

Practical Dementia Resources Improvement Project

Progress update January 2026

About the project

We identified through previous work, a potential need for simplified, practical tools to support frontline staff in taking a non-pharmacological approach to improve dementia care and reduce inappropriate use of psychoactive medicines where possible.

(Jenks K, Marshall D. and Stokes G. (2024) *Reducing psychoactive medication use: Find the 'why'. Journal of Dementia Care Vol 32 (No. 5) p 34-39*)



What we are doing

We are co-developing and co-designing practical tools with, and for, frontline care staff to support them in their role caring for people with dementia.

This involves:

- a survey of frontline care staff
- speaking and meeting with frontline staff to gather deeper information on what they feel would best support them, and in what format
- co-designing the content that will be available on the Right Decision Service app following the launch.

Progress since April

- Funding has been provided by the Scottish Government to support development of this resource.
- Have established a multi-agency strategic advisory group.
- We presented at the Scottish Care, Care at Home Conference and held workshops where we gathered more impact stories from frontline staff.
- We have presented at the Alzheimer Scotland Conference and the UK Dementia Congress in Manchester.

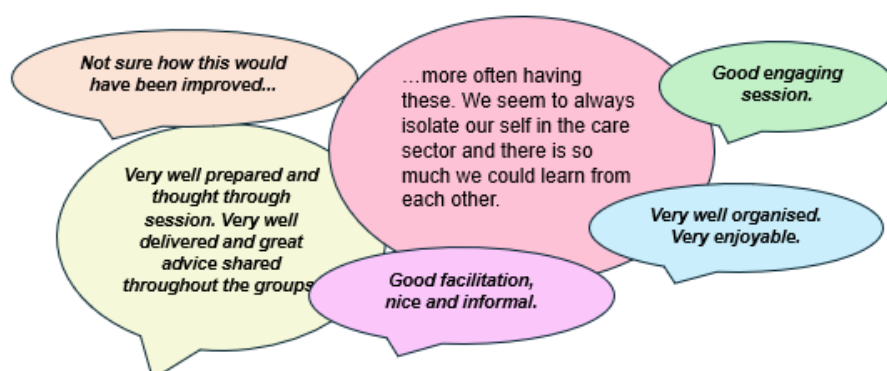
- We contributed to the latest **Journal of Dementia Care**; find the published article [here](#)

Workshops

We held another two additional workshops, which included sessions for:

- **people with lived experience** and gave them the opportunity to share stories about what staff have done well that led to a difference to their quality of life, and
- **frontline staff** to share any useful tools they have developed within their workplace to support and ease their everyday practice when caring for people living with dementia and their care partners.

Participants included informal carers, frontline care staff from care homes, day care and care at home, NHS, voluntary sectors, third party organisations and several local authorities.



Feedback from the workshops

Where are we now?...

- Continuing to gather impact stories from frontline staff, regulators, and people with lived experience.
- Meeting with frontline staff to convert their impact stories into accessible format (i.e. videos, podcasts, animations)
- Advisory Group meets monthly to re-view and agree what is required; agreed resources are then added to the Right Decision Service app.
- Animations are being developed.
- Aiming for a soft launch of the app in April 2026.