

Wirral Place Dementia Strategy

2022-2025

Foreword

Wirral Place Dementia Strategy for 2022-2025 reviews the ambitions outlined in the previous strategy and defines the priority areas, actions, and outcomes over the next four years to meet our vision for how dementia care and support is delivered in the borough.

The impact of Covid-19 has affected our ability as a system to meet ambitions outlined in the 2019-2022 strategy.

Since the pandemic began people living with dementia have been disproportionately affected, with dementia being the most common pre-existing condition for people who have died from COVID -19¹. The impact of the pandemic on people living with dementia and their carers includes, but is not limited to, the following: increase in barriers to diagnosis; suspension of community support services which offer much needed post diagnostic support; delays in discharges from acute to community settings and being unable to visit and support loved ones in acute care and care homes.

The pandemic has also had a huge detrimental impact on staff involved in providing health and care support services. I would like to take this opportunity to express a sincere thank you to everyone who has worked and continues to work through these challenging times and for the commitment and dedication of staff across health, social care and the third sector in responding to the demands of the pandemic.

The focus of this strategy is structured around NHS England's Well Pathway for Dementia² and focuses on recovery from Covid-19, and better integration across health and care services to deliver the best outcomes for our population.



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Wirral Clinical Director

¹ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/bulletins/deathsinvolvingcovid19englandandwales/latest#pre-existing-conditions-of-people-who-died-with-covid-19>

² <https://www.england.nhs.uk/mentalhealth/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2016/03/dementia-well-pathway.pdf>

Introduction and Background

Dementia is used to describe symptoms of cognitive decline usually progressive in nature. Symptoms may include a decline in memory, reasoning, communication skills, the ability to perform daily activities and mood. Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia. Dementia mainly affects those 65+ and the likelihood of developing dementia increases with age. People living with dementia often have other long-term health conditions and co-morbidities such as hypertension, diabetes and depression. Dementia can be a devastating condition, however with the right support it's possible for people with dementia and their carers to lead positive, fulfilling lives.

This strategy sets out the strategic vision for Wirral to; recover as a system from the impact of Covid-19, reduce the risk/delay of the onset of dementia via preventative measures, support people to live well with dementia (including carers) within their local communities, ensure appropriate planning and support is in place so people are well cared for when the condition escalates. This strategy has been developed in partnership with health care professionals working with people living with dementia across statutory and non-statutory services as well as feedback from people living with dementia, including carers and families. This strategy and its associated action plans do not stand alone. Dementia is a key priority nationally as identified in the NHS Long Term Plan³ and Mental Health Implementation Plan⁴ and Wirral's Frailty Strategy.

Our Vision

'For Wirral to be a borough which supports and is inclusive of people with dementia and their carers so they can enjoy the best possible quality of life and remain independent for longer. When people do need care, this will be high quality, person centred and delivered seamlessly across the health and social care system.'

Local context

Wirral has a population of over 330,000 and is an area with significant inequalities, especially in relation to deprivation which is most prevalent in East Wirral; this leads to greater health inequalities and poorer health outcomes. In addition, Wirral has an older age profile when compared to the national average, especially those aged 65+. One in three people over 65 in Wirral live alone, which equates to around 24,000 people. Currently there are over 3000 people aged 65+ who have a diagnosis of dementia in Wirral (although we know there are people living with dementia without a diagnosis). Projections estimate that the total numbers of people living with dementia in Wirral will more than double to over 7000 by 2035⁵.

³ <https://www.longtermplan.nhs.uk/>

⁴ <https://www.longtermplan.nhs.uk/publication/nhs-mental-health-implementation-plan-2019-20-2023-24/>

⁵ <https://www.wirralintelligenceservice.org/jsna/dementia/>

Preventing Well

Reducing the risk or delaying the onset is influenced by a range of lifestyle factors. A healthy lifestyle helps to lower the risk of dementia and supports people to live longer, healthier lives. Vascular dementia is the second most common form of dementia and has the same risk factors as heart disease and stroke.

