

**CWOP/16/11**

**Policy & Scrutiny Committee** Community Wellbeing and Older People  
**Date** 14 April 2011  
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### **Essex, Southend & Thurrock Dementia Strategy/ECC Action Plan Consultation**

There are estimated to be 750,000 people living with dementia in the UK and over 22,000 in the geographical area of Essex, Southend and Thurrock. With a higher than average ageing population it is likely that numbers in this area will increase to 35,000 by 2025. Ensuring that people with dementia are enabled to remain independent and receive the best possible support and treatment is therefore a key priority for both health and social care.

The Essex, Southend and Thurrock Dementia Strategy (attached) is an overarching statement of how health and social care partners can collectively meet the objectives of the National Dementia Strategy<sup>1</sup> in order to improve quality of life for people with dementia and their carers. It has been developed by representatives from Local Authorities, PCTs, Mental Health Trusts and Private and Voluntary Organisations. The key components are; the strategy; a dementia care pathway (appendix 1); and action plans to meet local needs. The Essex County Council Dementia Services Action Plan is included for information.

The Strategy takes account of the recent national implementation plan<sup>2</sup> which identifies specific quality outcomes for people with dementia and their carers, and priority objectives which are: good-quality early diagnosis and intervention for all; improved quality of care in general hospitals; living well with dementia in care homes; and reduced use of antipsychotic medication. These are underpinned by the improvement of community personal support services. This strategy is

<sup>1</sup> *Living well With Dementia – A National Dementia Strategy* Department of Health 2009

<sup>2</sup> *Quality outcomes for people with dementia: building on the work of the National Dementia Strategy* DH 2010

inclusive of all citizens who may experience dementia, or are the carers of people with dementia, irrespective of age.

As part of the formal consultation process we would be grateful for responses to the following questions:

- a) Is there anything that has been missed to help us to deliver the Essex, Southend and Thurrock Dementia Strategy?
- b) Does this Strategy fully address issues of equality and diversity and the needs of particular groups?
- c) What are your priorities for implementation? What can and should be done first?
- d) What can you or your organisation do in partnership to help deliver the outcomes?

Feedback can be sent to Sheila Davis or to [dementia.strategy@essex.gov.uk](mailto:dementia.strategy@essex.gov.uk) .