

Birmingham & Solihull

Dementia Action Plan

Covid Recovery in 2021-22

Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee
27th April 2021

Strategy Position

The impact of COVID-19 has been hugely significant to the delivery of dementia care across Birmingham and Solihull (BSol). Changes in the way that services have been accessed, including requirements for social distancing have led to falls in diagnosis and treatment rates and increasing feelings of social isolation amongst patients, carers and family members.

Whilst there has been a great deal of positive collaboration and ongoing effort developing the initial draft of the Birmingham and Solihull Dementia Strategy, the pandemic has meant that we now need to refocus and reframe our service priorities.

To support this aim, BSol CCG has been working in partnership with colleagues from Birmingham City Council and Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to co produce a short-term action plan for 2021-2022 to prioritise key actions for service recovery across the full wellbeing pathway.

The progress made against set actions will help to inform the development of a new dementia strategy going forward



BSol Key Strategic Priorities

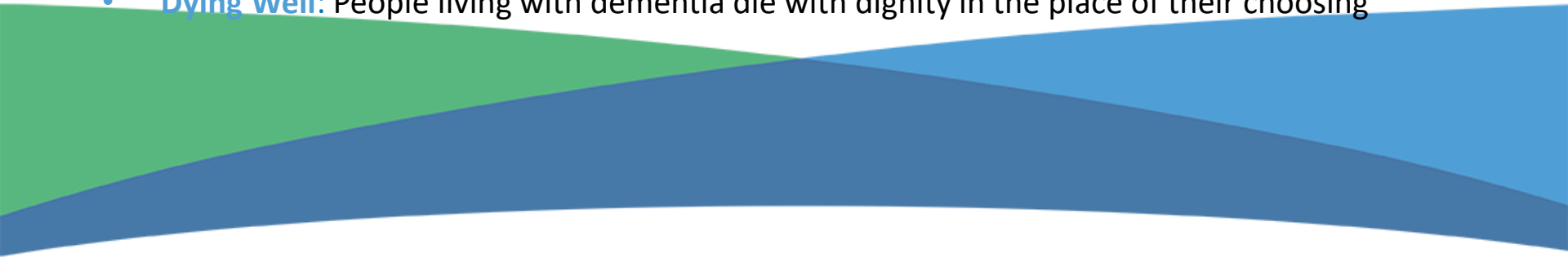
The key strategic priorities of the BSol Dementia Action Plan are to:

- Improve the quality of care for people with dementia, ensuring that services are person-centred, fit for purpose and fully integrated across health and social care
- Streamline the current diagnosis pathway to reduce waiting times to support access to timely diagnosis and treatment
- Ensure that services offer an improved focus upon early intervention and prevention
- Support access to pre and post-diagnostic support, including expanding the range of patient and public information available
- Build a flexible approach to service delivery to address current inequalities both in service access and health outcomes for patients from all protected characteristic groups
- Amend the service offer to reflect the patient diversity across Birmingham and Solihull
- Improve patient experience, prevent crisis and support people with dementia within local communities
- Improve advance care planning/end of life care



National Ambitions

The action plan supports recovery against the 6 key national ambitions for dementia care. These include:

- **Prevention:** The risk of people developing dementia is minimised
 - **Diagnosing Well:** Timely accurate diagnosis, care plan and review within the first year
 - **Treating Well:** A coordinated care plan that covers aspects of supporting well, living well and dying well that is developed and agreed jointly by the person, their family and/or carer and their health and social care professionals/team
 - **Supporting Well:** Access to safe high-quality health and social care for people with dementia and their carers
 - **Living Well:** Optimising the lived experience of dementia. Programme of ongoing training and education. Development of a flexible service offer that can be adapted for future restrictions
 - **Dying Well:** People living with dementia die with dignity in the place of their choosing
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Proposed Actions Against National Ambitions (1)

Area	Actions 2021-2022
Preventing well	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued promotion of healthy living messaging and importance of physical activeness e.g. through advertising and social media campaigns Development of a COVID-19 resource pack for primary care. Ongoing promotion and delivery of educational programmes to all stakeholders (e.g. GPs, Care Home Staff etc.) Ongoing promotion of the importance of early diagnosis and offering targeted support and sharing of best practice
Diagnosing well	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting importance of equality and diversity in service offer. Amending local delivery to reflect the different needs of diverse communities Understand current waiting lists and ensure services across the pathway interface effectively, reducing duplication and mitigating identified gaps in provision Targeted clinical and social support for those awaiting assessment Confirmation of non- recurrent investment in the recent spending review has allocated £324,000 to build additional capacity into current MAS services to support an increase in confirmed diagnosis rates towards national target rate. Development of an Interface Group to support shared responsibility to identify and develop service initiatives to reduce waiting times for diagnosis and treatment. This will also support the ongoing development of the patient pathway in line with emerging best practice and will include representation from all pathway service providers across Health and Social Care. Capacity planning for expected surge in dementia referrals from October 2021 as we consolidate service recovery Network peer to peer discussion to share examples of best practice. This will include providing additional targeted support to Primary Care Networks (PCNs) with lower diagnosis rates. Further interrogation of data to ascertain health inequalities in access for the elderly Ongoing work with care homes to support awareness raising and ongoing management.

