

Southend Health & Wellbeing Board

Agenda
Item No.

Report of the Director of Commissioning

To
Health & Wellbeing Board

on
xxx

Report prepared by: Benedict Leigh, Director of
Commissioning

For information only		For discussion	Approval required	
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Southend, Essex, and Thurrock Dementia Strategy 2022 - 2026

Part 1 (Public Agenda Item)

1 Purpose of Report

To share the final draft of the Southend, Essex, and Thurrock (from here on abbreviated to SET) Dementia Strategy 2022-2026, following consultation, for agreement by the Board.

2 Recommendations

The Health and Wellbeing board are asked to

- 2.1 Agree to adopt the SET Dementia Strategy 2022-2026 as set out in Appendix A and note that partner organisations may adopt the strategy via their own decision-making processes.

3 Background

- 3.1 In 2017 Essex, Southend and Thurrock agreed and published the Greater Essex Dementia Strategy 2017-2021. Work has been underway since 2021 to refresh the 2017 strategy but has been subject to some delay due to Covid-19 pressures.
- 3.2 Engagement activity has been undertaken alongside work to develop an initial set of actions, outcomes and measures aligning where possible funding programmes delivery plans to develop the outline SET Dementia Strategy 2022 - 2026 implementation plan, details are within Appendix A, Annex A.

3.3 Insight from stakeholder engagement together with the key findings are detailed in 3.7 and within Appendix A, Annex D of the SET Dementia Strategy 2022 – 2026.

3.4 In summary engagement activity to date has included:

- A 6-week public consultation (15th February to 5th April 2021) to inform the planned refresh of the existing Greater Essex Dementia Strategy 2017-2021. The consultation asked questions to establish whether people agreed or disagreed that the nine priorities previously identified continued to be important and their reasons for this.
- Alzheimer's Society Dementia Voices Programme
- Essex Adult Social Care Covid-19 Lived Experience research and insight
- Dementia Voices: Living through Lockdown – North East Essex Commissioned engagement & insight activity
- Essex County Council Social Media (analysis of posts, comments etc)
- Essex Welfare Service, welfare calls & Care Nav Plus care and support - Feedback and discussion with community and voluntary sector partners, adults living with dementia, families and carers through their provision and use of these services.
- Throughout the development of the SET Dementia Strategy 2022 - 2026 regular discussion and dialogue has been held with:
 - The Pan Essex Dementia Action Alliance and local dementia action alliances throughout Southend, Essex and Thurrock including local partners – Sharing of thinking and ongoing dialogue to shape the strategic priorities, actions & outcomes.
 - Southend, Essex, and Thurrock (SET) Dementia Strategy oversight Group – Health, Local Authority, and community partners
 - Locality Dementia forums/steering groups - Sharing of thinking and ongoing dialogue to shape the strategic priorities, actions & outcomes

3.5 The second stage consultation (13th May to 17th June 2022) sought further views on the proposed commitments to deliver against the agreed nine priorities.

- An online consultation ran from 13 May 2022 to 17 June 2022. A total of 78 responses were received from people living with dementia, their family and carers, partner organisations and health and social care professionals.
- Workshops and focus groups were held with a wide range of people to gather further insight across a range of partners and stakeholders with an approximate total of 160 participants. Further details of the consultation can be found in Appendix A, Annex D.

3.6 Feedback from the consultation process reinforced that the priorities and commitments align well with the outcomes needed to make a positive difference to the lived experience of people living with dementia and carers in Southend, Essex, and Thurrock. There were pledges of support for implementation from a number of statutory, voluntary and community groups reflecting great synergy to improve care and support in line with the SET Dementia Strategy 2022 - 2026.

