

Halton Dementia Adviser Case Study

September 2024

Background

Mr G was referred by the Memory Clinic. He has a diagnosis of Vascular Dementia.

Contact made to designated contact Mrs G, home visit was requested.

Home visit undertaken both Mr & Mrs G happy to talk about the situation and how it affects them.

Intervention

A full assessment of their situation and needs was completed at the home visit. The adviser ascertained that they are in the process of organising Lasting Powers of Attorney, information was given about how and when this could be used. Mr and Mrs G had not considered any welfare benefits. DA spoke about the criteria for attendance allowance having gained an understanding of the support Mr G now needed. Mr G requested that the DA ordered the Attendance Allowance forms. Information given also on claiming Severe Mental Impairment disregard for council tax when Attendance Allowance is in place.

They spoke about living well and where to access support to keep active and meet others in a similar situation. Information given about the Alzheimer's Society Halton Activity Groups, and also sure start to later life.

Outcomes

The Dementia Adviser ordered the Attendance Allowance forms and with their consent also referred into Welfare Rights Service for a home visit to assist with filling the forms in.

Further contact

Dementia Adviser spoke again with Mrs G who stated that at times she feels very down and depressed since her husband received the diagnosis in April 24. Mrs G also said the paperwork and information given from memory clinic had left her feeling overloaded and didn't know what to do with it so she put it in a draw. Dementia Adviser offered ongoing support to go through any information she was unsure of.

DA suggested that a full assessment of needs for Mr & Mrs G might be appropriate as they were both struggling to cope at times. A referral was made into Halton carers centre to support Mrs G with the carer stress that she was experiencing and advised Mrs G to speak with GP due to low mood and spoke about possible options for medication or talking therapies.

Both are thinking about attending the Halton Activity group. Dementia Advisers to remain involved until both feel the situation is less stressful. Both expressed that they felt better knowing there is someone to turn to. Their assigned Dementia Adviser has scheduled follow-up calls to them and they have been provided with direct contact details should they

need anything in the interim. They will be able to access this support throughout their whole dementia journey.

Outcomes

Knowledge and Information

Financial

Legal

Mental Wellbeing

Living Well

The increased income, if awarded will be used to access additional support, helping them both to stay well and independent at home. Through the groups and future conversations with their Dementia Adviser they will be able to access other relevant information, e.g. local services, warm homes advice, help with understanding changes as dementia progresses.