Area	Action	Timescales	Outcome
<p>Monitor the number of residents that have had an NHS Health Check aimed at adults aged 40-74. The health check is designed to spot early signs of dementia, stroke, kidney disease, heart disease and type 2 diabetes.</p>	<p>Monitor and aim to increase the number of people aged 40+ who are identified as a 'carer' on their GP record and the number who have had an NHS Health Check.</p> <p>Encourage and work with GPs to provide information on dementia to people aged 50+ during their NHS Health Check.</p>	<p>2022/23</p>	<p>Detect negative lifestyle behaviours early and inform people about their lifestyle choice to improve people's health at an early stage, when changes in behaviour can have a real impact long term on wellbeing.</p>
<p>Raise awareness of the risk factors associated with dementia and actions that may reduce the likelihood of an individual developing dementia among healthcare professionals.</p>	<p>Encourage professionals within services related to dementia risk factors, such as Diabetes, CVD and Weight Management, to embed dementia prevention messages with patients aged 50+.</p> <p>Communications will be shared to relevant healthcare staff regarding the importance of providing dementia prevention information to people who are assessed "at risk".</p> <p>Communications will be distributed regarding the importance of using the Making Every Contact Count (MECC) approach to increase opportunities to encourage people to think about making healthy lifestyle changes.</p>	<p>2022/2025</p>	<p>Increased awareness of how making positive changes to their lifestyle can reduce the risk of developing dementia in the future as well as their pre-existing conditions.</p>
<p>All age healthy lifestyle promotion</p>	<p>Support the promotion Public Health's "One You" campaign, to raise awareness of healthy lifestyles and to support people to make changes to the way they manage their health and wellbeing.</p>	<p>2022/2025</p>	<p>Encourage residents to take more responsibility for their health, increase awareness of ways of improving their health and reducing risk factors</p>

	<p>Link in with the development of the wider Children’s and Families Strategy for shared working opportunities in order to strengthen dementia education, prevention and early intervention messages with children and young people to encourage healthy lifestyle choices at a young age.</p>		<p>associated with dementia and other long-term conditions.</p> <p>As the number of people living with dementia increases, more children and young people are likely to be affected by dementia. Educating young people about dementia will promote healthy lifestyle choices and support understanding and change attitudes towards dementia, creating a dementia friendly generation.</p>
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Diagnosing Well

Diagnosis is usually the first step in someone’s dementia journey and has been hugely impacted by the pandemic. It is well reported locally and nationally that people have delayed seeking a diagnosis for variety of reasons including; the impact of lockdown and restrictions meant that people weren’t seeing family or friends who may have encouraged a GP consultation for an initial assessment; fear of attending a healthcare setting due to risk of infection; re-deployment of healthcare staff to support with acute settings. As a result, nationally there are long waits to access an assessment and people are presenting with more complex needs than they were pre-pandemic.

Nationally the target for dementia diagnosis rates (DDR) is 66.7% of estimated dementia prevalence. Prior to the pandemic Wirral consistently achieved this target. Although it is important to recover the DDR, the drive to meet the target must not be viewed as an end in itself; improving the support available to people once they have been given the diagnosis is equally, if not more important. The Wirral system want to see more people being diagnosed earlier and less people diagnosed at a time of crisis. We want to reduce the backlog for waits for an assessment with the ambition for a patients first appointment to be seen within 6 weeks from referral. We recognise that services may need to be redesigned so that people with dementia are diagnosed in a timelier manner with access to post diagnostic support, enabling them to live as well as possible with dementia.

The ‘diagnosing well’ actions of this strategy will be a priority of the Wirral Dementia System Board over 2022-2025.

Area	Action	Timescales	Outcome
Recover and begin to consistently maintain the national diagnosis target of 66.7% of the suspected population with dementia	Monitor diagnosis data and referrals into the memory assessment service per GP practice/PCNs. Work with practices/PCNs who may not be reaching the national target to better understand reasons why, and any extra support required to improve DDR.	End of 2023	Diagnosing and supporting people to begin the diagnosis journey earlier will mean patients and carers are better informed about support available to help them manage the condition and plan for the future.
	Those who are under GP will be invited to regular reviews to discuss any changes in symptoms, mood, prescribed medication and signposting to support services.		Regular reviews are important so any changes in behaviour/ symptoms can be supported before situations escalate and become unmanageable.
	Baseline the number of people with a dementia diagnosis who are entitled to GP reviews and the percentage of people who are invited and attend. Once baseline is established system colleagues will work together to understand how best to increase review attendance.		People with dementia under the care of their GP will have regular reviews and will feel supported with managing their condition throughout the dementia diagnosis journey.