3.7 Findings from the consultations and engagement activities have informed the development of the SET Dementia Strategy 2022 – 2026 and associated implementation plans, Appendix A. The detailed insight from the stakeholder engagement activities is included in Appendix A, Annex D with the key findings highlighted below:

- The need to coordinate timelier diagnosis and support in the key weeks after diagnosis, recognised as a critical window for early support and intervention that promotes a positive view of diagnosis, facilitating access to timely care and support thus enabling people to live well with dementia in their preferred place of residence
- The role of communities and groups is seen as crucial to the wrap-around offer of support for families and carers.
- The need to promote opportunities to share lived experience such as through peer networks is seen as a key aspect of feeling empowered and enabled following diagnosis to ensure access to appropriate and timely support, although caution was advised against information overload, so a balance is needed.
- To ensure learning from other care pathways and models (for example Cancer & Admiral Nurses) to gather insight on best practice and areas for improvement in care and support for individuals and carers.
- To improve and enable access to training and support for families and carers, alongside training opportunities for health and social care professionals and community organisations
- To develop closer working with the care providers incl. reablement and care home providers to improve experiences of discharge from hospital and to promote opportunities for access to appropriate training to understand distressed behaviours and the cause of perceived complexity relating to dementia
- To promote increased choice and control for those with dementia, their carers and family to enable people to live well with dementia.

4 The Southend, Essex, and Thurrock (SET) Dementia Strategy 2022-2026

4.1 The SET Dementia Strategy 2022 - 2026 provides the overarching aims and ambitions for improving the lives, experiences, care and support for people living with dementia, their families, carers in Essex, Southend, and Thurrock.

4.2 By taking into account local variation, need and existing Strategies. The approach will ensure the wider Adult Social Care direction and actions are developed with regard to dementia and the impact on the lives of people and communities in Essex. It will also align to the NHS Well pathway and Live Well domains and allow collaborative work with other strategic approaches and commissioning programmes.

4.3 Building on the previous Greater Essex Dementia Strategy 2017-2021, consultation and engagement activity and national guidance and best practice, the refreshed SET Dementia Strategy 2022 – 2026 sets the mission to make sure that:

- Those who experience dementia, and their families and carers, feel they are understood and can access the support they need when they need it
- That communities and local organisations are aware of the impact dementia has on those who experience it, their families, and carers
- That support for people with dementia and their families and carers is underpinned by awareness, understanding, training and expertise among professionals and volunteers of the impact dementia has on those who experience it, their families, and carers,
- That the conditions which will contribute to a reduction in prevalence and promoting health improvement in the long-term, recognising health inequalities and the wider determinants of health to promote better health outcomes for people across Southend, Essex and Thurrock are further promoted and enhanced.

4.4 The mission will be achieved through delivery of nine strategic priorities, under which the SET Dementia Strategy 2022 - 2026 sets out our commitments and the outcomes to be achieved, current and planned activity, and the measures used to assess progress. A summary of the strategic priorities and commitments to be achieved are included below.

Priorities	Commitments
Prevention: People in Southend, Essex and Thurrock will have good health and wellbeing, enabling them to live full and independent lives for longer	We will work collaboratively within communities and across voluntary, health, care and statutory services to develop and deliver information to improve awareness of dementia, how to prevent dementia and the support available
Supporting unpaid carers: Carers are supported to enable people living with dementia to remain as independent as possible	We will involve and seek the views of people living with dementia and their unpaid carers , recognising their role as valued experts and equal partners to ensure carers have increased opportunity to access good quality support
Reducing the risk of crisis: All people with dementia receive support to reduce the risk and manage crisis	We will work across our systems in to develop an integrated approach within communities to improve timely support following diagnosis to promote independence, optimise strength, build resilience, and prevent unnecessary crises
A knowledgeable & skilled workforce: All people with dementia receive support from knowledgeable and skilled professionals where needed	We will develop and build on activities and training that improve professional practice and process
Finding information and advice: Everyone with dementia will have access to the right information at the right time	We will work collaboratively with system partners to engage people living with dementia, their families, unpaid carers and wider support networks to better understand how we can improve access to the right information, advice and guidance at the right time to ensure they are fully supported
Diagnosis and support: All people with dementia will receive appropriate and timely diagnosis and integrated support	We will improve access to and opportunities for dementia diagnosis at the earliest possible stage for the people of Southend, Essex, and Thurrock
Living well with dementia in the community: All people with dementia are supported by their Southend, Essex, and Thurrock communities to remain independent for as long as possible	We will work with people living with dementia, their families, unpaid carers, and wider support networks to build more dementia-friendly and dementia-enabled communities and work to understand what timely support they need in relation to access to housing, transport, employment, and technology We will continue to promote access to care technology to promote health, prevent deterioration and promote independence
Living well in long-term care: all people with dementia live well when in long-term care	We will work with the care markets to encourage long-term care settings to promote improving knowledge, understanding and skills actively empowering activities and solutions that increase and retain their connections within their communities'
End of life: People with dementia and their families plan ahead, receive good end of life care and are able to die in accordance with their wishes	We will work with families, communities, and palliative specialists to improve information that enables families to plan ahead to make informed decisions that support individuals to remain cared for in their preferred care setting

