# JOINT COMMISSIONING STRATEGY FOR OLDER PEOPLE'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE 2011-2014

To: Cabinet

*Date:* **17**<sup>th</sup> **January 2012** 

From: Executive Director: Children and Young People's Services

and Adult Social Care

Electoral division(s): All

Forward Plan ref: 2012/013 Key decision: Yes

Purpose: To seek approval from Cabinet to the Joint

Commissioning Strategy for Older People's Mental Health Services in Cambridgeshire 2011-2014 and associated action plan. The Strategy and action plan have been developed with colleagues in the NHS in response to the

National Dementia Strategy and incorporate the

recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny memberled review of Dementia Services, which came to Cabinet

on 6th September 2011.

Recommendation: Members are asked to:

 a) Approve the Joint Commissioning Strategy for Older People's Mental Health Services in Cambridgeshire 2011-2014 and action plan

b) Receive a further report to Cabinet in six months' time to update Cabinet on the progress of implementing the action plan.

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#### 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In 2009 the Department of Health launched the National Dementia Strategy and in response officers from NHS Cambridgeshire (NHSC), Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) and Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) have worked together to develop a local Joint Commissioning Strategy for Older People's Mental Health Services.
- 1.2 During 2010, while this Strategy was being developed, the CCC Adults, Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee conducted a member-led review of dementia services. The review focused on local implementation of Objective 4 of the National Dementia Strategy, 'Easy access to care, support and advice after diagnosis', as this had been locally identified as an area requiring significant work.
- 1.3 A report was taken to Cabinet on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2011 at which members agreed to the findings and recommendations of the overview and scrutiny report. Recommendation 1 of the overview and scrutiny report was that the findings and recommendations of the report should be incorporated into an updated agreed interagency strategy with timetabled action plans.

#### 2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 The Joint Commissioning Strategy for Older People's Mental Health Services in Cambridgeshire 2011-2014 has been developed in partnership by NHSC, CPFT and CCC in response to the National Dementia Strategy and informed by the member-led review of dementia services and the NHS National Operating Framework. The NHS National Framework has identified improved dementia services as one of the three key priorities for the NHS during 2011/12. The Strategy outlines the commissioning priorities for service improvement for both dementia and for other mental health problems commonly experienced by older people.
- 2.2 The Strategy has been developed in consultation with a range of key stakeholders including both NHS and voluntary sector providers, local authorities, the Local Involvement Network (LINk) and representatives of local service users and their carers and GPs.
- 2.3 An action plan has been developed which forms appendix D of the Strategy.
- 2.4 A recurrent theme throughout the Strategy is the evidence and feedback from local clinicians, patients and their carers that earlier diagnosis and signposting to sources of help and support results in improved outcomes for patients with mental health problems.
- 2.5 Other consistent themes include the need for staff training in a range of settings to raise awareness of dementia as a condition and of its management and for partnership working between the local statutory and voluntary sector services to ensure that people are able to access the appropriate services/s that they need as promptly as possible.
- 2.6 The re-design and roll-out of an Older People's Mental Health Service has therefore been identified as a commissioning priority that

- Promotes greater awareness of dementia and other mental health problems in older people amongst staff working in all health and social care settings including primary care, community and hospital-based health and social care services
- Supports the early identification of older people with a mental health problem and prompts guiding and access to the specialist expertise of both statutory and voluntary services as required
- Offers a broad range of evidence based care, treatment and support options for older people with a mental health problem funded within available resources
- Focuses on an integrated and seamless service across primary and secondary care and across health and social care, i.e. care for a patient is designed with the patient at the centre
- Involves partnership working at all levels, including with the voluntary sector
- Has a strong education and training element to increase the skills of health and social care staff at every level in the management of dementia and other older people's mental health problems and to increase general awareness and early identification of patients with an older person's mental health problem
- Effectively uses existing community resources with prevention, recovery and independence as key aims underlying everything services do.
- 2.7 Progress against the Strategy will be regularly monitored and reviewed by the Older People's Mental Health Steering Group. This is a multi-agency forum that co-ordinates local service planning work for older people with mental health problems. Its membership includes NHS and County Council commissioners and representatives from each of the major local service providers, service users and carers.

#### 3. ALIGNMENT WITH PRIORITIES AND WAYS OF WORKING

## 3.1 Supporting and protecting vulnerable people when they need it most

The Strategy will contribute to this priority by helping older people and those living with ill health or a disability to get the support and care they need – helping people to look after themselves in their own homes for longer without the need for long term care.

## 3.2 Helping people lives healthy and independent lives in their communities

The Strategy will contribute to this priority by helping older people with dementia and their family carers to be in control of their own lives for longer and by promoting choice through our services to help people choose the right options for them.

#### 3.3 Developing the local economy for the benefit of all

Although there are no significant implications for this priority, support offered to family carers within the Strategy may include support to remain in or to regain employment.

## 3.4 Ways of working

The Strategy will contribute to:

- Making sure the right services are provided in the right way by working with partners to ensure care pathways work effectively and by working with providers to develop more person-centred care
- Investing in prevention by helping people experiencing mental health problems including dementia and their family carers to obtain care, support and advice early on, which will increase their independence and choice, help them to help themselves, improve their quality of life and reduce their reliance on public services whilst also reducing cost. It will also promote their health and wellbeing
- Working together by working in partnership with the NHS and other organisations to improve the quality of care and get the best possible value for money.

#### 4. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

## 4.1 Resource and Performance Implications

The funding for support services for people with dementia and their carers is not identified as a discrete budget; it is integral to the funding available for older people (or younger people with mental health issues in the case of people with young onset dementia) and their respective carers. Despite the financial challenges over the next 4 to 5 years, the County Council is committed to supporting and protecting people when they need it most and has approved a budget strategy that balances the provision of prevention/early intervention and more targeted support for people with greater levels of need. Within this context, it is important to ensure that the resources to meet the needs of people with dementia and their carers are deployed in the most effective way.

## 4.2 Statutory, Risk and Legal Implications

There are no significant implications for any of the prompt questions within this category.

## 4.3 Equality and Diversity Implications

Implementation of the inter-agency Strategy and action plan will improve access to services for older people with dementia and their carers.

## 4.4 Engagement and Consultation

The Strategy has been produced in consultation with a range of key stakeholders including both NHS and voluntary sector providers, local authorities, the Local Involvement Network (LINk) and representatives of local service users and their carers. In addition the strategy has been informed by the Overview and Scrutiny member-led review.

| Source Documents  | Location |
|---|----------|
| Cabinet report 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2011 entitled 'Cabinet Response: Member-Led Review of Dementia Services' |          |