

## Key event organised by NHS G&W CCG to focus on dementia care within the community

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On the 28 January, 2014, GPs, consultants and representatives from South East Coast Ambulance Service will be gathering together in Guildford for the NHS Guildford and Waverley Clinical Commissioning Group's (NHS G&W CCG) *Dementia Conference 2014 – Compassion and Dignity*. The aim of the event is to explore the difficulties around caring for vulnerable people and how the quality of their care can be improved to ensure that they can be looked after within community rather than hospital settings.

People with dementia occupy a quarter of all hospital beds, yet we know they are more likely to be re-admitted, stay longer and die in hospital than other patients. Dementia is not only a key priority for the NHS G&W CCG, but also for the Department of Health and the Government, with the Prime Minister, David Cameron, launching the Dementia Challenge in 2012, and the UK hosting a G8 Summit on Dementia in December 2013.

Dr Sue Tresman, Vice-Chair, Lay Member for the NHS G&W CCG, and also Chair of the [Dementia Friendly Surrey Steering Group](#) (DFSSG), says, 'I understand, first-hand, how dementia impacts lives. This landmark conference demonstrates the commitment there is amongst our community, carers and health professionals within Guildford and Waverley, to improve diagnosis, treatment, care and support for people with dementia. I am delighted to be involved with this event, which I believe will bring about greater understanding of how we work together to bring the dignity, care and respect that people with dementia need.'

Dr Helen Wilson, Consultant Geriatrician from the Royal Surrey County Hospital, who has been involved in organizing the event said, 'We hope to promote improved communication between patients, their families, their carers, general practitioners and hospital doctors to ensure written plans are in place to support care in the community where appropriate.'

As well as an introductory speech from Dr Sue Tresman, the conference also includes presentations and case studies from a range of speakers who work within the area. These include: Dr David Sachi, Specialist Registrar in Elderly Care at the Royal Surrey County Hospital; Dr Lia Ali, Consultant Psychiatrist at Farnham Road Hospital; Sian Williams, Macmillan Nurse; Dr Ganeshanathan, Consultant in Elderly Care at Royal Surrey County Hospital and Sarah Casemore, Associate Director, Clinical Commissioning at NHS Guildford and Waverley CCG.

To request a programme and booking form for the *Dementia Conference 2014 – Compassion and Dignity* conference, email [sca@surreycare.org.uk](mailto:sca@surreycare.org.uk)

## **Notes for Editors**

The NHS Guildford and Waverley Clinical Commissioning Group (NHS G&W CCG) consists of 21 GP practices, known as 'Member Practices'. From 1 April, 2013, the NHS G&W CCG became the NHS organisation responsible for the commissioning of hospital and community health services, medicines management and enhanced primary care services for the residents of Guildford and Waverley. It serves a population of over 200,000 and has a total budget of £233M for 2013/2014.

The vision of the NHS G&W CCG is:

*'To ensure that innovative, quality driven, cost effective health and social care is in place. We will deliver services which reflect the needs of the local population and improve the health and wellbeing of people living in Guildford and Waverley.'*

The responsibilities of the NHS G&W CCG are to commission:

- Urgent and emergency care
- Elective hospital treatment
- Community care health services
- Other community-based services
- Rehabilitation services
- Maternity and newborn services
- Children's healthcare services
- Services for people with learning disabilities
- Mental health services

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