Proposed Actions Against National Ambitions (2)

Area	Actions 2021-2022
Treating well	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness training in the use of antipsychotic drugs – led by regional expert • Continue delivery of virtual and telephone consultations currently provided by Memory Assessment Service (MAS) and monitor and review impact of this framework for delivery. Amend accordingly based upon gathered evidence. • Primary Care Network (PCN) Dementia Advisors to offer blended support approach to patients (F2F and remotely) and amend service offer based upon gathered evidence
Supporting well	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly review the use and rates of anti-psychotic medication for the treatment of dementia. • Support ongoing service recovery • Ensure dementia review and interventions within the primary care quality outcome framework (QoF) are taken up and supported to develop a consistent service offer to all BSol patients • Building on lessons learnt, during COVID-19, to develop the pathway and improve the service offer to patients. • Continue to build upon support to patients and carers to access services, maximising engagement with underrepresented groups • Additional offer to patients and carers to include occupational therapy (OT) • Review assessment processes and current support services available • Review the day opportunities offer for dementia patients. • Support for carers: aim to prevent carer breakdown - sitting services as an addition/alternative to current support and improving the offer for respite care • Review and refresh wellbeing support for people affected by dementia.

Proposed Actions Against National Ambitions (3)

Area	Actions 2021-2022
Living well	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness and training offer to frontline staff in health and social care, facilitating engagement sessions with staff to improve awareness • Ensure timely review of care plans where there is a diagnosis of dementia. • Review the availability of visits in care homes to ensure consistency of approach across Birmingham and Solihull • Public consultations to ensure service offer, including information and advice supports people post COVID-19 • Ensure flexible service offer in case of need for future restrictions • Ensure the review process allows future planning and avoids carer breakdown
Dying Well	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm that all care plans include written advanced decisions and that a supportive and informed discussion has taken place with carers and family members • Training scheduled for care home staff/healthcare providers in 'managing the dying patient with dementia' delivered by hospice education leads • Equitable access to high quality, end of life care for people with dementia e.g targeted support for BAME communities, transgender communities • Interface with CCG EOL Co-ordination Group to ensure Hospice and Care Home visits are in accordance with safety guidance

Progress to Date

- **Dementia Workstream Task and Finish Group** in place to develop and manage the actions set out in the recovery plan
- **Birmingham and Solihull Dementia Pathway Interface Group** in place to review the current patient pathway to improve outcomes for patients and reduce health inequalities. Chaired by Dr Farooq Khan, Clinical Director for Dementia & Frailty (BSMHT) and Regional Dementia Lead for the West Midlands. The group will focus upon dementia diagnosis, pre-diagnosis support and post diagnostic support, as well as raising overall service awareness
- **Professor Alistair Burns-** Professor of Old Age Psychiatry and National Lead confirmed to deliver an ongoing education programme for staff across Birmingham and Solihull to raise awareness, identify and manage people with dementia
- **Dementia COVID-19 Resource Pack** - Commenced development for primary care



Next Steps

The BSol Dementia Plan (2021-2022) will drive forward the actions that have been identified to support the targeted restoration and recovery of services

BSol CCG and Birmingham and Solihull Council Partners through the Task and Finish Group will monitor and review progress against the action plan whilst continually seeking real time feedback from service users, carers and wider family members.

Birmingham and Solihull Dementia Pathway Interface Group will meet monthly to review and challenge service recovery through a reflection of evidence based practice. The Group will also champion through peer review what has worked in other parts of the country to support ongoing service recovery.

The learning and achievements from this cycle of ongoing service improvement will support the refresh of the longer term strategy.



Clinical and Service Leads

National and Regional Dementia Specialists

- Prof Alistair Burns-Professor of Old Age Psychiatry, National Clinical Director for Dementia and Older People's Mental Health
- Dr. Farooq Khan – Consultant Psychiatrist, Clinical Lead Dementia, Midlands

Birmingham and Solihull CCG

- Dr Majid Ali- GP and Clinical Lead for Community Services Transformation
- Rhona Woosey- Head of Integration and Long Term Conditions
- Bernadette Faulkner- Senior Integration Long Term Conditions Manager
- Bhupinder Bhogal & Rita Lotta - Project Support Officers

Birmingham City Council

- Mike Walsh- Head of Service-Commissioning
- Revinder Johal- Commissioning Manager – Strategy and Integration

Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

- Caroline Potter- Strategic Commissioner: Strategy and Planning
- Anna Walker -Strategy and Planning Manager



**Thank you for
listening.
Any questions?**