

Dementia Select Committee – Hearing 8th April 2011

Hazel Price (3.30)

Biography

Hazel is Programme Manager for the Kent Whole Systems Demonstrator Project one of three such pilots in the country, the others being in Cornwall and the London Borough of Newham.

1. Could you please introduce yourself and give us a brief overview of the components of the Whole System Demonstrator Project – relevant to dementia care.
2. What outcomes have there been and what is the future of the different components.
3. Has Telecare been well received by people, and are there any particular issues that have been highlighted regarding use of Telecare to support people with dementia and their carers.
4. The Select Committee have heard about particular technology products to support people with dementia and carers such as mobile phones, the use of CCTV in the home and products like the Carer's Watch – do these all come under the heading of Telecare?
5. What are the issues around funding for Telecare – who 'qualifies' for it and who pays? Are products available for private purchase/lease by self-funders and to people using direct payments?
6. What advice and guidance is available for people on the different products available and who provides this? How is the quality of products assured and who carries out maintenance?
7. If vulnerable people and those caring for them are reliant on Telecare to maintain their independence and safety – what contingency is there for products using mains electricity in a power cut?
8. Following an alert, via Telecare, of a problem or difficulty being experienced by a person with dementia (or indeed other service user) what is the planned response – which group or organisation provides this cover and how is this funded?
9. In your view, and from any results known from Kent and the other pilots, what role could Telecare play in helping to maintain the independence of people with dementia to assist both them and their carers?