



OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY VIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

TO CABINET 13 JUNE 2018

Report Title	RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – DEMENTIA FRIENDLY TOWN
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Agenda Status: PUBLIC

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To present to Cabinet for consideration, the comments and recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the findings of the Scrutiny Review – Dementia Friendly Town.
- 1.2 All Overview and Scrutiny review reports are published on the Overview and Scrutiny page on the Council's Webpage and a copy of this report can be located: www.northampton.gov.uk/scrutiny - Previous Scrutiny Reviews.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommends to Cabinet that:
 - 2.1.1 Northampton Borough Council works towards "Dementia Friendly Status for Northampton" being achieved. A Dementia Friends Champion is nominated to lead on this work.
 - 2.1.2 A Dementia Forum is established. Northampton Interfaith Forum (NIFF) is invited to join the Forum.
 - 2.1.3 Northampton Borough Council registers with the Alzheimer's Society as part of the Dementia Friendly Recognition Scheme.
 - 2.1.4 Dementia Friends information and training is included in both Councillor and staff inductions.
 - 2.1.5 A Councillor Champion for older people, focussing on dementia is appointed.

- 2.1.6 The Dementia Friends Champion liaises with the local churches in Northampton to ascertain what Groups are currently available and whether further Groups such as Care and Share could be introduced.
- 2.1.7 The Dementia Friends Champion has dialogue with the Transport Manager of UNO and the Head of Vulnerable Persons, Northants Police, regarding training for drivers of UNO around raising awareness of those living with dementia.
- 2.1.8 The Dementia Friends Champion works with the Assistant Chief Executive, Northamptonshire Carers, regarding the introduction of ID cards for carers when travelling with someone living with dementia.

3. Background and Issues

- 3.1 The purpose of the Scrutiny Panel was:
- 3.2 Following approval of its work programme for 2017/2018, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting in April 2017 commissioned Scrutiny Panel 3 to undertake the review – Dementia Friendly Town. An in-depth review commenced in June 2017 and concluded in April 2018. A Scrutiny Panel was established.
- 3.3 This review links to the Council's corporate priorities, particularly corporate priority 2- Safer Communities (Making you feel safe and secure.)
- 3.4 The Scrutiny Panel established that the following needed to be investigated and linked to the realisation of the Council's corporate priorities:

Evidence Collection

- 3.5 Evidence was collected from a variety of sources:

Background data, including:

- Presentation to set the scene: Being Dementia Friendly, Dementia Friends Programme, Dementia Friends Champion, BSI Code of Practice for Dementia Friendly Communities, Foundation Criteria
- Relevant national and local background research papers
- Definitions – Dementia
- Relevant Legislation including:

The Care Act 2014
Mental Capacity Act 2005
Human Rights Act 1998
Mental Health Act 1983
Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (2009)

- Statistics: including:

Number of people with Dementia in the UK and projected statistics
Deaths per year attributable to Dementia

Financial cost of Dementia to the UK
Diagnosis Statistics
Financial cost to health/cost of support

- Relevant published papers, including
 - Alzheimer's Society Dementia Report 2014
 - Alzheimer Society: Building Dementia Friendly Communities – A priority for everyone
 - Alzheimer's Research UK – Dementia in the Family; The impact on Carers
- Best practice external to Northampton
- Internal expert advisors:
 - Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Safety, NBC
 - Cabinet Member for Housing and Wellbeing, NBC
 - Head of Housing and Wellbeing, NBC
- External expert advisors:
 - Head of Protecting Vulnerable Persons, Northamptonshire Police and the Community Safety Partnership
 - Dementia Support Group
 - Alzheimer's Society – Northamptonshire
 - Alzheimer's Society – Northamptonshire Care Services
 - Age UK
 - Director of Public Health, Northamptonshire County Council
 - Professor in Applied Mental Health (Dementia Specialist), University of Northampton
 - Cabinet Member, (Adult, Social Care), NCC
 - Director, Adult, Social Care, NCC
 - Carers' Associations
 - Cabinet Member for Education, NCC
 - Director, HealthWatch
 - Transport providers, bus companies, taxis and access to train station
 - Director, Olympus Care
 - Representatives from Private Care Homes
 - Director, Highways, NCC
 - Managing Director, Business Improvement District (BID)
 - Faith Forum, Bangladeshi Society, Sikh Group etc.
 - Northampton Health Trust
 - Dementia Team, Northampton General Hospital
 - Case Studies from Ward Councillors
- Site visit - Best practice – Dementia Friendly Towns