	<p>Pilot (with the support of Secondary Care) an assessment clinic in Primary Care to help support the waits for assessment and offer a more sustainable, integrated dementia diagnosis service for the future.</p> <p>Secondary Care to continue to provide appropriate dementia training to Primary Care staff including GPs, Practice Nurses and other healthcare professionals, as outlined in the Locally Enhanced Service contract.</p>		<p>Upskill Primary Care health and care professionals so they become more confident in identifying the signs of dementia and appropriate care pathway.</p> <p>This will result in quicker identification of suspected dementia, earlier diagnosis for individuals, and quicker referrals into post diagnostic support.</p>
<p>Waiting times between referral from a GP to initial assessment by NHS specialist services for dementia to be in line with NICE guidance i.e. 6 weeks</p>	<p>As a result of the waits for a diagnosis, funding was received to specifically address the waits for an assessment. Wirral used this funding to increase staffing within the memory assessment service via the admiral nurses that are affiliated with Age UK Wirral. Outcomes from this unique and innovative partnership will be fully evaluated, however it is hoped that this commission can continue until the back log for an assessment is reduced to a manageable level. This resource can then be flexed across the system to support other stretched areas e.g., discharges and post diagnostic care in the community.</p>	<p>End of 2023</p>	<p>Waiting for a diagnosis is an unsettling time for patients and carers and family members. Diagnosing in line with national guidance will reduce the longevity of these emotions experienced by those going through this process. It will also ensure that people with dementia and carers are provided with and signposted to the support they need to manage the condition earlier.</p>
<p>Ensure there is appropriate support information available from presentation through to diagnosis, for the person diagnosed as well as carers, family and friends</p>	<p>There should be access to accurate, clear information and advice about the signs and symptoms of dementia in GP Practices and other local support services available in the community, including online e.g., Wirral Infobank⁶. Alzheimer's Society⁷ produce a range of information which is regularly updated and follows best practice guidelines. Patients and carers to be signposted to these resources as appropriate.</p>	<p>2022-2025</p>	<p>Members of the public and health professionals will have access to information, which is relevant and up to date, to enable better understanding of what support is available from the NHS, local authority, emergency services and wider community, including third, voluntary and charity sector.</p>

⁶ <https://www.wirralinfobank.co.uk/>

⁷ <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/>

<p>Improve diagnostic rates for BAME and LD communities</p>	<p>Better engage with Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) and Learning Disability (LD) communities by working alongside local services, such as Wirral Multicultural Organisation, Wirral Change and Mencap, to increase awareness and reduce stigma. Promote the Dementia Champion scheme and support staff to access dementia awareness training.</p>	<p>2023/24</p>	<p>People from the BAME and LD community will be supported by staff to access health services for suspected dementia.</p>
	<p>Establish a baseline and monitor the number of people diagnosed from BAME and LD communities. Work with BAME and LD services to determine how to increase DDR in this cohort and review whether the current assessments are appropriate, and what steps can be taken to better support people from these communities during the assessment process.</p>		<p>Identify more people from BAME and LD community at an earlier stage so they can access appropriate support.</p>
	<p>Dementia support information produced at a local level should be fully accessible e.g., available in different languages, 'easy read' format etc. A one-page dementia information sheet to be developed and translated into the top 3 most spoken languages in Wirral (other than English) as well as an easy read version.</p>		<p>To ensure Wirral's healthcare services are inclusive of all communities.</p>
<p>Carers to be identified early</p>	<p>Primary and Secondary Care professionals to identify carers of people with dementia and (with consent) record them on the Carers Register as early as possible.</p>	<p>2023/24</p>	<p>Identifying carers early enables professionals to offer support, advice, signposting and invite to NHS Health Checks.</p>

Supporting Well

We recognise that most people with dementia live at home and are supported by family members, carers and friends. We also recognise that many people want and are happy to care for their loved ones, however when extra support is required this needs to be easily accessible and person centred.

The Wirral system needs to better integrate to facilitate improved access to the right care and support based on patient and carer individual needs. Care should be delivered in the community for as long as its safely possible. When people do need crisis care, care should be immediate, responsive and of high quality.

The ‘supporting well’ actions of this strategy will be a priority of the Wirral Dementia System Board over 2022-2025.

