Dudley MBC has two ‘Dementia Gateways’ situated in central and south Dudley Borough. They are Brett Young Centre and The Crystal Gateway Service. These centers are working together with the hospitals in offering continuity of care for when a patient leaves the hospital and is mobilised back home and into the community setting. Often in these situations, when a patient leaves hospital, the continuity of care is lost. Working together in this way is significant.

The Service Users are benefitting from this new approach to the care and treatment of people with dementia as well as the high level of support that is offered to carers and family members.

The Brett Young Centre have reported that their recent investment in ‘RITA’ has created a very happy environment for their Service Users. They had one particular Service who was often frustrated and agitated but being able to play the games on ‘RITA’ helped them to relax and keep them calmer. It was a fulfilling experience.

They have enjoyed using the Music Player, the graphic on the system resonates with them and they love having fun with the quizzes.

There are many features to ‘RITA’ that can lend themselves to one to one sessions or group type activities. Being able to offer this type of stimulation is helpful in reducing social isolation.

The Gateways support people diagnosed with dementia, their families and carers. They are staffed by people from Dudley NHS, the council’s adult social care team and work closely with ‘Alzheimer’s Society’ and the wider community.

The Gateways offer access to a wide range of support for a person living with dementia. It is intended that once an individual has been referred to a Gateway, contact and support will be maintained indefinitely.

Anyone worried about dementia, diagnosed with the condition, their families and carers can ask for help from the Borough’s two Dementia Gateway. Dementia nurses from Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group are linked to both Gateways.
My Improvement Network are delighted to be able to support the RCN Project and their mission to increase awareness around delirium in older people with dementia.

The integration and use of technology within healthcare offers significant benefits in both primary and secondary care settings. These benefits can extend across nursing practice from improving person centered care to enhancing daily workflows. Providing educational tools that empower and guide nursing staff through this digital revolution is critical and will help facilitate successful incorporation and safe implementation of technologies within nursing, by nurses.