



## DEMCOM

The DEMCOM study is a national evaluation of dementia friendly communities (DFCs) in England. Using different research methods it aimed to understand how different types of DFCs work, what is needed to sustain them and how they help different groups of people affected by dementia to live well.

We used the following definition of DFCs:

***"A Dementia Friendly Community can involve a wide range of people, organisations and geographical areas. A DFC recognises that a person with dementia is more than their diagnosis and that everyone has a role in supporting their independence and inclusion"***

## AT A GLANCE

We looked at the **online information** of 100 DFCs and evaluated 6 in more detail  
We reviewed 300 **documents**  
We involved 385 **participants**, 63% of these were people affected by dementia\*

*\*people living with dementia and their carers*

- DFC provision matches the numbers of people living with dementia
- 95% of DFCs were set up as a result of government policy
- DFCs emphasised awareness raising but impact was unclear
- DFCs offered both services for people with dementia and services to help people stay in their community
- People with dementia were involved but not always in decision making



## Our guidance for DFCs in England

### Strong leadership

and a history of working together creates a secure basis for planning, discussion and wider community work

### Allocated resources

are important to target awareness raising activities with key services (e.g. transport), key populations and groups. Ideally, DFCs will have paid staff members or receive funding from the local authority.

### Equalities & Inclusion

in DFC services & activities is vital so that DFCs can reach everybody in their local community

### Activities

and the work of the DFC should challenge existing services that exclude people with dementia and link formally with statutory services to encourage monitoring & evaluation of progress.

### Basis of DFC

enables DFCs to understand the needs and wishes of the local community and leads to...

### Monitoring & Evaluation

which enables DFCs to review its work against the population need



**Involving people with dementia** in the DFC as active partners, influencing decision making and providing feedback on their experiences must be **central** to the DFC.

### Evolution

of the DFC as a whole is useful to capture. A DFC is always changing.