Area	Action	Timescales	Outcome
<p>Provide more enhanced post diagnostic support for people with dementia living in the community as outlined in the NHS Long Term Plan</p>	<p>The NHS Long Term Plan outlines that there will be an increased focus on supporting people with dementia in the community through community multidisciplinary teams aligned with primary care networks (PCN) and increased working with the voluntary sector. As a system we need to better support people in the community and in care homes to provide more appropriate support to reduce avoidable hospital admissions.</p> <p>A Wirral practice is piloting an initiative with Alzheimer’s Society in terms of a dementia support advisor role. The role includes providing information, engagement calls, practical advice and a face-to-face offer for those people who require further support. Learnings from this pilot will be evaluated and reviewed so as system we can look to provide more specialist post-diagnostic support in the community as outlined in NHS LTP. The Wirral post diagnostic support services will link in with the diagnosis pilot models outlined under ‘diagnosing well’.</p>	<p>Beginning of 2024</p>	<p>People will be provided with enhanced post diagnostic and specialist community support to better enable people to manage their dementia in their own home, in the community for as long as possible and retain independence through a person-centred model.</p> <p>Seamless transitions between different health and care services which support dementia care will result in an improved experience for people living with dementia and their carers. People will feel confident in being able to navigate dementia care services.</p>
<p>Crisis care support</p>	<p>The Wirral health and care system need to develop options to deliver better access to crisis support for people with dementia, using learnings and outcomes from other areas</p>	<p>2024/25</p>	<p>Provide enhanced support for people with dementia in the community at times of crisis.</p>

	<p>with dedicated dementia crisis teams e.g. Dementia Crisis and Prevention Team (DCPT), provided by Greater Manchester Mental Health FT.</p> <p>Promote the local crisis care telephone line wherever possible with staff across statutory and non-statutory organisations and in the community.</p> <p>Promote and encourage the use of the Herbert Protocol initiative adopted by Merseyside Police and other forces for missing or vulnerable people, via system communication channels.</p>		<p>Reduce the number of crisis cases including, inappropriate and avoidable hospital admissions for people with dementia.</p> <p>People with dementia and their carers will use this service in a crisis and information, advice and support provided will appropriate for individual cases.</p> <p>The Herbert Protocol provides the police with access to important information, helping to speed up and simplify a response, so that the search can be targeted appropriately and effectively, and people can be found sooner.</p>
<p>Hospital discharges should be dignified and timely with quality, person centred care support packages in place</p>	<p>As a system we need to review the discharge pathways for people with dementia from a hospital setting to peoples own homes, care homes, transfer to assess beds and reablement or rehabilitation services including third sector options as part of the discharge pathway. Input into any redesign regarding services/care pathways will be sought from statutory and non-statutory organisations involved in dementia care. This work will be informed by the feedback received from people with dementia and their families and carers.</p>	<p>2024/25</p>	<p>People with dementia will experience timely and appropriate discharges from hospital. People will be placed in the right care settings for their needs first time which is less distressing for the patient and family member.</p>
<p>Support carers to care for their loved ones and to manage their emotional wellbeing.</p>	<p>Health and social care professionals will involve people with dementia and carers in planning their care and review care plans at regular intervals or when an individual's dementia related behaviour has deteriorated. People with dementia and carers will be provided with information on accessing post diagnostic support.</p> <p>Carers will be signposted to local Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) services for counselling if they disclose that they are facing difficulties with their</p>	<p>2023/24</p>	<p>People with dementia and their carers will feel empowered and have increased understanding, choice and control over their care.</p> <p>Carers will feel supported, well informed and confident in their ability to care for their loved one and support them to care for longer.</p> <p>Carers will feel supported in terms of their own health and mental wellbeing.</p>

	<p>mental health. Carers can self-refer themselves to IAPT or their GP can refer on their behalf. The number of carers who are accessing IAPT services will be monitored.</p> <p>Carers will be provided with information regarding support available to them in the community such as peer support groups, dementia awareness training, guidance on Carers Assessments and applying for carer’s allowance. Information should be accessible with regards to personalised health budgets, direct payments, NHS Continuing Healthcare, Section 117 Aftercare and council funded social care.</p>		
<p>Increase training and education provided to professionals who engage with people living with dementia on a day-to-day basis</p>	<p>Map the training offer for dementia that is provided on a local and national level for our services including General Practice, Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Wirral Community Health & Care NHS Foundation Trust, Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, Northwest Ambulance Service, Care Homes and third sector partners.</p> <p>Discuss with key services how this training can be rolled out to include a wider audience of health and care professionals. The design and development of future staff training plans will look to include contributions from people with dementia and carers as experts by experience.</p> <p>Include the requirement to deliver dementia training in relevant contracts when commissioning services.</p> <p>Promote the ‘forget me not’ scheme with health and social care professionals in order to raise awareness across health and social care professionals to support staff to more easily identify people with dementia who may need extra support when making home visits. Communications</p>	<p>2023/24</p>	<p>Caring for people with dementia can be challenging. Therefore, health and care professionals will be better trained to improve their knowledge, confidence and attitudes in order to change behaviours and practice that can lead to better care and outcomes for people with dementia.</p>

