reach (CHiR) Service is in the process of being evaluated. Initial findings demonstrate some qualitative benefits have been accrued to care homes worked with but its primary goal i.e. a reduction in hospital admissions from care homes worked with has not been evidenced / achieved.</p> <p>The service was initially funded through a DoH Regional Transformation Fund bid which once awarded and committed was then clawed back by the SHA leaving the CHiR Service as a significant cost pressure for 13/14 in East Sussex. Commissioners will be meeting with SPFT in the coming months to discuss the future of the service. The results of the evaluation when completed and the outcome of meetings with SPFT will be reported to the Scrutiny Committee.</p>
6	East Sussex County Council and the Alzheimer's Society should consider whether there are opportunities to better co-ordinate their training packages.	The opportunities for closer working with the Alzheimer's Society will be taken forward at the East Sussex Dementia Forum in July 2012.	<p>The opportunities for closer working with the Alzheimer's Society were taken forward at the East Sussex Dementia Forum in July 2012.</p> <p>Work is on-going with the Alzheimer's Society and they continue to provide contracted services on behalf of the PCTs and Adult Social Care.</p>

7	<p>Consideration should be given to the potential benefits and resource implications of applying for “dementia friendly community” status for East Sussex or specific local communities.</p>	<p>A pilot project to identify the best way for East Sussex to achieve ‘dementia friendly community’ status will be taken forward through the Sussex Dementia Partnership. This will also provide the opportunity to bid for external funding.</p>	<p>It was intended that a Sussex wide application to scope the implications of Dementia Friendly Communities across Sussex would be submitted to the Prime Ministers Dementia Challenge Fund. Unfortunately this approach was not supported by CCGs who are the lead bodies for application to the fund. There are undoubtedly benefits to be accrued to both people with dementia and their carers if communities are more aware of the needs of this group. However the levels of ongoing awareness raising and training (and the associated resource implications) required to impact on the behaviour and attitudes of service providers and the community at large is likely to be extensive. It may be that this aspiration could be usefully encompassed within the Community Safety Agenda and implemented through an incremental approach to the promotion of inclusive communities.</p> <p>A specialist OT has undertaken training in designing dementia friendly buildings and this has been offered to developments and partners as a resource.</p>
8	<p>The County Council should develop the proposed website dementia information ‘hub’ to support increased community awareness and availability of information to care providers.</p>	<p>The dementia information hub is being developed and will be implemented by December 2012.</p>	<p>The development of the dementia information hub using the ESCC website platform is underway. It will eventually be integrated with ESCC 1Space and will also provide information for staff which can be accessed through the ESCC intranet. It is hoped that it will go live in April 2013.</p>