Dementia Services; Past, Present and Future.

Jo Dickinson
Strategy and Planning Manager
Southend Borough Council
Past, Present and Future…

Introduction

• Background Information
• Current Services
• Future Services
• Diagnosis Rates
• Awareness Campaign

Taken from information in a paper prepared for the Council as a summary of developments/priorities for moving forward.
Some Statistics....

- Approximately 820,000 people are believed to have dementia in the UK.
- This number is predicted to rise to over a million by 2021.
- There are over 670,000 carers of people with dementia in the UK.
- The cost of dementia to the economy is £23 billion per year.
- Social care costs (40%) amount to £9 billion.
- Unpaid carer costs (55%) amount to £12.4 billion.
- Health costs (5%) £1.2 billion.
- Estimated that over 85% of people living in residential care have a form of dementia or severe memory problem.
The National Dementia Strategy was launched by the Government in 2009 as a 5 year strategy for the National Health Service (NHS) and Local Authorities for addressing the increasing numbers of people living with dementia in the UK.

The strategy has 4 main themes:
• Raising awareness and understanding about dementia
• Early diagnosis and support for the person with dementia and their carer
• Living well with dementia including remaining living in own home or local community
• Reducing the prescribing of psychototropic medication to people with dementia
The Local Picture….

- Living Well with Dementia - a Dementia Strategy for Essex, Southend and Thurrock was developed from the National strategy in 2011.

In Southend:

- Local implementation plan for dementia services from Essex wide strategy was developed and implementation commenced in 2011.
- Local implementation plan delivered through a dementia steering group, core members including reps from Health, Local Authority (including public health), Alzheimer's Society, Southend Carers Forum and Healthwatch.
- Members take responsibility for heading different work streams.
- Currently working through Year 2 Objectives.
- Proposed Objectives for 2013/14 outlined and about to be agreed by Senior Management Team.
Current Implementation Plan - Summary

• Single Point of Referral for GP’s and self-referral to Southend Memory Clinics established.
• Average of 1000 new referrals per year made to the memory clinic for assessment and diagnosis.
• Memory support workers (AS and funded by Council) work at all memory clinics from point of diagnosis.
• Local information packs have been developed and provided at diagnosis which include contact details for help and support.
• All carers offered carers assessment at point of diagnosis.
• All persons diagnosed provided with info and advance planning for care and advance directives.
Current Implementation Plan – Summary (CONT)

- Dementia awareness campaign held in 2012/2013.
- Cross matching of data between Health and SBC to update all information (importance of diagnosis rates later slide)
- A staff training competency based framework in dementia has been developed and agreed across South Essex. This will be implemented in year 3 objectives.
- Basic dementia awareness training session for non-care staff provided in 2013.
- Dementia champion training provided to a range of staff across the Council, in care homes and at Southend Hospital.
- Rates of prescribing psychotropic medication has fallen.
Current Services in Place

Range of new services have been developed and are operational. They include:

• Dementia Intensive Support Team – based in A&E.
• Community Dementia Nurses – working with clusters of GP’s and care homes.
• Dementia liaison nurses – Southend Hospital to support ward staff.
• Fully integrated into the CCG End of Life strategy, specialist teams have received dementia training.
New Services in Place

The Council has provided funding for expanding existing services and developing new services:

• Dementia advocacy services.
• Continuing to provide peer support groups and dementia cafes for carers.
• New cognitive stimulation groups including Singing for the Brain and memory groups.
• Expanding the number of memory support workers at the Memory Clinic.
Further Success! ‘Walkway to a Long Life’

• Council successfully secured Department of Health ‘Improving the Dementia Environment’ specialist monies in 2013.
• £270,000 was allocated to fund a specialist dementia sensory garden in a Southend Care Home.
• Research by Kings Fund has shown improved environments can reduce levels of stress, agitation and confusion in dementia.
• Incorporates number of design innovations - including a never ending path and colour wheel planting.
• Evaluated by DoH and University of Loughborough into improved outcomes for people with dementia and hopefully selected as an example of good practice.
• Open to all living in Southend with dementia and carers from March 2014.
‘Walkway to a Long Life’
Objectives for 2014/15 – some highlights!

- Personalisation driven forward to increase choice and control of services for people with dementia in Southend.
- Secure 2013/2014 funding for continuation of dementia services currently provided.
- Greater emphasis on trying to keep people with dementia living in their own homes/communities.
Objectives for 2014/15 – some highlights!

- Raising awareness events to continue.
- Southend to be a dementia friendly community.
- Further development of staff training, for example, person centred care planning.
- More emphasis on support for carers.
- Difficult to reach groups.
Challenges

• Continue to raise awareness and reinforce the positive message of early diagnosis.
• Develop a range of services to meet the forecast increase in numbers of people living with dementia.
• Develop services for those with co-morbid long term problems.
Diagnosis and Prevalence Rates

• Need to record the numbers of people with dementia in Southend - crucial to resourcing and commissioning the right services.
• Southend currently has a prevalence figure of 2,982.
• With a national diagnostic rate of 38.7% (based on DoH 2011/12 data) we should expect to see 1,155 on dementia register.
• We have closer to 900, revealing a gap of over 2,000.
• Early diagnosis important as means people have more opportunities to live well with dementia for longer.
• Information and awareness campaign crucial - reduce stigma – encourage people to seek help.
2014 Information and Awareness Campaign ‘Worried about Your Memory?’

- All the libraries across the Borough.
- Information and staff to talk to at the event stand
- Drop in public sessions
- Dementia friends sessions (book through Eventbrite)
- Representatives from SBC, AS, SEPT and Carers Forum.