

### What did we do?

- prepared a leaflet for local people with a factsheet from Wiltshire Council and NHS Wiltshire
- held 3 public meetings and 1 focus group across Wiltshire
- visited some care homes and community groups for people living with dementia
- designed and ran a survey that people could complete on paper or online

### Why did we do it?

Dementia is one of Healthwatch Wiltshire's priority areas. We wanted to enable the public to:

- Hear about how the dementia strategy is being put into practice.
- Find out what has happened since the consultation on specialist dementia hospital beds.
- Have their say on two new proposals for dementia care in Wiltshire:
  1. To provide a clear, consistent pathway for dementia support
  2. To enhance dementia specialist care home support

### What did people say?

- People thought both the proposals were needed but more resources should be allocated to support people at home (proposal 1).
- There was concern about the impact on carers and it was felt that adequate support for carers must be in place for it to be successful.
- It was felt residential care for people with complex needs should be provided in a small number of homes so that resources can be focused.
- People said dementia training was the most important factor in enabling care homes to provide quality care.

### What happened next?

- We published a report and have shared this widely with commissioners and providers of services.
- We presented our report to the dementia delivery board and discussed its findings.
- Wiltshire Council and NHS commissioner had reported that work is underway developing a dementia pathway for everyone in Wiltshire.
- Specialist dementia training has been sourced from Stirling University. 96 care home managers have booked on it and the feedback from the first course has been very positive.

### What was the impact?

Local people were informed about dementia plans and shared their views. Work is underway developing a dementia pathway and enhancing dementia training.