

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 5

COUNCIL

7 SEPTEMBER 2016

**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2015/2016 –
DEMENTIA FRIENDLY MIDDLESBROUGH**

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Purpose

1. To provide a summary of the Director of Public Health annual report and outline the key recommendations arising from the report.

Background

2. The Director of Public Health has a statutory duty to produce an annual report that describes key health issues for their local population and makes recommendations for addressing them.
3. This will be the third annual report since the transfer of public health from the NHS to local government. In 2013/14 the report was entitled Moving Upstream and focused on the strengthening the role of prevention and early intervention, the transfer of public health from the NHS to local government and also showcased a number of examples of good practice.
4. The 2014/15 DPH annual report focused on mental health and emotional wellbeing across the life course from pre-birth through to adult and old age. The report summarised the key challenges faced by the local population, looked at the latest research evidence and policy and showcased examples of good practice.

Dementia Friendly Middlesbrough – 2015/16

5. The 2015/16 report focuses on dementia as a single issue to ensure it is given the level of attention it deserves. Dementia is a key priority for Middlesbrough and it has gained momentum recently with the town achieving dementia friendly status. As highlighted in the report however, whilst this recognises the significant amount

of work achieved to date, there is more to be done in order to improve the lives of those living with dementia and to make it possible for people to **live well** with the condition.

6. The report sets out the scale of the problem locally, discusses preventable causes of dementia, early diagnosis and effective management and support of the condition, explores what it means to create dementia friendly environments and how to support people with dementia to achieve a good death. It makes a number of recommendations for improvement in a number of areas.

7. The table below summarises the ten key recommendations from the report.

Summary of recommendations	
Dementia in Middlesbrough – Scale of the Challenge	
1	Carry out a detailed Dementia Health Needs Assessment to inform the development of a dementia strategy and action plan. The needs assessment will need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the needs of vulnerable groups are understood eg BME populations • Consider future service planning to take into account the population projections and the impact dementia will have on demand for health, social care and other related services • Ensure the patient and carer voice is at the heart of service design, commissioning, improvement and transformation to ensure people with dementia maintain their quality of life
2	Ensure better knowledge and awareness of dementia to help tackle stigma and improve understanding amongst communities and professionals
3	Strengthen working arrangements for the Dementia Collaborative to ensure it is a strategic forum for multi-agency working and co-production between agencies, patients and carers across the dementia pathway from prevention to end of life care
Tackling preventable causes of dementia – Preventing well	
4	Given that some types of dementia and a number of long term conditions share common risk and protective factors, prevention programmes need to be framed and delivered with a holistic approach to improving health and wellbeing that supports the promotion of good brain and heart health throughout life
5	Local public awareness campaigns developed to raise levels of understanding on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preventable causes of dementia and promoting behaviour change • Improve uptake of prevention and early intervention public health programmes, early identification and effective management of cardiovascular diseases
Early Diagnosis and effective management of dementia – Diagnosing Well	
6	Increasing dementia diagnosis needs to remain a priority so that individuals are provided with the support they need through:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling variation in diagnosis rates between GP practices • Increasing awareness of early diagnosis services • Improve diagnostic tests for people at risk of dementia such as stroke patients • Ensure diagnostic capacity and effective support is in place of patients, families and carers following dementia diagnosis
Living Well with Dementia	
7	<p>Ensure people with dementia feel safe and accepted members of the community in Middlesbrough by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing the health and wellbeing needs (physical and mental health) of people with dementia, their families and carers • Improving access to services and peer support groups and community groups • Increasing the role of housing sector in promoting independent living through increasing joint planning and service delivery for availability of appropriate housing, equipment and adaptations • Embracing telecare and assistive technology to support independent living
Dying Well	
8	Improve the early identification of patients across all diagnoses with end of life care needs, allowing timely access to advanced palliative and end of life care planning
9	Work collaboratively with health and social care, to ensure that people living with dementia die with dignity and in the place of their choice
Creating Dementia Friendly Environments	
10	<p>It is important for Middlesbrough to continue with the work to create dementia friendly communities and environments so that people with dementia, their families and carers feel safe and accepted members of the community. This will be achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the number of organisations and community settings that are dementia friendly • Increasing the number of Dementia Friends and Dementia Champions across a range of organisations and communities • Making services accessible to people living with dementia and carers • Improved access to services and peer support groups and enable community groups to welcome people with dementia and their carers

Next Steps

8. Hard copies of the report have been distributed to a range of key partners and stakeholders. The full report will be available in electronic format via the council and NHS South Tees CCG websites.
9. An implementation plan has been drafted to ensure the recommendations are taken forward. Responsibility for the monitoring of this action plan will sit with the

Public Health Delivery Partnership – sub group of the Middlesbrough Health and Well Being Board.

Recommendations

10. It is recommended that Council note the DPH annual report for 2015-16 and approve the recommendations.

Lead Officer:

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