

**Cabinet Member for Adult Services**

**03 October 2022**

**Name of Cabinet Member:**

Cabinet Member for Adult Services - Councillor M Mutton

**Director Approving Submission of the report:**

Director of Adult Services and Housing

**Wards Affected:**

All

**Title: Coventry and Warwickshire's Living Well with Dementia Strategy 2022-2027**

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**Is this a key decision?**

No - although the proposals affect more than two electoral wards, the impact is not expected to be significant.

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**Executive summary:**

Coventry's Living Well with Dementia Strategy (2014) has been refreshed to create a revised five-year document across Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board and Warwickshire County Council. The Strategy builds on the 2014 document and reflects current policy, priorities, and ways of working.

The strategy sets out ways of working and use of existing allocated resources for continuing the improvements for people living with dementia that have been progressing since publication of the 2014 strategy. There is no additional funding requirement associated with the strategy.

To ensure that the strategy remains relevant over a five-year period, it will be delivered and monitored via annual delivery plans. The strategy will also be reviewed as appropriate dependant on publication of any relevant policy documents related to dementia.

In developing the strategy consultation was carried out on the draft strategy in Autumn 2021, and groups of people with dementia will be consulted when developing annual delivery plans to ensure our priorities reflect those of people in Coventry affected by dementia.

**Recommendation:**

Cabinet Member is requested to approve the joint Coventry and Warwickshire Living Well with Dementia Strategy 2022-2027.

**List of Appendices included:**

Appendix 1. Coventry and Warwickshire's Living Well with Dementia Strategy 2022  
Appendix 2. Equality Impact Assessment

**Background papers:**

None

**Other useful documents**

2014 Living Well with Dementia Strategy

**Has it or will it be considered by scrutiny?**

No

**Has it or will it be considered by any other council committee, advisory panel, or other body?**

Warwickshire Cabinet  
Coventry and Warwickshire ICB Board

**Will this report go to Council?**

No

**Report title: Coventry and Warwickshire's Living Well with Dementia Strategy 2022-2027**

**1. Context (or background)**

There are an estimated 3,690 people in Coventry living with dementia, and this number is predicted to increase to 4,882 by 2040. While most people with dementia are over 65, dementia can affect people of all ages, and over 80 people aged under 65 in Coventry are estimated to be living with dementia.

Under the Care Act (2014) the Council has duties to prevent, or delay needs for care and support and to provide people in its area with information and advice relating to care and support for adults and support for carers. It also has duties to promote the integration of care and support with health partners where to do so is likely to promote the wellbeing of adults with needs for care and support in its area, contribute towards the prevention duty and improve the quality of care and support in its area.

Coventry's Living Well with Dementia Strategy was first published in 2014 and contributes towards these duties. Warwickshire County Council published similar strategies in 2011 and 2016. Given the creation of the creation of Integrated Care Systems and the opportunities for alignment across Coventry and Warwickshire in our support for people with dementia and their carers it was proposed to develop a single strategy that was relevant across the ICB area as opposed to separate strategies.

To develop this single strategy the City Council has worked closely with colleagues through the Health and Care Partnership Dementia Board, which includes Warwickshire County Council, and Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust. The strategy has been informed through national guidance and local evidence plus extensive engagement with people living with dementia, carers and those working within the dementia system. This use of guidance and evidence

combined with engagement help to ensure that the proposals contained within will make a real impact to our ability to support people living with dementia and their carers and families and will therefore be fully supported by NHS colleagues and delivered in partnership with the voluntary and community sector.

