****

**Dementia Support Service**

This document is for Adult Care and Community Wellbeing only.

08/08/2022 Version 1

KEY POINTS

* The Dementia Support Service covers Lincolnshire and can provide information and advice and help to navigate the care system.
* The service can support people with dementia to remain living in the community and support carers to remain in their caring role.
* Always make customers and their representatives aware of the service where someone has dementia.
* Referrals can be made by practitioners or directly by customers and their representatives.

The Dementia Support Service, provided by the [Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (LPFT)](https://www.lpft.nhs.uk/), continues to offer support to people with a dementia diagnosis, and their carers and family members.

The Dementia Support Service provides a team of seven support workers covering all districts of Lincolnshire, available Monday – Friday 9am-5pm. Initially commissioned for people in the community, the Dementia Support Service can now be accessed at Lincoln, Grantham, Boston and Peterborough hospitals.

The service aims to help people with a diagnosis of dementia, and their families to:

* live as well as possible, and to promote wellbeing throughout the post-diagnosis phases of the dementia journey;
* live in their local community for as long as possible, exercising choice over their support and preventing avoidable admission to long-term care;
* build resilience and confidence in the future;
* benefit from the range of carers’ support services in Lincolnshire and to sustain their caring role;
* reduce the impact of navigating the complexities of the care system.

The service has two elements:

* information, advice and signposting; and
* care navigation.

Both elements are complementary and aim to support people affected by dementia, including carers, to navigate care and support services where they would otherwise be unable to do so, and to access information, services and other forms of support they need. The Dementia Support Service also seeks to support decision making, referring and liaising with other services and encouraging coordination across agencies.

A current area of development within the scope of the Dementia Support Service is the provision of the Carers Information and Support Programme (CrISP). This series of workshops examines a wide range of topics relevant to dementia carers and seeks to develop practical solutions. Initially the programme was available only in the larger population centres but is now being rolled out to smaller communities in all districts of Lincolnshire.

The Dementia Support Service receives referrals from a wide range of sources such as self-referral, Primary Care teams, Adult Care, memory clinics, and third sector agencies. The service is well used but has capacity to reach more service users.

**To make a referral to the Dementia Support Service** Contact: lpft.dementiasupportservice@nhs.netor telephone 0303 123 4000.

For more information, see the [Dementia Support Service page](https://www.lpft.nhs.uk/our-services/older-adults/dementia-support).