

# Involving people living with dementia in dementia-friendly communities (DFCs)



## WHAT IS A DFC?

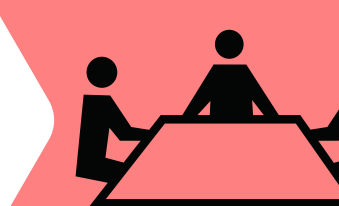
- Dementia Friendly Communities (DFCs) offer an approach to community engagement to improve the lives of people living with dementia and their family supporters.
- The involvement of those living with dementia is key to creating successful DFCs.

## WHAT DID WE DO?

- Examined how people affected by dementia were involved in developing and designing DFCs in England and the impact of their involvement.
- **Survey, interviews and focus groups** with service providers and people living with dementia and their supporters
- **Six** DFCs in England.

## Policy Recommendations

01



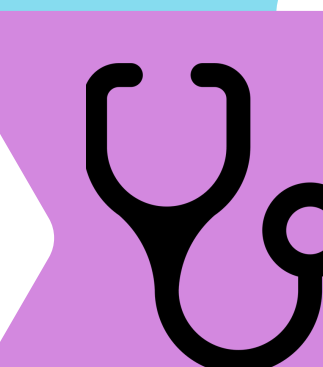
Involvement of people affected by dementia must be embedded and linked to local infrastructure

02



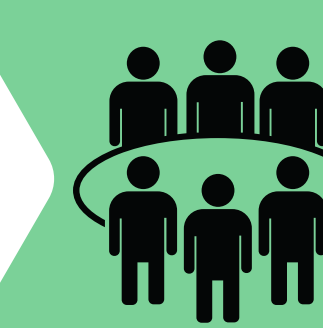
Strategic approach to enable a diverse range of people to be involved

03



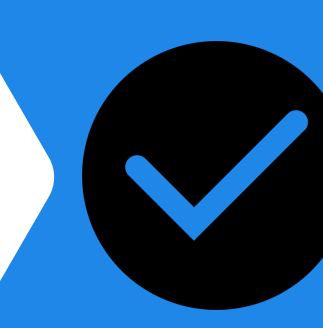
Link diagnosis services to opportunities to be involved in DFCs

04



DFCs to offer a wide variety of approaches for people to be involved

05



Dedicate resources and expertise to ensure people are adequately supported to be involved

06

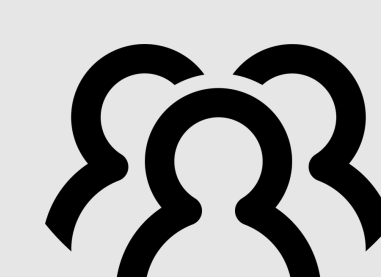


Share successes and challenges of involvement between DFCs

## FINDINGS

1. All six DFCs aspired to involve people living with dementia and their family supporters
2. Organisations with experience of public consultation offered structured opportunities for involvement
3. A small number of people living with dementia were involved
4. No evidence of people living with dementia initiating or co-leading involvement

## INVOLVEMENT APPROACHES



- Invite people living with dementia to join DFC steering groups
- DFC members go to a pre-existing dementia group, (led by people living with dementia)
- Listen at existing dementia activities
- Feedback via surveys and focus groups
- Public consultation events
- Mystery shopping and audits

Full Article see: Mathie, E. et al. (2022) 'Dementia-friendly communities: The involvement of people living with dementia', *Dementia*, 21(4), pp. 1250-1269. doi: 10.1177/14713012211073200

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