

**An easy-read summary of our work on dementia**

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| <p><b>Introduction</b></p>  |  |
|    | <p>Healthwatch Wiltshire is here to make sure that local people have a say on health and social care.</p>  |
|   | <p>We have been working with other organisations, especially charities, to find out what local people think about dementia services.</p>                                       |
|  | <p>People in Wiltshire have been telling us about their experiences of dementia services and their views about how things should be in the future.</p>                         |
|  | <p>Dementia happens when a person's brain is damaged by disease. It can make it hard for people to remember things and to think things through. It changes how people act.</p> |

**What did we do?**



We invited people to come along to special meetings so we could talk together about dementia.



We met with local charities to find out what they think the problems are.



We asked people where they think special hospital care for people with dementia in Wiltshire should be.



We have visited people in hospitals to talk about dementia.



We have been to lots of meetings and spoken to hundreds of people in Wiltshire.

**What did people tell us?**



People told us many things about services for people with dementia and their carers. Here is a summary:



People think that it is hard to get good information about the services there are for people with dementia and their carers.





Some people have very good experiences of services but other people have very bad experiences of the same service. This isn't fair.




Some services that are designed for people with dementia in local areas are very good but sometimes they don't have space and also people might not know about them.



It is really important that staff who are caring for people with dementia have good training and understand all about dementia.


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|  | <p>Often people with dementia are being looked after by family or friends. It is really important that these people are helped and supported.</p> |
|  | <p>It can be hard for people to travel to get the help they need.</p>   |


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| <p><b>What happened with all the information we got?</b></p>                        |   |
|  | <p>We wrote two reports. One report was used by NHS Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group to make a decision about where hospital care for people with dementia should be in Wiltshire. It was decided that it should be in the Fountains Way Hospital in Salisbury.</p> |
|  | <p>The other report is about all the other things people told us about dementia services</p> <p>We have shared our reports with organisations that we work with.</p>  |


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|  | <p>We have taken both these reports to the Wiltshire Health and Wellbeing Board. We have asked the Council and NHS Wiltshire to look carefully at our reports. We want to see a plan of action so that people’s voices are heard.</p> |
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**What are we going to do next?**

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|  | <p>We are going to keep on talking to local people about dementia. We are also going to keep talking to the local charities which work with people with dementia and their carers.</p> |
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|  | <p>We promise to use what people tell us to make sure that Wiltshire is a good place to live well with dementia</p> |
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|  | <p>Your Voice is Our Voice!</p> |
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|  | <p>Please get in touch with us if you would like to talk to us about dementia. You can tell us what you want services to do for you.</p> |
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## Why not get involved?

**Visit our website:** [www.healthwatchwiltshire.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchwiltshire.co.uk)

**Follow us on Twitter:** @HWWilts

**Email us:** [info@healthwatchwiltshire.co.uk](mailto:info@healthwatchwiltshire.co.uk)

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