
Proposal for Thanet District Council to join the Dementia Action Alliance

To: **Extraordinary Cabinet – 19 February 2014**

Main Portfolio Area: **Housing and Planning Services**

By: **Cllr Richard Nicholson, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder
Housing and Planning Services**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **All Wards**

Summary: Proposal for Thanet District Council to join the Dementia Action Alliance.

For Decision

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 Thanet has the highest number of people living with dementia in the whole of Kent. In 2010/11 *Projecting Older People Population Information* advised that there were 19,300 people living with dementia in Kent. 11.5% (2, 213 people) of them are living in Thanet, with Canterbury being the next highest district with 11.1% (2,145 people).
- 1.2 2012 saw the launch of the Prime Ministers Dementia Challenge, seeking to build on the National Dementia Strategy it focused on three key areas,
- Driving improvements in Health and Social Care;
 - Creating dementia friendly communities that understand how to help the person with dementia and their families; and
 - Better research.
- 1.3 The Challenge recommends the development of local Dementia Action Alliances to bring together people with dementia, their carers and key organisations. Such a group exists in this area, the Kent Dementia Action Alliance.
- 1.4 The aim of the Kent Dementia Action Alliance is to transform the quality of life of people with dementia and their carers within Kent through promoting the National Dementia Declaration and delivering on the Action Plans submitted by Alliance members, thereby informing commissioning decisions and development of services for people with dementia and their carers.
- 1.5 The Alliance brings together major organisations of influence across the region to promote and support the development of plans and priorities identified by both the national and regional alliance (based on the dementia declaration) and to influence the future shaping of the national alliance. The Alliance acts as an advisory body, attends local meetings and offers consultancy to organisations and services within the scope of the various expertise represented in the group.
- 1.6 Officers have researched joining Dementia Action Alliance to enable Thanet DC to work towards creating dementia friendly communities. They are currently working in

partnership with Kent Housing Group and Joint Policy and Planning Board (JPPB) to implement a Dementia Housing Action Plan across Kent.

2.0 Options

- 2.1 To extend this work throughout the whole of the Council which opens up opportunities to both promote the Councils work to become Dementia Friendly and learn from others.
- 2.2 To support the submission of Thanet District Council's action plan in annex 1 to the Dementia Alliance. Although housing is taking the lead on this initiative and is the focus for the initial action plan, all services are encouraged to consider how they can become more dementia friendly and how people with dementia can be assisted through our services.

3.0 Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is due to be undertaken following the agreement of the action plan

4.0 Corporate Implications

4.1 Financial and VAT

- 4.1.1 There is no financial implication to the authority.

4.2 Legal

- 4.2.1 There are no legal documents required to join the alliance.

4.3 Corporate

- 4.3.1 The obligation to the council is to update the action plan annually and a commitment to join our local alliance.

5.0 Recommendations

- 5.1 To join the Dementia Alliance;
- 5.2 To agree the action plan in annex 1.

Contact Officer:	Ashley Stacey, Strategic Housing Manager
Reporting to:	Tanya Wenham, Head of Housing Services

Annex List

Annex 1	Action Plan
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	N/A

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	Nicola Walker, Finance Manager, HRA, Capital and External Funding
Legal	Steven Boyle, Legal Services Manager & Monitoring Officer