

## DEMENTIA CARE PARTNERSHIP

Valuing the person and respecting their contribution underpins our person-led practice. It starts with a premise that people experiencing support or care needs or illnesses and disabilities, such as dementia or other mental/physical health problems, in most situations, do not want others to take over or decide what is best for them. It emphasises their right to take their place in society as any other citizen and recognises that irrespective of illness or disability they have the potential and ability to take the lead in all aspects of their life thus preserving their identity.

Empowerment is about enabling people with support or care needs and their carers to retain control over their lives, recognising that in the process of empowering the clients and carers, professionals must be prepared to be disempowered.

**E**  
Empowerment

**P**  
Person Led

Having the hope to continue their lives as active, valued, respected and participating members of their own communities and neighbourhoods.

**H**  
Hope

**A**  
Attachment

Attachment is a basic human need, where a sense of security is gained through the presence of a trusted person or the familiarity of a place. Attachment can develop with a trusted person such as a support worker, or to a place such as a supported house, enabling a sensitive and gradual partnership of care and support.

**C**  
Continuity

To remember the importance of continuity with one's history, routines and lifestyles on health and wellbeing. Similarly, the continuity of care and support provided by a small team of support workers, (wherever possible from the same locality) thus offering familiarity, security and a sense of belonging.