### Improvements under the 2014 strategy

Examples of improvements made under the 2014 strategy include:

- **Greater public awareness about dementia** - how to reduce the risk of developing it and how to help support people with dementia to live well for longer. There are now over 37,000 Dementia Friends in Coventry and Warwickshire. Information is shared via websites, events, and information in public places.
- **Increased diagnosis rate** - through a programme of work including community dementia assessment, training different staff groups, better recording and efficiencies and streamlining processes within the Memory Service. Coventry's Memory Service has now achieved MSNAP accreditation, which recognises high quality memory assessment services, and works to a contractual 12 week waiting time compared to 52 weeks in 2014.
- **Training for GPs** - significant training and education was conducted with GPs with 68 Coventry GPs receiving specialist training enabling them to conduct dementia assessment and diagnosis in the community. Waiting times for assessments have been reduced and processes made clearer to avoid rejected referrals. The support offer has been developed and shared with GPs, and is accessible on their online portals, improving the quality and consistency of information GPs are able to share with patients.
- **There is more post-diagnostic support for people with dementia and their carers.** Everyone diagnosed with dementia is offered a Next Steps group and information pack. Dementia Connect (Alzheimer's Society) were recommissioned and alongside the GP Alliance we commissioned Admiral Nurses to provide additional support particularly around more complex needs and end of life. There is capacity for all people diagnosed to be referred to a support service, and an 'opt out' model is being developed to improve reach. Books on Prescription is available in all Coventry libraries.
- **People with dementia are supported to maintain their independence** - the Dementia Promoting Independence and Locksmith services help at least 73% of users return to independent living following a hospital stay that could otherwise have led to a move to residential care.
- **When people with dementia do require additional care, there are more options** – for example, Arden Grove, a specialist housing with care facility. Extensive quality work has been done with dementia care homes in the City, including intensive Occupational Therapist input, in-reach support on techniques for meaningfully engaging people with dementia and behaviour that challenges, and training in supporting people with delirium.
- **There is more support for carers** - Alzheimer's Society offer a formal 4-week training course to carers and a peer support group. Carers can also access advice and support through "Next Steps" groups and receive support from Dementia Connect and Admiral Nurses. A new Carers Strategy is being developed and will include specific reference to carers of people with dementia.

### Priorities for the refreshed strategy

The strategy priorities are aligned with the NHS Well Pathway for Dementia, and feed into the aims of the original strategy which are:

- **Reducing the risk of developing dementia** - We will promote and support healthy lifestyles, aiming to reduce people's risk of developing dementia.
- **Diagnosing Well** - We will work to ensure people receive a timely, accurate diagnosis of dementia and that they are linked in with support soon after diagnosis.
- **Supporting Well** - We will work to ensure people living with dementia and their family and carers have access to safe, high-quality support and care, that is strengths-based and personalised.
- **Living Well** - We will work to ensure people affected by dementia can live in safe and accepting communities, where they can access a range of support services and enjoyable and meaningful activities.
- **End of Life care** - We will work to ensure people with dementia are supported to die with dignity in the place of their choosing, and that their families are supported.
- **Training Well** - We will work to ensure training and awareness opportunities are offered to support communities to increase their awareness of dementia, and that staff who work with people affected by dementia have access to appropriate, accredited training.

Delivery objectives under the strategy will initially be prioritised by the Health and Care Partnership Dementia group in consultation with other stakeholders. An annual Delivery Plan will be developed and will include the actions to be taken, what organisation or person will lead each action, timescales for achieving the actions, costs, and measures of success. The draft delivery plan for each year will then be reviewed and agreed by the Dementia Strategy Board.

## **2. Options considered and recommended proposal**

### **2.1 Recommended Option – Approve the dementia strategy**

Producing and publishing a dementia strategy sets out with clarity what the City council, working with partners aims to achieve in order to improve the support for people with dementia and their carers. Producing this strategy across the ICB footprint and in partnership with other stakeholders ensure alignment of our approach across Coventry and Warwickshire.

### **2.2 Other Options**

#### **Not recommended – develop a stand-alone strategy for Coventry**

It is possible to develop a stand-alone strategy for Coventry City Council. This is not recommended as to achieve buy-in from health organisations we need to increasingly be working on an ICB footprint. The annual delivery plans give the opportunity to undertake actions and developments specific to Coventry where there is justification for doing so

## **3. Results of consultation undertaken**

- 3.1.** During Autumn 2021 officers carried out an extensive programme of engagement with key stakeholders (including people living with dementia, carers, the public and professionals / front-line workers) on the draft Dementia Strategy. Feedback was used to revise the draft strategy into its current form.

