



## Section 1: Overview

### Dementia Information in Barnet Working Group

#### 1. What was the aim of the group?

The group looked at the **information** that people need about:

- dementia
- the support that is available in the borough.

The **aim of the group** was to develop an improved understanding of:

- the information needed by residents
- when this information is needed
- where the information can be best accessed
- the format in which information is needed.

The group helped to implement the Dementia Manifesto for Barnet, which includes the following aim:

- To ensure that people with dementia and their carers are able to access information and advice, as this is a key area affecting the ability of people with dementia to remain living in their own home.

#### 2. How many times did the group meet and how many members?

The group met twice, on 30 January and 13 February 2017.

The group enabled Barnet Council, Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group and Healthwatch Barnet to work in partnership. Membership consisted of:

- 6 Healthwatch Barnet Volunteers,
- 6 members of Barnet Council Adults and Communities People Bank
- 1 resident with knowledge of health and social care in Barnet.

The following people also participated in the group:

- Alzheimer's Society Service Manager, Barnet, Enfield and Haringey - attended both meetings and presented at the first on the community dementia support services in Barnet.
- Healthwatch Barnet Manager - attended the second meeting.
- Manager (Interim), Barnet Memory Assessment Service - attended the second meeting and presented on the Memory Assessment Service.
- Specialist Dementia Nurse, Barnet Community Mental Health Team – attended the second meeting.
- Two officers from Barnet Council and Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group Joint Commissioning Unit – set up the group and attended both meetings.



### 3. What were the overall outcomes of the group and how will they feed into the service?

Key findings of the group were that:

- There is a **lot of high quality information available** but many people **do not know how to find it**.
- A key stage at which information on dementia is needed is **before diagnosis**, and it needs to be available to all residents.
- There is a need to **raise awareness of dementia within the community** ('education for all').
- There is a particular need to **address stigma** associated with dementia in some communities which acts as a barrier to accessing diagnosis and support.

The group developed the Action Plan in Section 2 of this report.

The group also put forward views, as set out in Section 2, on:

- key points where information is needed
- what information is needed at these points
- what is currently working well in terms of the information available
- where there are information gaps.

### 4. What plans are there for sustainability?

The Barnet Dementia Manifesto Project Group will be responsible for implementing the Action Plan.

This will involve working with / through:

- The Barnet Dementia Action Alliance
- Barnet Council and Barnet Clinical Commissioning groups on the launch of the Barnet Dementia Hub in May 2017
- Service Providers:
  - Memory Assessment Service
  - Community Dementia Support Services
- Barnet Council Customer Access Strategy Group
- The Adults and Communities Prevention Team
- Clinical Commissioning Group GP Bulletin
- Further opportunities to disseminate key messages.

The group will hold a third meeting on 22 May 2017, which will focus on what a dementia friendly Barnet might look and feel like. Information from the Barnet Dementia Action Alliance will be fed into the group's meeting. Output from the group's meeting will be fed into the Barnet Dementia Action Alliance.