

Dementia Update - Sefton Health and Wellbeing Board – Update on Sefton Dementia Strategy and Review
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Introduction

- Sefton has a Dementia strategy which required refreshing in 2019.
- There has been significant impact from Covid and in addition variances in access to services across Sefton.
- This presentation outlines demographics and opportunities to co-design a new integrated strategy with people who have dementia and their carers.
- There is an opportunity to focus on wider determinants which have an impact on dementia rates.
- Co-design of services people who have dementia and their carers and early support both pre and post diagnosis will be at the heart of the strategy.



Local Demographics

- Sefton has a population of approximately 275,899.
- 52% of the Borough are female and 48% are male.
- 23.7% of Sefton's population is 65 years old or over (65,463), with approximately one in five being aged under 18 (54,098).
- Sefton is ranked 24th out of 309 local authorities for the number of residents aged 65 or over.

Source: Sefton People & Place Introductory Profile (2021), Sefton Council



Prevalence

Dementia prevalence in Sefton has been estimated to be slightly higher than for England as a whole. At December 2020, approximately 4.04% of patients over 65 who were registered with a Sefton GP had been diagnosed with dementia. This equates to approximately 2,500 people aged over 65.

The number of people on dementia registers has decreased both in Sefton and nationally. Through improving healthcare and people living longer, this trend is predicted to change and increase in the coming years.

Sefton's rate of emergency admissions in over 65s due to dementia is higher than the national average, as are rates of inpatient admission for Alzheimer's disease and Vascular Dementia.

Source: NHS Digital, Recorded Dementia Diagnoses publications, December data files



Diagnosis Rates

Latest and Previous Three Months (Plan: 66.7%)

CCG	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21
Southport & Formby CCG	66.0%	65.0%	63.6%	63.7%
South Sefton CCG	59.8%	59.3%	59.2%	58.6%

Performance for both CCGs is under the national dementia diagnosis ambition of 66.7%. Both CCGs approved a scheme to go into 2021/22 Local Quality Contract with primary care across Sefton to support access to the memory clinics.

However support and services need to be joined up with support to carers and also there needs to be further work on post diagnostic support so that people with dementia and their carers and families are able to plan for the future and remain in their communities as long as possible.



Impact from Covid

- Covid and lockdown has had significant impact on older people both in terms of loneliness and isolation and we see greater levels of acuity being managed in care homes and care agencies with the level of access to healthcare impacting on admission rates.
- Covid-19 had severe impact on dementia assessments undertaken by memory assessment service operated by Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust. Dementia clinics were stopped for 18 months but have now resumed.
- Significant capacity and demand issues in primary care where initial dementia screening is completed.
- There will be a greater need to improve access and awareness of dementia and we need to look at digital innovation to accelerate access to a diagnosis.



Recommendations

- Integrated approach to new Dementia Strategy and campaign.
- Sefton CCGs have appointed a dementia lead who is due to start in post in April 2022. This post will work to deliver an integrated strategy for Sefton.
- In line with a Cheshire & Merseyside system approach to improving memory assessment waits, Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust have established weekend memory clinics with intention of continuing the clinics until the end of March 2022. It is proposed that these services are joined up with the CVFS and wider social care initiatives to support pre and post diagnostic support, information and advice and support to carers.
- £105k provided to enable weekend working in memory clinics and reduce assessment waits. A further review of national and regional good practice to ensure that variance of approach is reduced.



Continued....

- The Place Strategy for Dementia will align with ICS priorities ;
- Primary care access;
- Develop a more Integrated approach to key priorities
- Adopt co-design principles with people who have dementia and their families.
- Involve the wider Council and Anchor Institutions in the development of the approach.
- Consider the impact of environmental improvements to care homes and digital investment.
- Develop a Quality Assurance Mark across all care providers aligned to Dementia Friends Programme.
- Consider the prevalence of young onset dementia services together with associated provision.



Milestones and Governance

- March – establish the scope of the strategy
- Establish the multi agency working group
- Review outcomes of existing strategy and gaps
- Establish priorities
- Governance – Sefton Partnership Board , CCG , OSC and Councils Cabinet
- Align delivery plan and reporting into ICS
- July first draft for consultation
- Regular updates on progress to the Health and Wellbeing Board on progress

Recommendations:

We ask that Health and Wellbeing Board note this presentation and provide comment and steer regarding the proposal to develop a new strategy for Sefton.