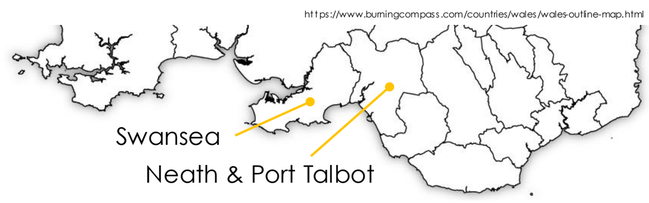
Findings from the evaluation of the West Glamorgan Dementia Care and Respite Service

The **West Glamorgan Dementia Care and Respite** Service is targeted at people living with dementia in their last 12 months of life, to provide additional care and respite support to enable them to remain at home, and to provide support for their carers to help prevent escalation of need and crisis.

Clinical respite care	Companion volunteers	Hub Care Coordinator
• 3 WTE HCAs and 1 WTE RN • Mon-Fri 8am-10pm (flexible) • RN assesses at end of each 12 week block	• Targeted at lower level of need • Typically up to 3 hours per week support	• Link point for referrals • Contact point for families to review 'what matters' and schedule appointments



Partneriaeth Ranbarthol Gorllewin Morgannwg | West Glamorgan Regional Partnership

- **Summer 2022** – Initial 18 months funded by West Glamorgan Regional Partnership board
- **October 2022** – Service commences
- **April 2023** – Service user interviews begin
- **EVALUATION PERIOD**
- **December 2023** – Further 12 months funding (April 2024-March 2025) confirmed
- **April 2024** – First evaluation report published

EVALUATION ACTIVITY

Yma were recruited to provide a mixed methods evaluation of the service in April 2023, preparing an interim report in January 2024

Key question: What is the optimum model for respite care in Dementia?

DATA SOURCES

explored below

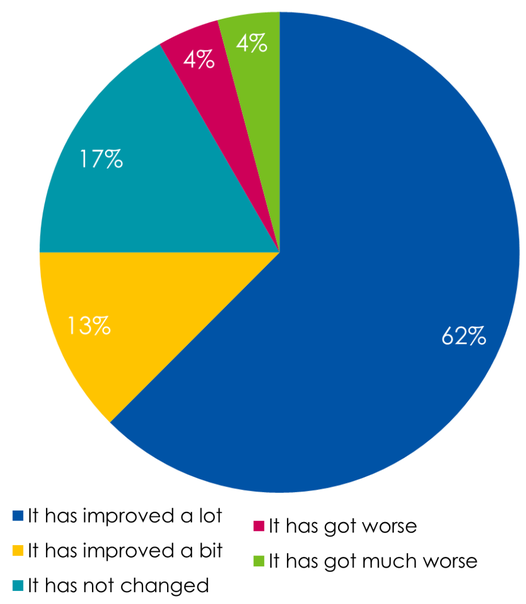
- Volunteer logs, collected and anonymised by volunteer service
- Anonymised EMIS data of service users
- Semi structured interviews with service users, staff and volunteers
- Responses to survey of clinical respite service users, collection on phone by Hub staff

FINDINGS FROM INTERIM REPORT – April 2023-September 2023

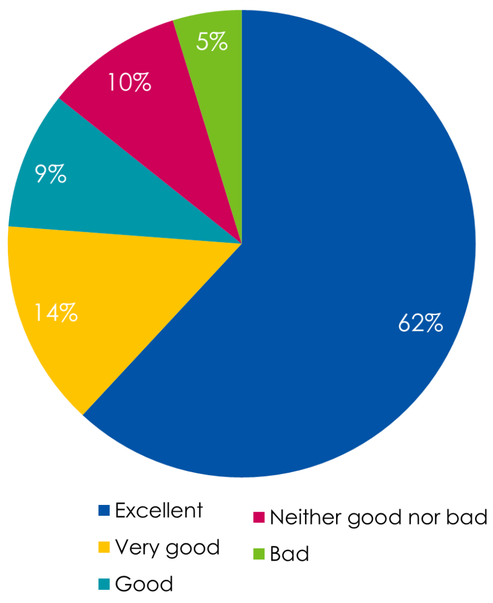
SURVEYS OF SERVICE USERS

25 completed on phone by Hub, 1 self-completed online, from service users and carers

To what extent do you think that your wellbeing has changed since using the West Glamorgan Dementia Respite Service?



Overall, how would you describe your experience of using the West Glamorgan Dementia Respite Service?

