

**Question from a member of the public for Bath and North East Somerset,  
Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board meeting in Public, 16 March 2023**

**Question:**

How has the ICS ensured that the views of people affected by dementia across BSW have been included in the Integrated Care Strategy and Joint Forward Plan, and what plans are in place to include dementia as a condition-specific priority?

**Answer:**

Thank you for your question.

First of all, we would like to pass on our assurance that Alzheimer's and dementia are conditions that the Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board take extremely seriously. There are over 944,000 people with dementia in the UK and this will increase to over one million by 2030 and over 1.6 million by 2050 and we are actively developing strategies to help us address this issue across our health and care services in BSW.

We are addressing these conditions chiefly through a comprehensive approach underway in our Ageing Well workstream. This brings together a number of projects and initiatives all designed to help older people in BSW manage long-term conditions, give them greater control over the care they receive, with more care and support offered in or close to people's homes, rather than in hospital.

Our Integrated Care Strategy is currently in development and a first draft will be published at the end of March. The initial publication is very much the first chapter in an iterative process which will develop over the coming months with input from stakeholders across BSW. As this publication develops, we welcome further input from organisations representing the views of people affected by Alzheimer's and those living with the condition.

During the development of this first draft of our Strategy, we actively sought input from stakeholders representing the views of people living with Alzheimer's.

We held a well-attended stakeholder engagement event in public at the end of 2022 which was attended by representatives from the Alzheimer's Society, Alzheimer's Support Wiltshire, Age UK and hospices across BSW. We collated feedback from attendees at this event and used this to inform the focus and structure of the strategy.

Since developing a full first draft of the Strategy in January, we have also engaged with members of the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector Alliance groups across Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire. This again has included organisations who provide support for people living with Alzheimer's and dementia such as Age UK.

The Strategy focuses on high-level strategic objectives, so does not examine the detail of our work to improve care for specific conditions. However, some of the detail about how we will approach these conditions will be set out in our forthcoming Implementation Plan. This will outline how the vision and objectives of the Strategy will be delivered by partners within BSW.

Finally, we would like to thank you for getting in touch. We welcome the opportunity to work more closely with valued organisations such as the Alzheimer's Society in terms of co-producing our approach to dementia and Alzheimer's in the future.