Dementia GPS Safeguarding Scheme

Utilising GPS technology to protect members of our community who are living with dementia and at-risk of becoming a future **missing person**.
Scanning

• In UK, dementia one of most significant conditions affecting older population
• Predicted estimates:
  – 2025: 1 million+ people
  – 2051: 2 million+ people
Poignant memories...

- Increase in call for assistance from public
  - Lady who traveled across city to visit mother in family home that was removed after WWII
  - Death of man with dementia struck by train after becoming disorientated
- Personal family diagnosis
- Drive for efficiency and maximising our ability to protect

My tipping point for action...
Analysis: the problem

Increase in missing people nationally

Table 1: Calls made to the police in England, Wales and Scotland regarding missing and absent persons 2012 – 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial year</th>
<th>Total Missing related Calls</th>
<th>England &amp; Wales related calls</th>
<th>Scotland related calls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>377,710</td>
<td>337,640&lt;sup&gt;d&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>40,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td>321,992</td>
<td>282,066</td>
<td>39,926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>307,172</td>
<td>270,699</td>
<td>36,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/13</td>
<td>306,118</td>
<td>273,319</td>
<td>32,799</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NCA
National Crime Agency

UK Missing Persons Bureau
Demands on other services
A chance meeting in 2015
2015: Dementia GPS Safeguarding scheme born

Key issues

• Funding
• Reputational risk from media
• Longevity of scheme
• Public and charitable support
Response

• **Stage 1 (2015-16)**
  - Funding: Bristol Dementia charity
  - 15 devices force-wide for 12 months
  - Strict referral criteria: most at risk allocated device
  - Designated mailbox for referrals
  - Basic GPS pendant monitored by NHS call centre

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Folder\Buddi\Pat v1.mp4
Continued...

- Formation of force-wide Avon & Somerset Dementia Forum
- New funding stream through PCC community fund
Stage 2 (2017-18)

- New supplier: Bristol Careline
- Doubling devices to 30
- Missing person specialist to assess nominations
- Photograph/description added (with consent) to police intelligence system
- Promotional videos produced, local officers deliver GPS device
Continued...

- GPS device with enhanced features:
  - Geo safe zones
  - Online location access by NOK
  - Reduced demand on police call centre: NOK don’t have to wait for missing episode to develop
Stage 3: 2018 to present

- Scheme recognised by forces across UK; replicated on varying scales
- Expansion of scheme; variety of devices under review
- Collaboration with North Somerset Council:
  - allocating GPS pendants to people with dementia
  - data shared/uploaded to our intelligence system
Assessment

• Year 1 (2015-16) 87% success preventing police missing person reports
• Year 2 (2017-18) 100% success: 0 calls for police assistance
• Wider benefits:
  • Enhanced safeguarding building relations between police and community