

Guide to Dementia Services Information Sheet

Dementia is used to describe a group of symptoms that may accompany a number of diseases or conditions that affect the brain. There are many different types of dementia, and the disease affects everyone differently. It can cause a wide range of symptoms, including difficulties with memory, problem-solving, communication and language. People may also become confused or struggle with how they perceive things. Dementia can cause changes in mood or emotions and may affect how someone behaves.

Most forms of dementia are progressive, which means that symptoms increase over time. However, people with dementia can lead active and fulfilling lives for many years after diagnosis.

Young Onset Dementia

This affects a person aged 65 or under. It is also known as ‘early onset’ or ‘working age’ dementia. Young Dementia UK (dementia.org.uk/young-onset-dementia) provides information, support and resources. They also run a Young Dementia Network (youngdementianetwork.org) that allows people with young onset dementia, their families and carers to share their experiences in a community environment.

The Derbyshire Dementia Information & Advice Service

The Derbyshire Dementia Information & Advice Service (<https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/support-services/Derbyshire%20Local%20Service%20Office/Derbyshire%20Dementia%20Information%20%26%20Advice%20Service/regional>) is delivered by the Alzheimer’s Society. The service provides 1-1 information and advice to people (including to unpaid carers/family members in their caring role) from the time they are worried about memory loss and / or are living with symptoms of dementia. Dementia Advisors advise people through the different stages of dementia and can give advice on community care and long-stay care. The Dementia Information and Advice Service also provides Dementia Cafes, Singing for the Brain sessions and Carer information sessions.

The Herbert Protocol

Is a national scheme that has been introduced by Derbyshire Constabulary (derbyshire.police.uk/herbert-protocol) and other local agencies. It encourages families and carers of people with dementia or other mental vulnerabilities to prepare for the eventuality of the person going missing by collecting important information that can quickly be handed to the police so they can start searching without delay.

The Dementia Rapid Response Team (DRRT)

The DRRT (derbyshirehealthcareft.nhs.uk/services/mental-health-and-emotional-wellbeing/dementia-services/dementia-rapid-response) is a community-based service provided by Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. DRRT aims to improve the health and wellbeing of people living with dementia at times of crisis, by providing rapid assessment and intensive support. By providing support in people’s homes, the service aims to reduce the need for admission into specialist dementia hospital beds. The teams include mental health nurses, psychiatrists, occupational therapists and health care assistants.

Derbyshire Carers

The responsibility of caring for someone who cannot manage at home without help often places great physical and emotional strain upon the Carer. Whether care is provided for a few hours a

week or for 24 hours a day, Derbyshire Carers offers a wide range of confidential and independent services, helping people in their role as carer.

Other Useful Services:

Living Well with Dementia

is a programme offered to people who are in the early stages of dementia and their carers and families. It offers help and support in coming to terms with a dementia diagnosis, gives practical advice on living well with dementia and offers support for carers. The course runs at venues across the county. There is also an online version of the programme.

Preventative Services

Preventative Services can be accessed without the need for a formal social care assessment. These services are run by both statutory and voluntary services in the community and many are free of charge. You can access these services through the First Contact Derbyshire signposting scheme (derbyshire.gov.uk/first-contact) or by contacting Call Derbyshire (**01629 533 190**)

Telecare and Community Alarms

Telecare and community alarms provide assistance 24 hours a day, seven days a week through an alarm monitoring provision incorporated into a pendant or wristband. Alongside basic alarms, there is also a range of telecare equipment that can support people with dementia and their carers, such as motion sensors, gas and water sensors or front door sensors.

Adult Care Assessments

Adult Care Assessments help identify existing and potential strengths, resources and community networks that can be accessed to support your wellbeing and ensure that you remain in control. Nationally set eligibility criteria are considered to assess the need for social care support. This also includes a financial assessment to see if you need to pay some or all of your care costs.

For more information, go to the council's Dementia webpage: derbyshire.gov.uk/dementia

Useful Contacts

- Derbyshire County Council Welfare Rights Team
 - Telephone: **01629 531 535**
 - Welfarebenefits@derbyshire.gov.uk
 - derbyshire.betteroff.org.uk
- Derbyshire Dementia Information and Advice Service
 - Telephone **01332 208 845**
 - dementiaderbyshire.org.uk
- Derbyshire Carers Association
 - Telephone: **01773 833 833**
 - derbyshirecarers.co.uk
- Age UK Derby and Derbyshire
 - Telephone: **01773 768 240**
 - ageuk.org.uk/derbyandderbyshire