

Amanda Jupp
Cabinet Member for Adults and Health

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Via Email

27 August 2020

Dear Bryan,

West Sussex Joint Dementia Strategy 2020-23

Following the meeting of HASC in March, the Covid-19 pandemic broke out and lockdown commenced on 23rd March. This resulted in a delay to the planned launch of the Strategy from the Spring to it now taking place in September.

It is recognised that the impact of Covid-19 on people affected by dementia and poor mental health has been immense particularly so for family and friend carers who have been unable to get a break from their caring role. For those people living on their own, they have experienced an increase in social isolation and loneliness. Since lockdown, many people have been desperate to venture out but are finding it difficult to do so due to social distancing rules, and some are still reluctant to get out and about because of the fear of infection. Services have had to adapt and be flexible in how they provide care and support to people with dementia. The intention is for there to be a real focus on these issues within our strategy.

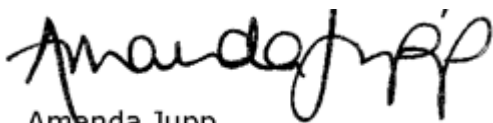
HASC's recommendations are noted and will be included in the document as set out below:

- As requested by HASC, a new objective has been added to the Strategy to reflect the needs of those living alone and these needs will be reflected in the pathway-wide delivery plan. Similarly, there is now an increased focus on the role of the carer in the Strategy.
- A multi-agency Dementia Partnership Group is currently being set up that will comprise statutory and voluntary sector providers and

people with the lived experience of dementia. The Group will meet on a quarterly basis to begin with and submit regular updates for the Health & Wellbeing Board. The Group's terms of reference state that members ensure the priorities of the West Sussex Joint Dementia Strategy are reflected in their own strategies and action plans.

- The delivery plan will ensure that the role of the voluntary sector is highlighted within its objectives and that 'Preventing Well' is reflected across the pathway. The delivery plan is currently being finalised and will be signed-off by the Dementia Partnership Group at its first meeting in October. The plan will be shared with HASC once it has been signed-off.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Jupp', written in a cursive style.

Amanda Jupp
Cabinet Member for Adults and Health