



Equality Impact Assessment

August 2022

Section 1: Your details

EIA lead Officer: Peter Loosemore

Email address: peterloosemore@wirral.gov.uk

Head of Section: Rose Boylan

Chief Officer: Mike Callon

Directorate: Corporate Office

Date: 18/08/2022

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

Wirral Dementia Strategy 2022 - 2025

Section 2a: Will this EIA be submitted to a Cabinet or Committee meeting?

Yes / No

If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date

Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee, 26 September 2022

.....

Please select hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website (please select appropriate link & delete those not relevant)

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments/equality-impact-assessments-january-202-6>

Section 3: Does the proposal have the potential to affect..... (please tick relevant boxes)

- ✓ **Services**
- ✓ **The workforce**
- ✓ **Communities**
- ✓ **Other** NHS Partners and the Voluntary & Community Sector

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

- None** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 4:

Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any protected groups (age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation)?

You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals.

Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any potential negative impact.

Which group(s) of people could be affected	Potential positive or negative impact	Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact	Lead person	Timescale	Resource implications
Age	Dementia is more common in people over the age of 65, but it can also affect younger people. Early onset of the disease can begin when people are in their 30s, 40s, or 50s. With treatment and early diagnosis, the progression of the disease can be slowed.	Two of the Themes of the Dementia Strategy are Preventing Well and Diagnosing Well . Both priorities are aimed at mitigating the effects of age on the diagnosis of dementia.	Chair of Preventing Well Task and Finish Group. Chair of Diagnosing Well Task and Finish Group	2022 -2025	Most of the Actions in the Preventing Well theme are aligned with existing Public Health priorities. Some Officer time may need to attend and prepare for Task and Finish group meetings.
	Effect of COVID 19 and lockdown on		Chair of	2022 2023	

	<p>symptoms of dementia</p> <p>The most common symptoms that People Living With Dementia (PLWD) reported having increased since lockdown began were difficulty concentrating (48%), memory loss (47%), and agitation / restlessness (45%)</p> <p>PLWD living alone were more likely to report an increase in their symptoms during lockdown compared to PLWD living with others. In particular: Memory loss (54% v 42%) and difficulty in reading or writing (35% v 24%)</p> <p>Only 1 in 5 reported having seen no difference their dementia since lockdown Began</p> <p>The most common symptoms that carers reported, in their loved one with dementia, that have increased since lockdown began were memory loss (54%), difficulty concentrating (47%), and agitation / restlessness (49%) and stress or depression (46%)</p> <p>Carers living with their loved one with dementia are significantly more likely to notice any increased or new symptoms compared to those living away</p>		<p>Living Well Partnership</p> <p>As services and treatments return to 'normal' particular attention will be paid to ensuring services for people with dementia return to pre pandemic levels.</p>		
Disability	<p>People with learning disabilities are at increased risk of developing dementia as they age, compared with others without a learning</p>	<p>Wirral Dementia Strategy highlights the challenges faced by people with a</p>		<p>2022 -2025</p>	

	<p>disability, although the figures vary according to how the diagnosis is made.</p> <p>About 1 in 5 people with a learning disability who are over the age of 65 will develop dementia. People with learning disabilities who develop dementia generally do so at a younger age. This is particularly the case for people with Down's syndrome: a third of people with Down's syndrome develop dementia in their 50s.</p>	<p>learning disability when diagnosed with dementia. A baseline figure of how many people with a Learning Disability are diagnosed with Dementia. A one-page specialist information sheet will be produced and all information around Dementia will also be produced in an Easy Read Format.</p>			
Race	<p>A study, published in Clinical Epidemiology on 8 August 2018), analysed data from 2,511,681 people, including 66,083 who had a dementia diagnosis, from 2007-2015.</p> <p>This showed that while dementia prevalence may be higher amongst black men than white men, they are less likely to receive a dementia diagnosis.</p> <p>Several studies have shown that knowledge of the causes, symptoms and consequences of dementia can be more limited among south Asian people in the UK. This can lead to problems in making a diagnosis and delivering the right treatment.</p>	<p>Improve diagnostic rates for BAME and LD communities</p> <p>Establish a baseline and monitor the number of people diagnosed with dementia from BAME and communities.</p> <p>Once this baseline has been gathered, work with BAME communities and services to determine how to increase dementia diagnosis rates in this cohort and review with clinicians whether the current assessments are appropriate and what steps can be taken to better support people from BAME during the assessment</p>	<p>Progress will be monitored by the Chair of the Diagnosing Well Task and Finish Group.</p>	<p>2022 -2025</p>	<p>Some Officer time may be required to engage with the BAME community to establish baseline figure.</p>

		<p>process.</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>			
Sex	<p>Women are more likely than men to develop dementia in their lifetimes. One of the main reasons for the greater prevalence of dementia among women is the longer life expectancy of women 65% of people living with dementia are women. Consequently 35% are men.</p>	<p>Wirral Place and GPs are very aware of the prevalence of Dementia amongst Women and although the Dementia Strategy does not specifically highlight the issue, services already tend to be designed to deal with the higher numbers of women.</p>	<p>Progress will be monitored by the Chair of the Diagnosing Well Task and Finish Group.</p>	2022 -2025	
Sexual Orientation	<p>The Alzheimer's Society produce advice for looking after LGBT sufferers of dementia at: https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/get-support/help-dementia-care/lgbt-dementia-care-expressing-identity</p>			2022-2025	

Section 4a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

Wirral's Dementia Strategy Board was re-established in January 2018 and is currently being restructured after the long term Chair, a local GP, retired. The Head of Mental Health Commissioning at Wirral Place has taken over the chairing of this forum going forward.

The Wirral Dementia Strategy will be reviewed and updated (at least every two years) considering feedback from service users, their families and carers, the evolving needs of our community and national mandates.

This will involve ongoing engagement with people with dementia, families, carers and health and care professionals throughout the implementation of this strategy to inform the reviews and updates

Section 4b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?

Having a cross-organisation joint Strategy for this area can only provide a positive short, medium and long-term impact to Wirral residents suffering from Dementia, their carers and family.

Section 5: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?

<https://www.dementiastatistics.org/statistics/prevalence-by-gender-in-the-uk/>

<https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/dementia-profile-april-2019-data-update>

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

[The Impact of COVID-19 on People Affected By Dementia \(alzheimers.org.uk\)](#)

Section 6: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?

Yes

If 'no' please state your reason(s) why:

(please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 7: How will consultation take place and by when?

Ongoing engagement will take place with people with dementia, families, carers and health and care professionals throughout the implementation of this strategy to inform the reviews and updates. This will be carried out by Health Care professional and through the Dementia Strategy Board.

Specific consultation will take place with the Learning Disability and BAME, to increase awareness and reduce the stigma of dementia.

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it's legal publishing requirements. The EIA will need to be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 4. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing.

Section 8: Have you remembered to:

- a) **Select appropriate directorate hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published** (section 2a)
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts?** (section 4)
- c) **Send this EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 4 once consultation has taken place and sent your updated EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**