

Maidstone Mentors

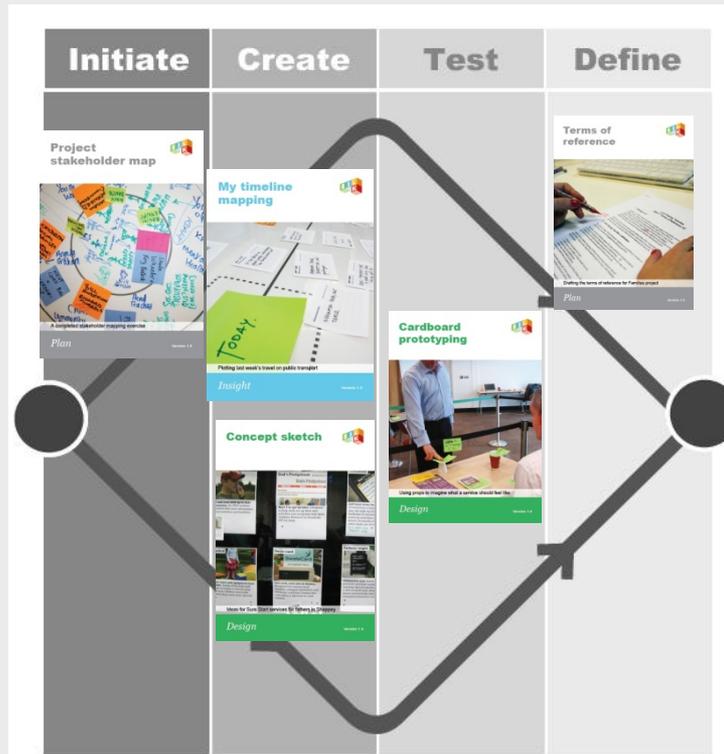


1. The co-production process
2. What we initially found out
3. Participants and aspirations
4. Creating a walkthrough
5. Test

1. The coproduction approach



Maidstone Mentors has been co-developed by people living with dementia, supporting organisations and medical professionals, using the SILK co-production approach (www.kent.gov.uk/silk).



2. What we initially found out



“After I got my diagnosis I told my GP that if he sends anyone else to a Memory Clinic could he please give them my number. As I can understand what they are going through and they might want to talk to me.” “After the memory clinic, it’s like stepping off a cliff”, SILK Insight Report (2012) carried out with people living with dementia.

While people appreciated the different ways of accessing information the one way people wanted more of was face to face, someone to talk to. In some instances people had formed their own support networks, either through not knowing what else was out there or because the type of support they wanted wasn’t available to them locally. There had also been examples of individuals attempting to reach out to others.

3. Participants & aspirations



Participants included:

People living with dementia (peer support groups and individuals) and professionals working in the field, including Maidstone Memory Clinic and charities

Participants agreed a range of things what a “Mentor” could do e.g.:

Talk to recently diagnosed people - share experiences

Offer support over the phone or in person

Attend the post-diagnosis course run by the Memory Clinic

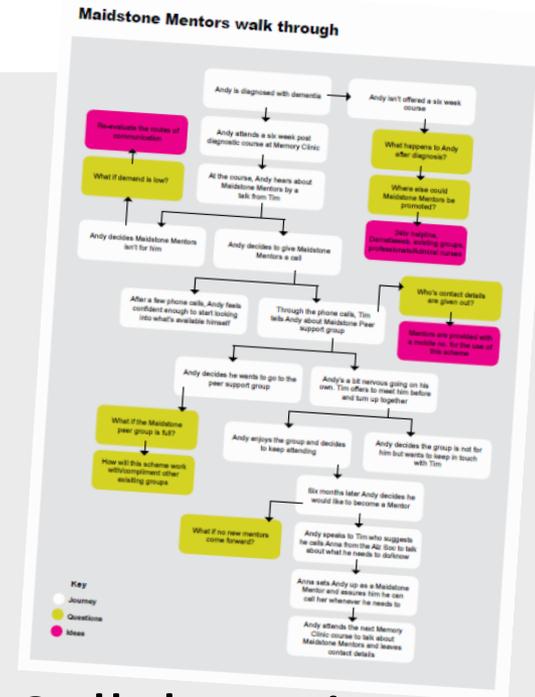
4. Creating a walkthrough



A walkthrough was designed with “Maidstone Mentors” based on the needs and aspirations identified in the review discussions

This was shared back with all contributors so far and the Kent and Medway Dementia Collaborative Board to share back with their organisations

All responses were gathered and used to refine the flow of the walkthrough



5. Test



Maidstone Mentors was tested for approx 12 months

Promotional leaflet designed with “mentors”

“Mentors” received basic “training”

Maidstone Mentors attend the post diagnostic courses at Memory Clinic to introduce themselves

Mentors to have regular catch up sessions with support worker from Alzheimer's Society (supporting Maidstone Mentors)

Feedback from Memory Clinic and “mentors”



6. Define

Maidstone Mentors is being taken forward by the Alzheimer's Society. They will continue to work alongside members of their peer support groups to build upon the original idea.

For further information please contact:

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