

Update for Scrutiny Committee on Dementia Friendly Communities - Action Plan

The Action Plan for Dementia Friendly Communities was endorsed by Cabinet on 16th June, 2016.

Tamworth Borough Council's application for membership of the Staffordshire & Stoke on Trent DAA was formally approved on 23rd August, 2016.

The primary task is to deliver the specific actions set out in the action plan that supported the application and in addition, report back information to the DAA on a quarterly basis and report information to Dementia Friendly Communities on a six monthly basis.

The specific actions in the action plan are detailed under the thematic headings of:

- **Establishing an LDAA**
- **Awareness**
- **Local & Community Engagement**
- **Employees & Staff**
- **Access to Information & Advice**
- **Service Access Considerations**

ESTABLISHING A LOCAL DEMENTIA ACTION ALLIANCE

Tamworth Dementia Action Alliance (TDAA) was first convened on 9th January, 2017 following a 'soft' promotion campaign it had five 'de facto' members and only one new recruit from Tamworth; the Rotary Club of Tamworth Anker. The **TDAA** now boasts 25 full members.

The TDAA meets bi-monthly and is a well-established, strongly represented group working towards a dementia friendly community for the people of Tamworth. It has appointed a new Independent Chair – Mr John Edwards who has life experiences of living with someone affected by dementia.

AWARENESS

The Council's member and officer lead in order to provide single points of contact are:

Member Champion Councillor Andrew James
Officer Lead Mrs. Karen Clancy
CMT Sponsor Andrew Barratt

Key to raising awareness was the role out of **Dementia Friends** training to elected members, key officers and staff, the members of the **TDAA** and local communities. These sessions have continued to be delivered by Tamworth Champions including Cllr. Mrs. Clements, and Officer Lead Mrs. Karen Clancy to a range of groups, clubs and other organisations all of which served to contribute to the advanced position the TDAA now enjoys.

Simultaneously, 'Communities Together' CIC have delivered a series of **Dementia Friends** training sessions to groups, clubs and other organisations which again accelerated this process. Both Cllr. Mrs. Clements and Communities Together CIC actively support the TDAA.

The work of the DQS has supported people living with dementia through for example the use of text reminders and prompts relating to appointments and putting bins out.

In addition, progress has been made on a number of fronts designed to increase awareness for example:

Safety Town – annual event involving around 800 Year 5 students will see all of them receive adapted training from Lee Bates of “Communities Together” CIC.

Signage – Dementia campaign signage on FARS Tamworth Appliance and TBC's Road Sweepers.

Dementia Friendly 'Sensory Garden' - Tamworth in Bloom encouraged and enabled people with dementia and their carers to be actively involved through the planting of dementia flower beds in the Castle Grounds. Many of the participants have been keen gardeners in the past and this has enabled them to continue to feel included in something they very much enjoy. The flower beds will provide a place for people to reflect and remember a loved one that may have been affected by dementia.

New Memory Café – Now open every Tuesday 10.30 – 12.30 moved venue to Sacred Heart as outgrown the town centre venue.

Carers Monthly Coffee Morning - Peel Medical Practice hold monthly Carers Coffee Morning the last Thursday of the month between 10.00 – 12.00

New Singing for the Memory Group – thanks to a donation from Councillor Norchi this group launched on 11th January 20198 and will be held twice monthly on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month.

Twiddle Muff Campaign – Is ongoing supporting people with dementia and raising awareness of dementia.

Cup Cake Day – Staff on the 7th floor baked and bought cakes for an awareness Coffee and Cup Cake day and raised an amazing **£325** for Alzheimer's Society

Dementia Friends Sessions – 302 children and 22 staff at Wilnecote Junior School received training through school assemblies from Officer Lead Mrs. Karen Clancy and Communities Together CIC on 3rd November making them the **first Dementia Friendly School in Tamworth.**

GP Dementia Friends Session - session for GP's and staff is being facilitated by Cllr. Mrs. Clements on 20th February currently, 36 are booked onto the session.

LOCAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This theme is very much about the next level of awareness and includes living, working or simply being with those who live with dementia and their carers.

The Tamworth DAA has recently established a steering group to find out information from people living with dementia and their carers. The first workshop was held on 6th November 2017 and discussed two of the eight priority areas that the local DAA are focussing on. The topics discussed were:

- Transport
- Health & Social Care

The concerns highlighted at the Workshop will be fed back to the relevant organisations with the aim of encouraging organisations to take practical action to enable people to live well with dementia.

Some examples of the issues highlighted were:

- Getting on and off buses at different bus stops which was confusing
- Buses not lowering the step for easy access
- Taxi's nominating Dementia Friendly Drivers
- Inconsistencies about how patients were receiving their memory clinic assessment results
- Robert Peel Hospital not being offered as an appointment choice

Also under this 'theme' is to include National Dementia Awareness Week into the established 'Events Calendar'.

This will be an agenda item at a future DAA Meeting to prepare for this year's Dementia Awareness Week which will be Monday 21st May – Sunday 27th May 2018.

Dementia Awareness Week events last May included:

- Dementia awareness raising with parishioners at St Johns and Sacred Heart Church
- Tea Party at Sir Robert Peel Hospital
- Market Stall on Tamworth Tuesday Market
- Coffee Morning at Peel Medical Practice
- Memory Café

- Tamworth Tea & Twiddle Events
- 'Lets Work Together' delivered DF Awareness Sessions
- Charity Fundraiser for Good Hope Hospital Dementia Ward
- Alzheimer's information stand at Sainsbury's
- Dementia Friends Orienteering Walk which included finding the letters spelling 'Dementia Friends'

EMPLOYEES & COUNCIL OUTLETS

In specific relation to **Dementia Friendly Communities**, the Council will ensure that all policies and procedures relating to its employees who either live with dementia or care for someone who does will be amended to reflect any specific needs.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION & ADVICE

With regard to general information, dedicated leaflet stands/wallets have been located in major outlets such as Marmion House reception.

An elected member champion was nominated and seconded and a lead officer appointed to take the entire project forward. The Council's Chief Executive will act as the projects "sponsor".

Dementia Friends training has been delivered to key elected members by Councillor Mrs. Clements; to officers working face to face with the public by Lee Bates of Communities Together CIC and to a wider public audience by both colleagues and other trained **Dementia Champions**.

Tamworth currently has:

- **3166 Dementia Friends**
- **14 Dementia Friends Champions**
- **107 Information Sessions have been run to date**

The number of **Dementia Friends** has increased by over 2,064 since the TDAA was established.

SERVICE ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS

The Planning Department are currently undertaking some consultations to feed into the Design Supplementary Planning Document. A representative from Tamworth DAA will be invited to the workshops to feed in considerations for better designs for people with dementia creating dementia friendly environments.

Finally, I would like to thank the partners of the Tamworth DAA for their hard work, dedication and commitment to this project.

There has been no budget allocated to this piece of work and the positive outcomes highlighted to date evidence the difference that working together in strong partnerships can bring. Helping to make Tamworth a place where people living with dementia are understood, respected and supported, and confident that they too can contribute to community life.

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