**3.2.** A wide variety of engagement methods were used with the aim of reaching as many interested stakeholders as possible. This included a survey and focus groups with people living with dementia and their carers, and individual and group sessions with people involved in providing dementia care and support.

#### **4. Timetable for implementing this decision**

**4.1.** Should the strategy be endorsed, we aim to publish in November 2022. The strategy covers a five-year period and annual delivery plans will be produced, implemented, and reviewed.

#### **5. Comments from Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Governance**

##### **5.1. Financial Implications**

The dementia strategy has been developed jointly with local partners, including NHS partners and the voluntary and community sector. Achievement of the strategy's ambitions and priorities, outlined in the Delivery Plan, will utilise existing partner resources and include individual provider and partnership bids for funding.

##### **5.2. Legal Implications**

Local authorities have a unique role to play in supporting people following a diagnosis of dementia. As well as providing care and support on a statutory basis, they have a role to lead on prevention and early intervention by promoting good health and wellbeing. They also have responsibilities to provide good quality information and advice. Local authorities have an influential leadership and place shaping role in the community and have strong links with local partners.

Therefore, the continuation of the Dementia strategy supports the Local Authority to meet its various statutory responsibilities towards people with dementia, such as those outlined in the Equality Act 2010, the Care Act 2014, the Mental Capacity Act 2005, the Mental Health Acts 1983 and 2007, and the Human Rights Act 1998.

The Council has a legal obligation under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality, and foster good relations between those with a protected characteristic and those who do not share it. These matters have formed an integral part of the decision-making processes in relation to the continuation of the Dementia strategy. The Council continues to engage with service users and representative groups, and use the information and views gathered in its consultation and equality impact in order to achieve accessible and inclusive service provision.

#### **6. Other implications**

##### **6.1. How will this contribute to the achievement of the council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan / scorecard) / organisational blueprint / LAA (or Coventry SCS)?**

The strategy will contribute to the Council's objectives in a number of ways i.e.

- Improving the quality of people's lives in Coventry and focussing on improving health and wellbeing and supporting people to live independent lives.
- Helping people to maintain their independence and supporting them when they need help.
- Enabling people to exercise choice and control in their daily lives.

- Helping support people facing multiple and complex needs.
- Putting local people and their needs at the heart of the customer journey.

## **6.2. How is risk being managed?**

No specific risks have been identified in terms of the recommendations in this paper. Identification and mitigation of risks will form part of the implementation planning for the strategy. Any future risks identified will be managed through City Council and ICB governance mechanisms in partnership with Warwickshire County Council.

## **6.3. What is the impact on the organisation?**

None

## **6.4. Equalities / EIA?**

An EIA has recently been conducted. The impact is mainly on people aged 65+, which will be a positive impact of more aligned and improved services for people living with dementia and carers. The strategy also covers people with early onset dementia aged under 65, and it is recognised that carers are likely to be in both age groups.

The EIA has identified that people from minority ethnic groups are often under-represented in dementia assessment and support, so actions have been included around understanding and improving access to information, assessment, and support, including for family carers. Digital exclusion is a risk for this group so we will ensure services and the wider system are not overly or exclusively reliant on digital provision of information, assessment, and support and will offer help to enable access to digital options where appropriate. Further engagement and support will recognise the gap in health inequalities experienced by people living with dementia with protected characteristics and work to reduce such inequalities through delivery plans.

## **6.5. Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment?**

None.

## **6.6. Implications for partner organisations?**

The strategy supports the Health and Care system vision that we will do everything in our power to enable people across Coventry and Warwickshire to pursue happy, healthy lives and put people at the heart of everything we do.' Partner organisations involved in the development of the strategy will contribute to the delivery of the strategies priorities.

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