



# *Senior Council for Devon Mental Health Group*



## **All Party Parliamentary Group on Dementia Inquiry**

The All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Dementia is a cross party group that includes MPs and members of the House of Lords, members of the public can attend and can bring matters relating to dementia to their attention. Baroness Greengross who chairs the group tends to involve those members of the public that attend, so it is an opportunity to get your voice heard.

The APPG reports directly to Parliament and its views do have a great influence.

Currently we know only 43 per cent of people in the UK living with dementia ever receive a formal diagnosis. This varies greatly across England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland, the rate is 35% in Devon but over 60% in Northern Ireland, overall we know little progress has been made towards improving diagnosis rates over the last few years.

An inquiry into this area will bring together more evidence and understanding about the current problems there are to improving diagnosis of dementia. It will also find good practice examples where services have been helpful to people with dementia getting an early diagnosis, and ensuring they have proper information and support afterwards, so that these examples can be shared.

We have made progress in Devon with the publication of the “Devon Dementia Pathway” and the establishing of now 41 Memory Cafés, so we have a lot to offer to this Inquiry. But what are we missing? The sooner we can get early diagnosis as the norm the better. We do know that the diagnosis in individual surgeries is patchy with some with high rates and some low, in one market town with three practices, two of them have average numbers of patients with dementia, with the other is reporting none. But why?

We need as much information as possible, other than knowing your postal area all the information collected will be anonymous, so would you fill in the survey it is available online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/N5QKYV9> or fill in the attached questionnaire or you can get a copy from Sally Lougher 01803 732768 or from the SCfD web site.

Ken Crawford



The information you put into this questionnaire will inform the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Dementia's inquiry into diagnosis rates for dementia. It will be most helpful to know where you are so we can compare this to the number of people with dementia in your area who receive a diagnosis.

For those responding to this survey, your responses will be treated confidentially, and if published later they will be anonymous..

### 1. What is the first part of your post code?

### 2. Are you

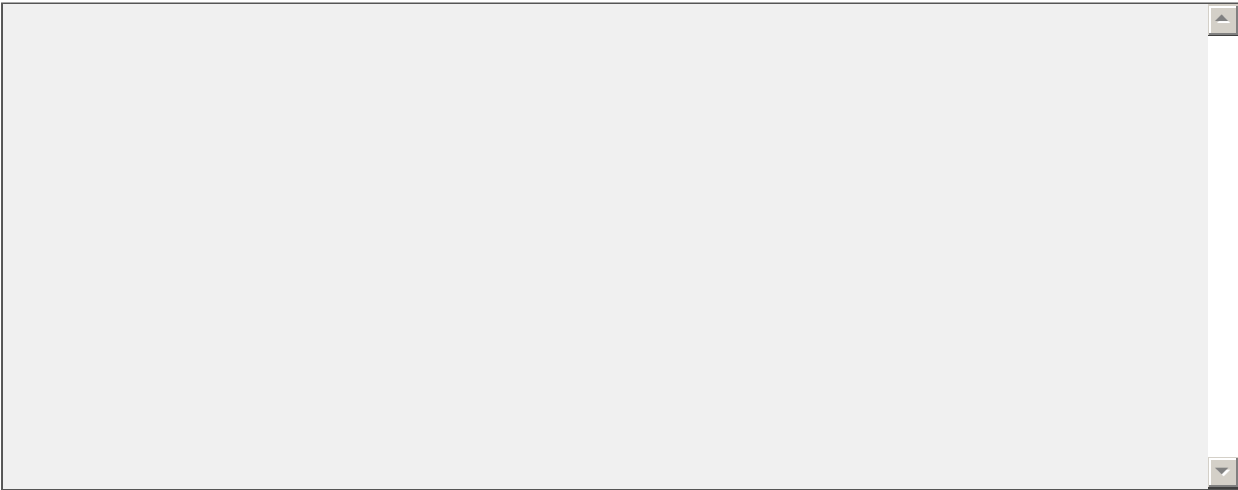
- a person with dementia?
- a carer, family member or friend of someone with demetia?
- a health or social care worker in the field of dementia?
- an interested organisation?

Other (please specify)

