



---

**REPORT TO: HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON  
14 AUGUST 2013**

**SUBJECT: POST-DIAGNOSTIC SUPPORT FOR DEMENTIA**

**BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR (EDUCATION AND SOCIAL CARE)**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform Committee of the commencement of the post-diagnostic support service established by the Moray Community Health and Social Care Partnership (MCHSCP) in June 2013.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (E) (1) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to the function of the Council as a Social Work Authority under the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **It is recommended that Committee consider and note the establishment of the post-diagnostic support service in Moray, in particular the close cooperation between stakeholders involved.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 A key service delivery improvement contained within the Scottish National Dementia Strategy was the commitment to post-diagnostic support for people with Dementia. This is reflected in our Moray Joint Dementia Strategy, which is also being presented to this Committee.
- 3.2 Subsequently the Scottish Government has created a Health Efficiency Access and Treatment (HEAT) target which stipulates that "all people newly diagnosed with dementia will have a minimum of a year's worth of post-diagnostic support coordinated by a link worker, including the building of a person-centred support plan."
- 3.3 This HEAT target came into effect in April 2013. This is reported to the Government by the Health Board. The first reporting submission was in May 2013. Notification of this requirement was received in March 2013. Data returns are required monthly.
- 3.4 Post-diagnostic support should utilise the Alzheimer's Scotland 5 pillar model of support. The 5 pillars of post-diagnostic support has the following domains; Supporting Community Connections, Peer Support, Planning for Future Care,

Understanding the Illness and Managing Symptoms, Planning for Future Decision Making.

- 3.5 A link worker is a worker who will coordinate these domains of support for an individual person diagnosed with dementia.
- 3.6 In Moray a working group was established to design a service that fulfilled Government criteria for post-diagnostic support.
- 3.7 The working group established a pathway from diagnosis by the General Practitioner or Consultant to Access Team before referral to Alzheimer's Scotland.
- 3.8 A contract with Alzheimer's Scotland for post-diagnostic support in Moray has been agreed funded through Change Fund monies.
- 3.9 A copy of post-diagnostic pathway, information leaflet and confirmation letter from Access to the client are attached. **(SEE APPENDICES 1 – 3).**

**4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

- (a) Council / Community Planning Priorities**  
This links to the Single Outcome Agreement – Outcome 6 – We live longer, healthier lives, and to Local Priority 1: Health – Improving the health and wellbeing of the population; and Local Priority 3: Elderly and vulnerable – Caring for the elderly and vulnerable
- (b) Policy and Legal**  
In addition to the Joint Commissioning Plan, this report should be considered in accordance with the Re-ablement Policy and the Self-Directed Support Policy for The Moray Council.
- (c) Financial implications**  
The service has been funded by the Change Fund in 2013/14 totalling £24k.
- (d) Risk Implications**  
There are no risk implications arising directly from this report.
- (e) Staffing Implications**  
There are no staffing implications arising directly from this report.
- (f) Property**  
There are no property implications arising directly from this report.
- (g) Equalities**  
An Equality Impact Assessment is not needed because the report is for Committee to consider and note.

**(h) Consultations**

Consultations have taken place with: Deborah O'Shea, Principal Accountant; Provider Services Manager; Adam Coldwells, General Manager, MCHSCP, Anne Heinrich, Dementia Adviser, Alzheimer's Scotland and Dr Mark Houlston, GP/Clinical Lead who agree with the sections of the report relating to their areas of responsibility.

**5. CONCLUSION**

**5.1 This Committee report describes the development of a post-diagnostic support service for people with dementia in Moray.**

Author of Report: Jane Mackie, Head of Community Care

Background Papers:

Ref: