



Date: Thursday, 14 September 2017

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: Shrewsbury Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire,
SY2 6ND

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HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPER

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (Pages 1 - 4)

To receive any questions, statements or petitions from the public, notice of which has been given in accordance with Procedure Rule 14.

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HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Public Question Sheet

<p>HWBB Date: Shropshire HWBB 14th September, 2017</p>	<p>Member of the Public:</p> <p>Cathy Bowler, Operations Manager, Alzheimer's Society and Chair Health Economy Steering Group for Dementia</p>
<p>Question (s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How much funding will be released to roll out the Dementia Companions across the county? • What are the Timescales for releasing the necessary funding for the Dementia Companions? • If the funding is to be released over a period of time, how will commissioners ensure that the service grows so that there is a) fair and equitable coverage across Shropshire and the service grows and b) there is an effective and efficient service without the need to frequently restructure as a result of employing part time workers added at different times over the strategy period 	
<p>HWBB Response:</p> <p>Despite our challenging financial position, Dementia companions are being commissioned in pilot form to run from November 2017 until the end of 2018/19. This pilot will be provided across two sites, one in Oswestry and the other in the Ludlow area. In terms of how much funding will be released and made available across the next two years, exact figures and timescales have not yet been established, largely due to the multi-agency aspect of the funding arrangements.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dementia Companions are a service expected to yield system-wide innovation and savings, this means that the public, the Local Authority and the NHS are all expected to benefit. As such, it is expected that some of the investment for provision of this service will come from the Local Authority, not least of all due to the likelihood that they will benefit from earlier cost savings. 2. The Dementia Strategy 2017/20 has built in goals to avoid acute hospital admissions and reduce the length of stay, the aim being to reduce system costs. Some of these savings are expected to be invested into the Dementia Companions service. The service developments required to realise these goals are presently being negotiated with the provider, although agreement upon provision has not yet been reached. 3. Shropshire CCG currently invests the majority of funding for the provision of dementia services with a single provider. We are in negotiations with this provider to explore provision of Dementia Companions within the existing contract, although no agreement has yet been reached. 	<p>Other comments:</p>

The Dementia Strategy is expected to be fully-realised by 2020, subject to system-wide cooperation and support. As such, the provision of finite quantitative information is not possible at this time.

With regards to the qualitative queries surrounding **fair and equitable coverage** across the county, the roll-out of Dementia Companions will be as fair and equitable as the geography of the county permits. This has been reflected in the nature of the sites of the pilots, by design these are not necessarily Shrewsbury-centric locations, although the next site will need to be in the Shrewsbury area to enable a reasonable geographical spread.

Ensuring **effective and efficient service** delivery without the need to restructure and employ part-time workers is a system-wide ambition. This will be achieved where possible through creation of substantive posts using existing staff. The actual employment decisions made by the provider however will be theirs to make so long as they are able to demonstrate consistent performance against the contract specification.

To: Shropshire Health & Wellbeing Board

From: Cathy Bowler, Operations Manager, Alzheimer's Society and Chair Health Economy Steering Group for Dementia

George Rook, Person living with dementia and Chair Shropshire Telford & Wrekin Dementia Action Alliance and Member of the Health Economy Steering Group for Dementia

Fiona Hopkins, Carer of a person living with dementia and Member of the Health Economy Steering Group for Dementia

Date: 3 August 2017

Re: **Implementation of the 2017 – 2020 Dementia Strategy for Shropshire**

Our interest in the Dementia Strategy is twofold:

- We are members of the Health Economy Steering Group for Dementia – whose terms of reference include supporting the development and implementation of the dementia strategies for both Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin
- Our concern that people affected by dementia in Shropshire are neither getting the post diagnostic support in Shropshire that they need now, nor are there sufficient steps being made to provide assurance that they will get what they have asked for and should expect by the end of the Strategy period. In contrast, significant steps have recently been made in Telford & Wrekin

Dementia Strategy 2017 – 2020: Progress to Date:

- The minutes of the December 2016 H&W Board meeting state:

Draft Dementia Strategy

Peter Downer, Dementia Commissioner, introduced and amplified a report, copy attached to the signed minutes, on the Dementia Strategy for 2017/2020; a product of collaboration, which was welcomed by the Board as an excellent piece of work.

RESOLVED: That the Strategy be endorsed by the Health and Wellbeing Board

- Dementia Strategy is also referred to in the STP January Update (slide 53)

Dementia Companions

- The Strategy will provide locally branded Dementia Support Workers which will be known as Dementia Companions to provide post diagnostic support.
- This support will be normalized as part of the dementia pathway, and providing sufficient capacity to ensure that all 3,297 diagnosed with dementia and their carers are supported. This is a significant shift from the less than 10% that are currently supported each year.
- Additional resource has recently been confirmed, but has yet to be released, for two part-time Dementia Companions to work specifically in Oswestry and Ludlow who will

work alongside multi-disciplinary teams in those towns – this is welcomed, but is the only sign of Strategy implementation to date.

Our questions:

During the period 2017 – 2020:

- How much **funding** will be released to roll out the Dementia Companions across the county?
- What are the **timescales** for releasing the necessary funding for the Dementia Companions?
- If the funding is to be released over a period of time, how will commissioners ensure that the service grows so that there is a) **fair and equitable coverage** across Shropshire as the service grows and b) there is an **effective and efficient service** without the need to frequently restructure as a result of employing part time workers added at different times over the strategy period?

We recognise that Shropshire CCG and Shropshire Council may not have the immediate answers to these questions. We would be very happy to meet with representatives of both who sit on the Health & Wellbeing Board to discuss this further if this would help.