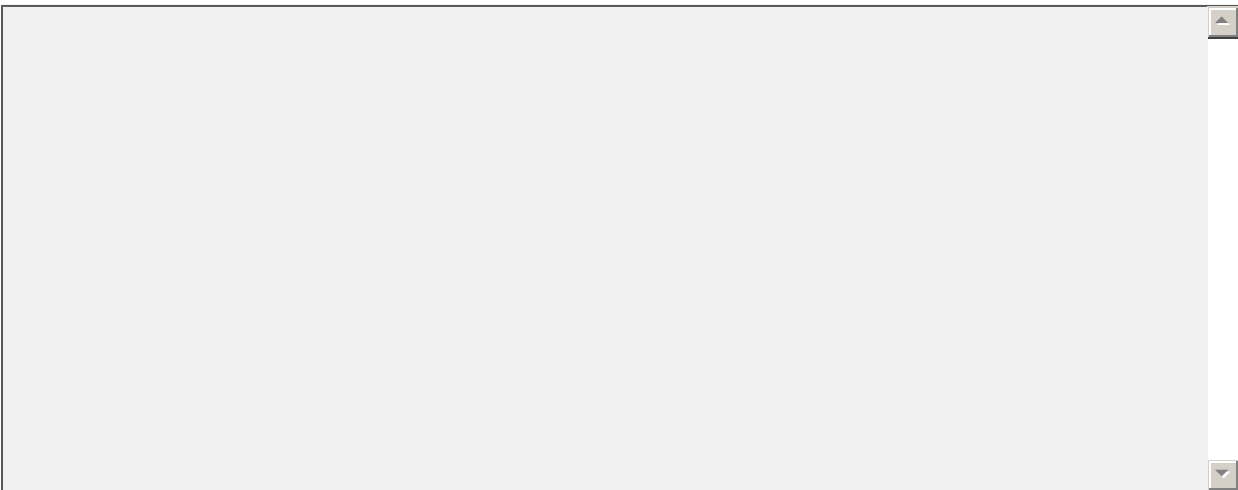
### 3. What barriers do you think there are to diagnosing dementia?

### 4. What could be done to increase diagnosis rates?

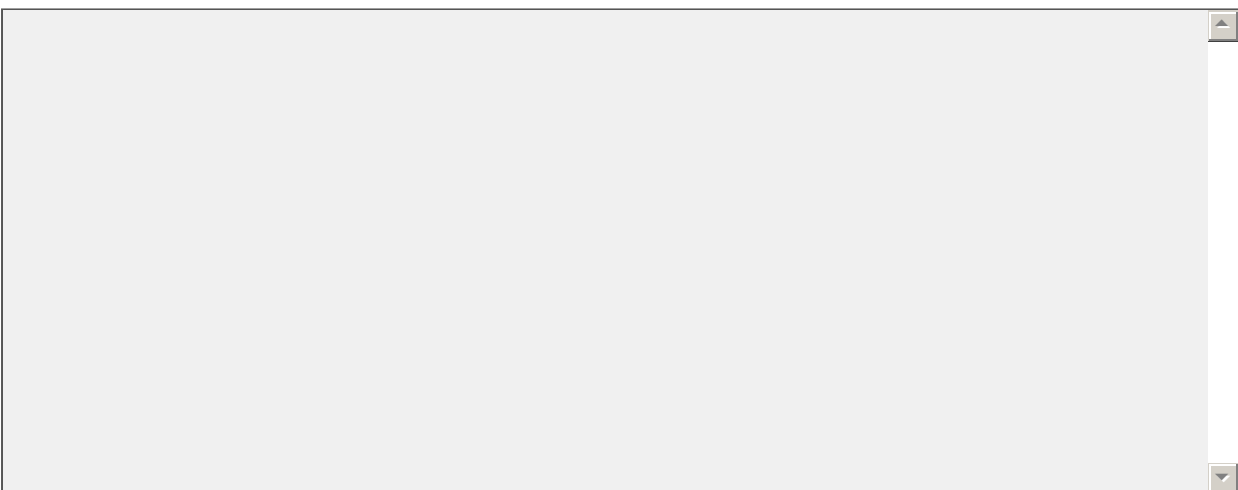
**5. Some areas are better than diagnosing than others. For example 70% of people with dementia in Belfast have a diagnosis, where only 27% of people in Dorset do. Do you have any comments on the variation in diagnosis rates across the UK?**

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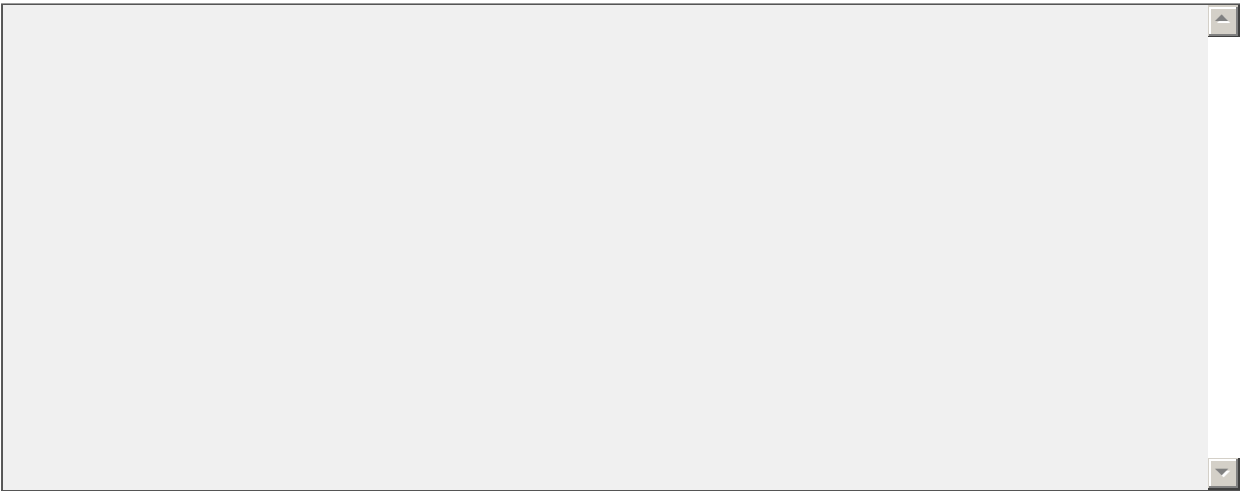
**6. How would services need to be organized for early diagnosis to be the norm?**