- 4.5 Review and monitoring of the strategy, unless otherwise stated, will take place annually across Southend, Essex, and Thurrock. The plan will sit as a separate document to be reviewed and refreshed throughout the life of the strategy enabling it to respond to changing needs and emerging issues in the future. Further details on delivery of actions and outcome measures against the agreed priorities and commitments are in Appendix A, Annex A: Implementation Plan.
- 4.6 Southend City Council will ensure synergy between the SET Dementia strategy and the Southend City Council Social Care Strategies of Aging Well, Living Well and Caring Well and subsequent partnership groups.
- 4.7 The final SET Dementia Strategy 2022 - 2026, which takes account of the engagement, is attached as Appendix A

5 Next Steps

- Ongoing systemwide engagement, stakeholder, and communication activities
- Approval and adoption of the SET Dementia Strategy 2022-2026 by member organisations
- Co-production of local and organisational delivery plans across systems and partners (October 2022– March 2023) including:
 - Discussions with stakeholders incl. opportunities for the delivery of implementation activities within partners funded programmes of work.
 - System wide focus groups
 - Wider engagement opportunities through local forums.

6 Issues for consideration

6.1 Legal implications

- 6.1.1 Following agreement of the SET Dementia Strategy 2022-2026 each member organisation, including Southend City Council, will need to take the SET Dementia Strategy 2022-2026 through their own governance processes for publication.
- 6.1.2 Consultation exercises were carried out on the SET Dementia Strategy and amendments made following the consultations to reflect responses.

6.2 Finance implications

- 6.2.1 Currently there are no additional resources identified within the SET Dementia Strategy 2022 - 2026. Whilst implementation will align to the lifecycle of the SET Dementia Strategy 2022 - 2026, it is acknowledged that Integrated Commissioning Boards (ICBs) came into being on the 1st July 2022. As such, the introduction of ICBs, development of Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) strategies, Local Delivery Plans and their respective governance structures will inform the development of implementation plans at a Southend, Essex, and

Thurrock, ICP, alliance and organisational levels. Of note is that many of the commitments are about reshaping services, awareness raising and training.

7 Equality and Diversity implications

- 7.1 The Public Sector Equality Duty applies to the Council when it makes decisions. The duty requires us to have regard to the need to:
- (a) Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other behaviour prohibited by the Act. In summary, the Act makes discrimination etc. on the grounds of a protected characteristic unlawful
 - (b) Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - (c) Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
- 7.2 The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, gender, and sexual orientation. The Act states that 'marriage and civil partnership' is not a relevant protected characteristic for (b) or (c) although it is relevant for (a).
- 7.3 The Equality Comprehensive Impact Assessment indicates that the proposals in this report will not have a disproportionately adverse impact on any people with a particular characteristic.

8 List of appendices

Appendix A: Southend, Essex & Thurrock (SET) Dementia Strategy 2022 - 2026