

**Sandwell Health and Wellbeing Board  
19<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

<b>Report Topic:</b>	Sandwell Joint Dementia Strategy and Action Plan 2019-25
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<p><b>Link to board priorities</b></p>	<p>The proposed Strategy and Action Plan, in particular, the Promises to Sandwell citizens that form the core of the Strategy, link to all four of the Board’s priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>We will help keep people healthier for longer</b> – the Strategy’s ‘Prevention’ and ‘Living Well’ Promises are focussed on aiming to support people to maximise both their physical and mental health and wellbeing to help slow down the onset of dementia and ensure they live their lives as independently as possible once diagnosed;</li> <li>2. <b>We will help keep people safe and support communities</b> – the Strategy’s ‘Awareness’ Promise aims to ensure that the wider community better understands what dementia is, how to support those living with dementia and their carers / families. The ‘Supporting Families and Carers’ Promise will ensure that carers are supported better to help those cared-for remain independent, and the ‘Reducing the Risk of Crisis’ Promise will ensure all people with dementia receive support to reduce risks and help manage crises where they occur;</li> <li>3. <b>We will work together to join up services</b> – the Strategy is a multi-agency strategy between Sandwell Local Authority, Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG and other partners. Current statutory and voluntary and community sector providers of dementia and support services have been fully involved in the formation of the Strategy and its under arching implementation plan and there are a number of actions that are designed to further strengthen the joining up of services;</li> <li>4. <b>We will work closely with local people, partners and providers of services</b> – people with dementia, their families and carers and key volunteers and professionals have been fully engaged and their views and suggestions incorporated in the Strategy and Action Plan.</li> </ol>
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<p><b>Purpose of Report:</b></p>	<p>To seek Board approval for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a refreshed Sandwell Dementia Strategy and implementation plan for 2019-25</li> <li>- any associated resources required</li> <li>- commitment to ensuring actions are delivered and sustained</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recommendations</b></p>	<p>The Board is requested to:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Approve the refreshed Sandwell Joint Dementia Strategy and implementation plan covering the period to 2025;</li> <li>1.2 Ask a small Sub-Group of the Sandwell Dementia Action Alliance, including representation from people living with dementia as well as those caring for those with dementia, to oversee and monitor delivery of this Action Plan, and to report on this periodically to this Board;</li> <li>1.3 Delegate to the Sandwell Joint Partnership Board the consideration and approval of a costed plan / business case to help resource and deliver the implementation plan - on condition that any transitional and recurring costs are contained within the existing Better Care Fund budget;</li> <li>1.4 Ask Commissioning staff to ensure, as far as possible, for dementia services and support across Sandwell to be aligned with those in West Birmingham.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Key Discussion points:</b></p>	<p>The primary aims of a new Sandwell Strategy would be to offer better and more consistent services and support, better outcomes and clearer access and service pathways for people with dementia, their carers and key professionals, for example GPs, more</p>

	<p>effective general community awareness and prevention, and a better-trained and supported workforce.</p> <p>The core of the Strategy consists of nine “Promises” to people with dementia and their carers, covering the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dementia awareness, information and advice</li> <li>• A knowledgeable and skilled workforce</li> <li>• Prevention</li> <li>• Diagnosis and assessment</li> <li>• Living well in the community</li> <li>• Supporting carers</li> <li>• Reducing the risk of crisis</li> <li>• Living well in long-term care</li> <li>• End of life</li> </ul> <p>The proposed Action Plan converts these 9 Promises into over 50 measurable actions.</p>
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**Implications (e.g. Financial, Statutory etc)**

There is no statutory requirement to produce an area Dementia Strategy, but services and support for people with dementia are a top national priority especially in the light of the projected growth in numbers of older people. There has not been an approved Sandwell Strategy since 2010 and therefore, there is now a pressing need to be able to demonstrate local plans for dementia.

The actions proposed in this report would likely save some public expenditure over time but, more likely, would help to limit the increase in health and care spend in the context of a projected 46% increase in people in Sandwell suffering from dementia over the next 20 years.

Some of the actions will require funding, either temporary or ongoing and it was anticipated that such funding might be met from the Sandwell Better Care Fund (BCF). However, in order to ensure current and future capacity meets demand, a dementia “capacity modelling” workstream has been commissioned, with the aim of producing a costed plan / business case for action plan funding. The Board is requested today to delegate to the officer Joint Partnership Board the

approval of this work, provided that any extra funding can be accommodated within the existing BCF budget.

**What engagement has or will take place with people, partners and providers?**

As referred to above, the Strategy and Action Plan 2019-25 has been the subject of extensive public and partner/stakeholder engagement between February and July 2019, and views and suggestions from this incorporated in the proposed final Strategy and Plan. It is also envisaged that key representatives of service users and carers will help us monitor and ensure delivery of the actions.