4 Key Findings and Conclusions

- 4.1 After all of the evidence was collated the following conclusions were drawn:
- 4.1.1 The Scrutiny Panel recognised the value of towns that have become dementia friendly and felt that it is very important for Northampton to become a dementia friendly town. The Scrutiny Panel acknowledged that a dementia friendly town is one in which people with dementia are empowered to have high aspirations and feel confidence knowing they can contribute and participate in activities that are meaningful to them.
 - 4.1.2 Should Northampton become dementia friendly, the need for a “Dementia Friendly Town logo” was highlighted. Hospitals often use butterflies logos so that non clinical staff are aware of people with dementia . The Scrutiny Panel considered it would be beneficial for bus passes to contain useful information, on the back, such as “*my usual stop is x*” “*please don’t start moving until I am seated*”, for example.
 - 4.1.3 Evidence gathered highlighted that there is a real need for better understanding and awareness of people living with dementia and the Scrutiny Panel acknowledged that becoming a Dementia Friendly Town will help to raise awareness to family and carers and the public in general in recognising the signs of dementia.
 - 4.1.4 The Scrutiny Panel deemed that it would be beneficial for the Transport Manager of UNO to liaise with the Head of Vulnerable Persons, Northants Police, regarding training around raising awareness of those living with dementia. It was acknowledged that Dementia Champions could deliver training to all bus drivers. Carers would be assured to know that bus drivers had received the awareness raising training.
 - 4.1.5 The value of “Keep Safe Cards” were acknowledged. The cards are being rolled out to all those who are categorised as being vulnerable. It was felt that it would be useful for carers to carry an ID card when travelling with someone living with dementia.
 - 4.1.6 The Scrutiny Panel, in receiving Dementia Friends Training, recognised the value and importance of this training and felt it would be useful for all relevant staff at Northampton Borough Council to received Dementia Friends Champion training. It was evident that more dementia champions are required from all levels of staff to ensure maximum effectiveness of the awareness campaign.
 - 4.1.7 A Councillor dementia friends champion would be useful and could encourage other Councillors to engage with the work of the Alzheimer’s Society and to be an ambassador for the Council.
 - 4.1.8 It was recognised that often referrals are received after Christmas or Easter, for example, where the family havent perhaps had regular or recent contact with the family member for some months and notice changes that concern them.
 - 4.1.9 Support Groups and Respite Care for carers are very important. The value of Care and Share Groups, such as that offered at Lutterworth was recognised. The Scrutiny Panel was delighted that St Peter’s Church, Northampton had set up a well-used Dementia Café.

Northampton Interfaith Forum (NIFF) is also managing an action alliance. To ensure information is available to all, the Scrutiny Panel felt that NIFF should be involved in the creation of an action plan for Northampton town to become a Dementia Friendly town.

4.1.10 Evidence gathered demonstrated that there does appear to be a lack of support for young people living with dementia. A Dementia Forum would be useful, with activities such as dog walkers and dog walks being offered.

4.1.11 The Scrutiny Panel acknowledged that communities with a mix of young and older people work very well.

5. Options

5.1 Cabinet will need to consider the possible options as part of its response to the recommendations.

6. Implications (including financial implications)

6.1 Policy

6.1.1 The work of Overview and Scrutiny plays a major part in the development of the Council's policy framework through its work programme.

6.1.1 The report and its recommendations have policy implications in relation to the Council's response to becoming a Dementia Friendly Town. Cabinet's response will need to consider these issues in detail.

6.2 Resources and Risk

6.2.1 Cabinet will need to consider the resourcing issues for the recommendations made.

6.3 Legal

6.3.1 Legal issues will need to be considered as part of Cabinet's response to the recommendations.

6.4 Equality

6.4.1 Equality issues will need to be considered as part of Cabinet's response to the recommendations.

6.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

6.5.1 The Committee received evidence from a variety of sources as detailed in paragraph 3.5 of this report.

Background Papers

Overview and Scrutiny Committee report – Dementia Friendly Town (March 2018)
Minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 1 May 2018

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