The group was welcomed by Rose and Mark from Quarriers Person Centred Planning Service, who were facilitating the discussion.

The dream

We asked the group what services would look like if they could wave a magic wand. Some of the themes included:

- Flexible holistic supports that meet the emotional& practical needs of all individuals either at home or in the community
- Early support for people who have been diagnosed - someone to talk to.
- “Someone to listen and lift you up”
- Stream lined services.
- Good training for all, including GP’s
- Specialised Dementia Nurses
- Peer support groups
- Memory clinics that are easily accessed & part of the community

A positive and possible future

Next we asked the group to imagine a possible future, 18 months from that day. They were asked what they remembered had happened in that time to change things in the direction of the dream.
A lot of work had been done to raise the profile of dementia in the media, on television & in the community. Positive stories and images were now being promoted of life with dementia.

There has been evaluation of what is happening in different areas, and what is working well, so that it can be replicated.

GP’s are more involved now in understanding their role in diagnosis and in post diagnosis support.

There is an up to date resource pack available to let people know of what is available.

What is it like now?
Who needs to be involved?
What will help people keep going?

Action planning steps

The next step was to set some targets for actions and think of first steps/priorities.
- Each CHCP now has training on Dementia Awareness for GP’s set on the agenda for P.L.E.
- Doing everything to keep awareness of dementia high on the public awareness & on politicians agendas.
- Using the current website to publish stories, promote discussion.
- Linking dementia issues into ongoing nationally set strategies.

Each person will get a copy of this document and the overall themes/action plan by mid May.