

Person centred care and support

Margaret Willcox OBE,
ADASS Immediate Past President

So how do we:

- Deliver a better life for people living with dementia
- Improve dementia awareness
- Ensure services meet the needs of people living with dementia?

When we do need care and support, we need services that are personalised, of good quality, that address our mental, physical, and other forms of wellbeing and are much better joined-up around our individual needs and those of our carers. Personal budgets are central to this approach.

Distinctive, Valued, Personal – our model requires:

The recognition that we are all interdependent and we need to build supportive relationships and resilient communities.

Good information and advice to enable us to look after ourselves and each other, and get the right help at the right time as our needs change.

Services that help us get back on track after illness or support for us to be independent.

We believe

All individuals are entitled to be treated with respect and in a dignified manner.

Individuals and groups should experience no disadvantage or discrimination due to race, creed, colour, gender, status, sexuality, disability or frailty.

All individuals are entitled to the full rights, responsibilities, dignity and respect of citizenship and are to be encouraged to exercise them.

Vulnerable people are entitled to expect protection as citizens, to have their voices heard and to have the means to live purposeful and independent lives.

Families in their many forms, given the economic and social support of the communities, are the foundations of a stable, healthy society which adapts to change.

Social care services must be accountable through local democracy and play their part in achieving cohesive communities inclusive of all.

Those who deliver social care services should be accredited as having the necessary attitudes, knowledge and skills.

So how does that fit with Dementia?

We have heard some stark figures about the anticipated growth in the numbers of people with dementia.

Predicted costs likely to treble to over £50 billion.

On a personal level:

Jeremy Hunt, in his speech on 20 March 2018, noted:
An 85 year old living alone with conditions such as dementia often faces a bewildering range of services and organisations. He told the story of Malcolm Royle whose personal budget meant that he no longer had to go to the day centre 8-5, but could have regular carers when he needed them. He got back control of his life - and we need to help everyone do this if they have the mental and physical capacity to do so. Many people with dementia can do so.

But he also noted that:
“If you develop dementia and require long-term residential care, you are likely to have to use a significant chunk of your savings and the equity in your home to pay for that care. But if you require long-term treatment for cancer you won’t find anything like the same cost.”

Delivering a better life for people with dementia

If you have complex needs, our health and social care system can be confusing and fragmented. Need to ensure the co-ordination and continuity of care for people with dementia.

Every person diagnosed with dementia should have meaningful care following diagnosis.

Improved experience for the person with dementia and their carers. Reduction in hospital admissions, permanent residential admissions and delayed discharges. People maintained in their own home or in the community.

Promoting awareness and understanding of the factors that can increase the risks of dementia.

Building social action by actions of individuals, communities, and health and care professionals.

Improving dementia awareness

Reducing stigma of the many ways dementia affects lives.

Local authorities provide support by their local public health initiatives delivered internally to staff and to other local partners.

1.4 million Dementia Friends who are ensuring that local initiatives flourish.

Services meeting people's needs

Promote the development of dementia friendly communities

Holistic response to the needs of those affected by dementia to explore asset-based support opportunities and signposting as well as formal assessment and Personal Budget opportunities

Councils public health functions working with Public Health England to link into national healthy lifestyle campaigns – to promote and assist in deliver locally

Working with NHS to facilitate timely and safe discharges from hospital – reduce delayed transfer of care

Work with CCG's to develop integrated care in the community – joint health and social care support and planning budgets

ADASS role in Dementia 2020

ADASS involved in the implementation of Dementia 2020 and the associated action plan and roadmap

To support primary and community health services with personalised care plans and multi-agency involvement in care homes

ADASS will encourage its members to

Ensure that contracts specify the minimum standards of training

To provide appropriate signposting to information and advice, and local services who can provide alternative support/user led commissioning

Promote the development of dementia friendly environments in all health and social care settings

Ensure everyone diagnosed with dementia has a personalised care plan which covers health and care

✓ Help people with dementia live fulfilled lives

✓ Meet people's needs

✓ Enhance people's quality of life

Social care has a crucial role

✓ Safeguard people from unacceptable risk and harm

✓ 100,000 social care staff trained in providing better support to people with dementia.

Some examples

Stockton

GPs and other health and social care professionals refer people who are on the GP dementia registers to Proactive Intensive Community Liaison Service for assessment and development of an integrated emergency health care plan to ensure people with dementia and their carers are managing their conditions and receiving sufficient support.

Suffolk

Recommissioned Memory Assessment Services required to engage in early dialogue re post-diagnostic support. Joint (CCG and Suffolk County Council) commissioned Dementia Together service in place to engage with people in the post diagnosis period to offer information, signposting and guidance

Questions