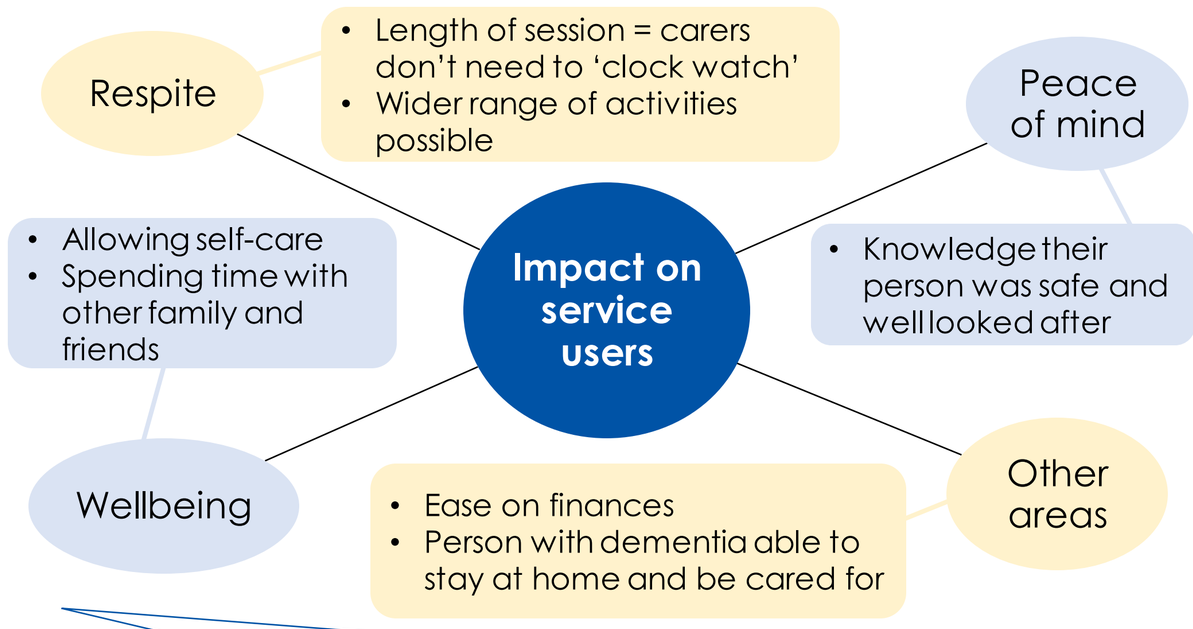


- ✓ Carer wellbeing improved
- ✓ Carer able to look after their own health
- ✓ Reduction in worry/ anxiety for carers
- ✓ Improved mental health
- ✓ Appreciation for service and staff
- ✓ Person with dementia enjoys the visits
- ✗ Lack of predictability to appointments
- ✗ Cancellation of appointments
- ✗ Reduction in number of visits available
- ! More support/visits requested

Mostly due to staffing availability, growth of service/referrals and increased demand for respite

INTERVIEWS WITH SERVICE USERS

4 service users, 1 volunteer, 5 Marie Curie staff members and 1 Alzheimer's Society Advisor



"I can't put into words how much of a help it has been already"

COMPANION SERVICE CASE STUDY – JOHN, DILYS AND ANWEN*

John is a very social and active person but can't currently be left alone. **Dilys** cares for John full-time. She has health and mobility issues and struggles to take John out.

Anwen has visited for 2-3 hours twice a week since January 2023. **She takes John to local sports clubs and enables him to see friends and socialise**.

John is **less agitated** now he can regularly go out. Dilys is able to safely shower and **have a break**, and has grown very close to Anwen. Anwen really **values** her time with John and has grown close to and **supports** Dilys too.

"I just love it, I couldn't have asked for a better family to work with"
Anwen, on supporting Dilys and John

"I don't know what I would do without her… she is like part of the family"
Dilys, on Anwen and the visits

* All names have been changed

Next steps: Evaluation continues as service continues; full year one evaluation report in April 2024; interviews continue, particularly targeting Companion service users; surveys now conducted at regular intervals to track changes

Project Team

Rachel Jones – *Project Lead*
Chloe Abraham – *Volunteer Coordinator*
Katherine Bluck – *Business Development Manager*
Rhian Evans – *Clinical Lead, Community Services*
Julie Fitzgerald – *Senior Nurse*
Jayne Palfreyman – *Hub Manager*
Llinos Trotman – *Clinical Nurse Manager*
rachel.jones1@mariecurie.org.uk

Evaluation Team

Julia Pirson – *Projects Lead , Yma*
Ewan Lawry – *Project Support Officer, Yma*
Giles Skerry – *Impact and Evaluation Manager, MC*
Hannah Leach – *Impact and Evaluation Officer, MC*
yma@dymani.cymru
evaluation@mariecurie.org.uk