



Dementia

Why diagnose? So what?

Understanding the local population needs will inform service planning to support better health and social care outcomes for people living with dementia and their supports.

No matter the stage of dementia it is important to ensure people can access an assessment to support a diagnosis, if wanted. When and if needed this will provide time and support for the person, family, supporter or carers to:

- **Make sense of the situation**
- **Benefit from available pharmacological and importantly non[1] pharmacological interventions that improve and maximise cognitive skills and abilities**
- **Support better quality of life**
- **Enable access to risk reduction advice and interventions**
- **Gain access to information, resources and support by the right skilled service**
- **Enable connections with others in a similar position to find out what works for them**
- **Gain access to benefits, social support and networks**
- **Consider advance directives, planning for the future, review their financial situation and make decisions about legal affairs**
- **Enable employees to make reasonable adjustments if working**