



Report to Southampton City Council Scrutiny Committee

3rd December 2015

Wessex AHSN – what is it?

This is an NHS funded innovation and quality improvement organisation, focussing on priority areas in Wessex such as alcohol misuse, respiratory disease, malnutrition, medicines management, mental health and dementia. It also has a role to bring Wealth into this region by bringing together NHS bodies and commercial companies – industry links - to collaborate on wealth creation activities.

An example of this is the development of an orthopaedic research institute at Bournemouth University. This will bring clinical trials into this region and further our knoweldge of a topic that is of much interest due to the large numbers of older people in this region and the costs of treatment and complications that can arise.

We work with universities, the clinical commissioning groups, city and county councils, and all the provider trusts, acute, community and primary care. www.wessexahsn.org.uk

Dementia Quality Improvement Programme (QIP)

<http://wessexahsn.org.uk/programmes/3/dementia>

The work of the Dementia QIP addresses issues that members have identified. It also responds to national drivers, national data sources and to work being done locally. Parts of Wessex had low diagnosis rates and variable services post diagnosis.

ISPACE

<http://wessexahsn.org.uk/projects/45/creating-dementia-friendly-gp-surgeries-ispac>

The Dementia programme funded a piece of work in primary care to make GP surgeries “dementia friendly” and this was then evaluated by the University of Southampton.

This work is now being rolled out across Wessex. 16 surgeries have completed the process, 23 are in train and a further 10 are being approached.

In Southampton Old Fire Station Surgery was the first to complete the process and other surgeries are in train, these are Portswood Solent, Woolston Lodge, Atherley Surgery and Brook House surgery.



ISPACE consists of a bundle of actions

I – identify a champion

S – Staff Training and links to the pathway

P – Partnerships with patients, carers and the voluntary sector

A – Assessment and processes in the surgery

C – Care planning and future care during the disease progression

E – Environment of the surgery

The WAHSN is supporting surgeries to undertake these changes and to forge links with patients and carers. Staff training, partnerships, signing up to the dementia action alliance and involving patients and carers are the building blocks of this work.

Acute Care Development programme

The 8 hospitals in Wessex have signed up to be part of a development programme working to improve dementia care for patients and for their carers. Quarterly meetings are held in Chilworth and have covered a variety of topics from the value of research to telecare and to sharing work from other parts of the country. All 8 hospitals are engaged in projects to better support carers of people with dementia and most are in the process of signing up to John's Campaign. (John's Campaign simply says that carers should have the same rights as parents of children when admitted to hospital to stay with them and provide comfort and succour at a highly stressful time.)

This work is now being spread to community hospitals in the region and a website has been populated with examples of work being done, <http://wessexahsn.org.uk/projects/47/working-with-acute-hospital-dementia-leads-to-improve-care-in-their-hospitals>

Dementia quality care collaborative conference

WAHSN along with a number of other regional bodies collaborated to hold a dementia conference in October 2015. This was attended by over 160 people and examples of work being done across the region were shared. A website with examples of over 130 projects in the region can be accessed at www.wessexhealthlines.nhs.uk

Katherine Barbour – Senior Programme Manager

Katherine.barbour@wessexahsn.net 07990 002106