	will be sent to primary care and secondary care to support awareness of this initiative.		
Promote and enhance the use of assistive technology , including new technologies that will help keep people safe and independent for longer	Establish a baseline of existing users and continue to develop and monitor the assistive technology provision, increase awareness of the availability and benefits of assistive technology for people with dementia as a support option. Ensure outcomes for people with dementia are measured appropriately.	2024/25	Assistive technology can support people with dementia to remain independent, safe in their own home and socially involved, whilst having a positive impact on the wellbeing of carers and families. Assistive technology can also provide reassurance to carers and support with daily caring tasks.
Ensure that people living with dementia and carers feel safe and are protected from abuse	<p>Review safeguarding procedures for adults with dementia to prevent abuse and work alongside statutory and non-statutory organisations to ensure that these standards are embedded within local safeguarding frameworks and the work of the local safeguarding board.</p> <p>Ensure that the least restrictive interventions are used including the use of restraint, 1-1's, seclusion, rapid tranquilisation and preventing a patient from accessing outdoor space, and that the use of these methods are reduced.</p> <p>Always consider the persons rights, freedoms and independence.</p>	2022/2025	<p>People with dementia and carers will feel safe and protected from abuse.</p> <p>People will make reasonable steps to identify the possibility of abuse and prevent it before it occurs; and respond appropriately to any allegation of abuse.</p> <p>The least restrictive option will be used, which considers people's rights and freedoms and gives them as much free will and independence as possible.</p> <p>People who need it, will have a Liberty Protection Safeguards authorisation, which will deliver improved outcomes for those who are or who need to be deprived of their liberty. The Liberty Protection Safeguards have been designed to put the rights and wishes of those people at the centre of all decision-making on deprivation of liberty.</p>

Living Well

People who live with dementia should be supported to remain as independent as possible and involve themselves in activities/hobbies in environments that are well designed and supportive of their needs (as many did pre-pandemic). Those that are working at the time of diagnosis (including carers) should be supported to maintain their employment for as long as possible. Our communities and workplaces should work together to adapt/adjust for people with dementia or caring responsibilities. Simple changes to existing services and awareness raising for those who come into day-to-day contact with people with dementia, such as staff working in libraries, pharmacies, leisure centres etc., can help people with dementia feel more confident and welcome.

The ‘living well’ element of the pathway will be led and championed by Wirral’s Dementia Action Alliance⁸ and feed into the Dementia Strategy Board.

Area	Action	Timescales	Outcome
Wirral’s aim to achieve the status of being a Dementia Friendly’ community which is part of the national Dementia Friendly Communities initiative run by the Alzheimer’s Society	Maintain Wirral’s “ <i>working to become dementia friendly</i> ” status, with focus on recruitment and training of more dementia friends and champions in the community. Consider hosting dementia friends and champion training on Wirral to support this particularly across the faith sector, BAME, LD and education.	End of 2024	People with dementia on Wirral will feel more understood, respected and valued as a member of their community. All areas of the health and care system will be guided to adopt dementia friendly principles so people with dementia and carers will be able to access health and social care without barriers.
Support the re-introduction and promotion of activities within neighbourhoods/localities (face to face and online)	Explore, support and promote activities and initiatives on Wirral aimed at increasing cognitive stimulation and reducing social isolation for people with dementia, noting that some people will prefer to continue to socialise remotely.	2022/23	People with dementia will experience reduced feelings of loneliness and isolation and feel more confident in engaging with community activities, having a positive impact on health and wellbeing.