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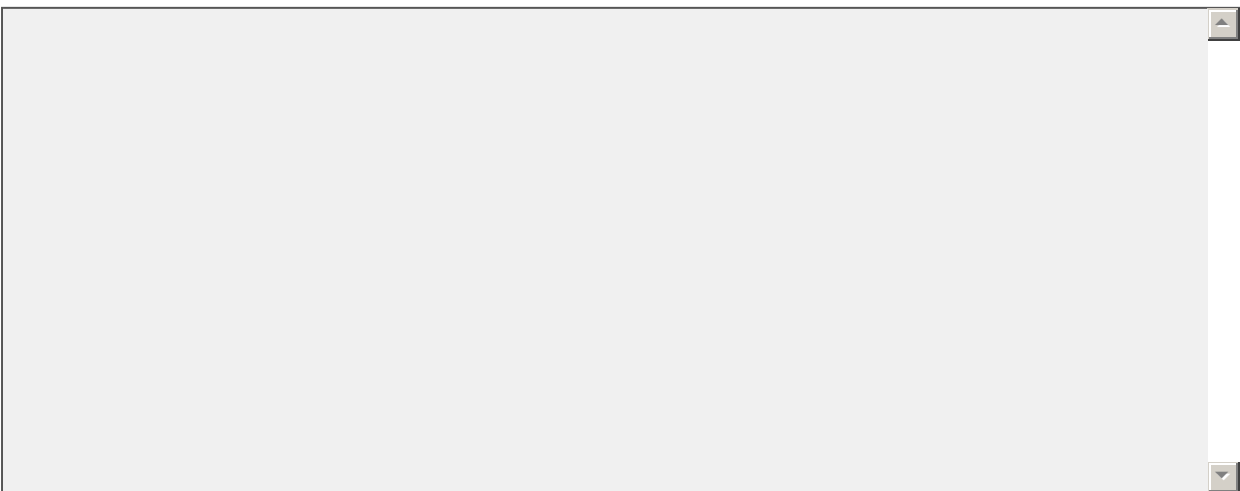
**7. Do you have any examples of good practice in diagnosis of dementia (for example where people have been diagnosed more quickly, or a greater proportion of people are encouraged to seek a diagnosis)?**

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**8. Do you have any examples relating to cost-effectiveness and diagnosis of dementia?**

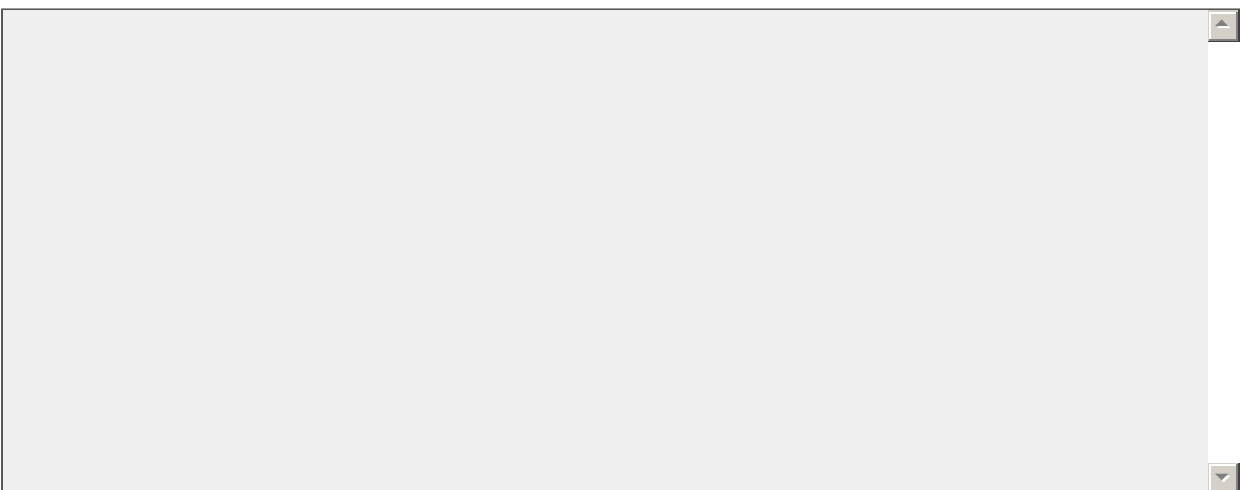
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**9. What must happen beyond diagnosis to ensure people are supported?**

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**10. Comments**

**The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Dementia are looking into how to make the process of diagnosis of dementia better. Do you have any other comments you would like to make?**

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