

## **Dementia**

### **1 Introduction**

1.1 “Living Well with Dementia: A National Strategy” was published in February 2009 in response to the concerns of the increase in those diagnosed with dementia due to an aging population. The aim of the strategy was to ensure there were national improvements in dementia services.

1.2 The five key priority areas of the strategy are:

- Early Intervention and Diagnosis for All
- Improved Quality of Care for People with Dementia in General Hospitals
- Living Well with Dementia in Care Homes
- Improved Community Personal Support Services
- Reducing the use of Anti-psychotic Drugs.

### **2 Local Progress**

2.1 Work has taken place locally and regionally across all aspects of the dementia strategy and the levels of awareness of dementia have greatly improved.

2.2 Key Headlines from the last twelve months:

- Portsmouth is 14<sup>th</sup> in the United Kingdom for identifying those with dementia on GP registers – 53% of our expected dementia population is currently identified
- Authorisation received to implement dementia advisors and memory cafes improving signposting of services and decreasing social isolation
- A reduction of anti-psychotic drug prescribing year on year by 22%, decreasing the risk of adverse side effects to those prescribed anti-psychotic drugs
- Improved knowledge of dementia amongst those working in health, social care and wider public sector environments.
- Conclusion of a review of local older person mental health provision to ensure that the service will continue to be sustainable in the future with the pressures of an aging population.

### **3 Next Steps**

3.1 The key crucial factor to delivering the National Dementia Strategy is partnership working across health and social care boundaries. Over the course of the next twelve months the work of the dementia strategy will be focused on:

- The implementation of dementia advisors and memory cafes
- Improving health pathways for those with dementia
- Continue to promote opportunities for those with a diagnosis of dementia to be able to access the wider community to reduce social isolation
- Proactively support the implementation of the carers strategy.

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