⁸ https://www.dementiaaction.org.uk/local_alliances/15366_wirral_daa

	<p>Support services to develop specific peer support groups for those diagnosed who are under 65 (inc carers) as their support often differ from people diagnosed with dementia over age 65.</p> <p>Ensure that statutory services and third sector organisations know where and when to signpost people so they can find out more about what services are offered within the neighbourhoods/localities.</p>		
Support people to maintain their own identity and independence	Work with local businesses on Wirral to encourage the development of dementia friendly policies and practices. This includes making reasonable adjustments for people with dementia to maintain their employment where possible, identifying employees who are carers and supporting carers with flexible working hours to enable them to continue working.	2022/2025	People diagnosed with dementia and carers will be able to stay in employment for longer, supporting them to retain independence which will improve carer wellbeing.
Wirral to have greater availability of community housing options suitable for people with dementia	Wirral Council colleagues to ensure that future housing or community development plans (such as the planned re-generation of Birkenhead town centre and ‘Wirral waters’) include consideration of dementia friendly housing options including dementia care homes and dementia friendly buildings.	2022/2025	As the numbers of people living with dementia on Wirral increases, there will be adequate dementia friendly housing provision that will meet this need in order to support people to live well with dementia in their community.
	Greater information and clarity to be provided to people with dementia and carers to support them access housing options that meet their care and lifestyle needs.		People with dementia and their carers will receive information about housing and care home options available to them to support them to make decisions about the future in advance.

Planning Well

Following a diagnosis, putting legal, financial and end-of-life plans in place is one of the most important steps to take. Devising a plan in the early stage of a diagnosis can be empowering, allowing the person with dementia to participate in making decisions that help family and friends know their wishes. People should be supported to plan early, whilst they are still able to make decisions and should be supported to express their wishes at every step. The ‘planning well’ aspect of this strategy will be championed and led by Wirral’s Palliative and End of Life Care Partnership (PEOLC).

Area	Action	Timescales	Outcome
<p>People with dementia and their carers will be aware of the importance of advance care and end of life (EOL) planning. This includes people having their preferred place of death recorded in their patient record/EOL planning and upheld wherever possible.</p>	<p>People with dementia and their carers will be offered information by appropriate health and care professionals regarding advance care and end of life (EOL) planning in a sensitive and timely manner and be supported/signposted to put these plans in place.</p> <p>EOL plans and wishes to be recorded in the patients notes and shared with relevant professionals involved in their care e.g., specialist nurses and doctors.</p> <p>Establish a baseline and monitor the number of EOL plans recorded in patient records.</p> <p>Support the development of community-based services e.g. Hospice at Home and enhanced Domiciliary Care to support those that wish to die at home.</p>	2022/23	<p>People with dementia will have EOL plans in place while they still have capacity to make such decisions, in order to provide them and their carers with peace of mind that their wishes will be adhered to wherever possible.</p> <p>Increase EOL plans recorded in patient records. Health and social care professionals will be aware of an individual’s end of life plan which will enable them to carry out care in line with the person’s wishes.</p> <p>An increased amount of people with dementia who have recorded their home as their preferred place of death will be supported to do so wherever possible.</p>
<p>Education and training of health and social care staff in end of life planning and end of life care</p>	<p>Review current and potential training options regarding EOL care and EOL planning with people with dementia and carers.</p>	2023/24	<p>Health and care staff will feel confident in raising and discussing EOL planning with people with dementia.</p>
	<p>Health, social care and care home staff to receive training to support them to identify when a person with dementia is nearing EOL and provide appropriate and compassionate EOL care to individuals in line with NICE guidelines.</p>		<p>Health and care staff will be able to better identify when an individual with dementia is approaching their EOL. This will lead to an improvement in EOL care, including assessment, management of symptoms and pain.</p>

<p>Carers to be provided with emotional support when a person with dementia is nearing EOL, and signposted to bereavement counselling</p>	<p>Ensure that carers are signposted to local third sector organisations offering bereavement support and to Improving Access to Psychological Therapies services (IAPT) for bereavement counselling if appropriate. Monitor the numbers of carers of people with dementia accessing IAPT bereavement services.</p>	<p>End of 2022</p>	<p>Carers will have access to high quality bereavement support in a timely manner.</p>
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Conclusion

This strategy sets out the Wirral's system ambition to recover from the impact of Covid-19 and establish Wirral as a place where people who are living with or affected by dementia can truly 'live well'. The strategy and action plans will develop as goals are achieved and will respond appropriately to change. We will be responsive to the information we gain through the involvement of organisations, groups and local people, particularly those living with and affected by dementia (including carers) as well as national mandates.

As a result of this strategy being formulated, a robust programme of work with specific actions and timescales will be developed which aims to deliver on the pillars identified in this strategy.