

Focus on Dementia Post-diagnostic Support (PDS) Leads Group Flash Report

4 March 2021

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 [@focusondementia](https://twitter.com/focusondementia)

Thank you for joining the Focus on Dementia (FoD) PDS Leads Meeting

We were delighted to meet up, virtually via MS Teams, on 4 March 2021. The group was welcomed by the chair of the group, Karen Thom and updates were provided by:

Focus on Dementia (led by Lynn Flannigan)

For further information please contact: his.focusondementia@nhs.scot

Public Health Scotland updates (led by Lisa Reedie)

If anyone has any issues with data completion please contact: phs.dementiapds@phs.scot

[COSLA and Scottish Government's Dementia and Covid-19 National Action Plan](#) (led by David Berry)

The action plan sets out how we will build on our national response to the coronavirus pandemic since March 2020 and how we will continue and expand that response in 2021 to continue to support recovery for people with dementia and their carers. Via five virtual breakout rooms we discussed next steps in relation to Commitment 4 in the above action plan, please see key points below.

Barriers

- Decline in GP visits and diagnosis has resulted in a decrease in referrals to PDS and the people who are referred are at a later stage of their dementia
- Increasing waiting lists
- Home visits restricted
- GP geographical location
- Staff capacity / resource issues
- Communication / connections between services

Best Practice

- Staff being flexible and more confident to use technology
- Good pathway in NHS Shetland
- Launch of PDS app in NHS Ayrshire and Arran
- Blended service in Moray
- Services working together
- Technology – beneficial to remote and rural areas but overall uptake relatively low
- Glasgow City IJB KPI identified gaps and resulted in additional funding for Link Workers

Suggestions for additional engagement

- Outputs from national data
- Continue PDS Leads sessions
- More about service quality
- Engagement with people using services
- Regular monitoring and reporting to SG

Brain Tissue Donation and the role of Post-diagnostic Support Practitioners

Dr Tom Russ, Consultant Psychiatrist, NHS Lothian and Director of the Alzheimer Scotland Dementia Research Centre, University of Edinburgh provided a helpful summary of the Scottish Dementia Brain Tissue Bank. When available Tom will share a link to the online leaflet and paper copies (if required) with the group. For further information please contact: Denise Munro at the ASDRC alzscotdrc@ed.ac.uk



Herbert Protocol National Implementation

PC Yocksan Bell, Missing Persons Operational Coordinator, Edinburgh Division, Police Scotland and Karen Thom provided an outline of the national implementation plan for the Herbert Protocol and how this links hand in hand with the Alzheimer Scotland Purple Alert. PDS Leads were asked to consider how they can help at local and national level. If you need more information about your Herbert Protocol contact please email Karen Karen.Thom@edinburgh.gov.uk or visit <https://www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/edinburgh/>



Future meeting dates via MS Teams:

09 June 2021	10:00 – 12:00
08 September 2021	10:00 – 12:00
08 December 2021	10:00 – 12:00

Actions:

- FoD team to set up an MS Teams Channel for this group
- Web links for the new FoD materials will be available to PDS Leads as soon as they are published
- Lisa Reedie will share a link to the national annual publication with the group when available
- Link to the Herbert Protocol to be included in the Quality Improvement Framework and GP Dementia Friendly Guide