



## What we would like to see in the market

As there is an oversupply of residential and nursing care provision for older people we want providers to respond flexibly to needs and also consider reconfiguring their services to provide intermediate and respite care for people with dementia as well as younger people with complex care and support needs.

We plan to launch a framework procurement for residential and nursing care during 2013/14. This will be is an opportunity to accredit existing suppliers based on the council's terms and conditions including hourly rates, quality and flexibility. Provider costs have been benchmarked and analysed through Valuing Care and a good sample of providers in the local market. More information will be made available through this website and the Council's procurement channels.

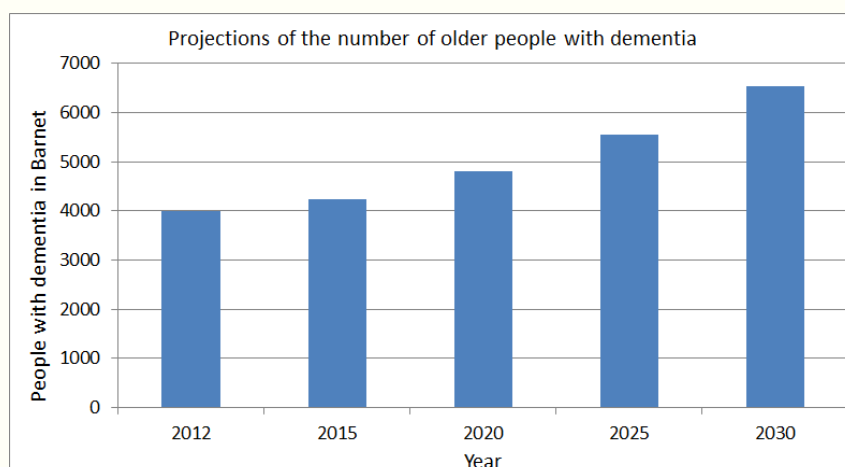
Following work to recognise and pre-empt any sustainability issues that may arise from external pressures, the council agreed a 3 year pricing strategy in February 2012. The aim of this policy is to maximise available resources and promote quality sustainable services by targeting increases on the current lowest rates in 2012/13 and from 2013/14 onwards to those providers who meet the Council's framework contract terms and conditions. The Council's maximum usual price for residential care can be found [here](#)

[The Care and Support White Paper and draft Bill](#) is the Government's response to the [Law Commission report](#), (May 2011) entitled Adult Social Care, which reviewed and made recommendations on the law relating to the provision of adult social care in England and Wales. The complexity of the care systems causes frustration and distress to many people. The Law Commission's proposed single statute for social care with a set of defining principles and rights, definitions and processes, and a single code of practice, will have implications for front line social care practitioners.

The White Paper and draft Bill also responds to the recommendations from the Commission on the funding of long term care\_(Dilnot) published in July 2011. We should celebrate the fact that we are all living longer lives, particularly disabled people and those with long-term conditions. But the unavoidable challenge faced is how to support the increasing number of people who need care. The recommendations arising from this commission represent a new settlement between state, local authorities and individuals around how care is funded when people need long term care. If implemented, this will have profound implications locally and nationally. As part of responding to Dilnot, the Government confirmed its intentions on the level of Funding of Care and Support, DH 11.02.2013.

Projections show that the number of residential placements within Barnet will increase by around 30% to over 2,800 placements by 2020. The table below shows a projection of the

numbers of older people with dementia.



**Figure 1.** Chart showing the projected number of older people (+65 years) with dementia in Barnet<sup>1</sup>

## What are Care Homes?

A care home is a residential setting where older people and people with disabilities may live, usually in single rooms and have access to on-site care services such as personal care (help with washing, dressing and giving medication). Some care homes are registered to meet a specific care need, for example dementia or terminal illness.

For most councils including Barnet, care homes are a key area of provision in supporting frail and elderly people. Our vision is that residents of care homes in Barnet will have consistently high quality care.

## Current position

We have reduced the rate of admission to residential care but the numbers of people living in residential care remains relatively high within our local authority comparator group. Our concern is that there is overprovision and the associated costs for non-local need. Residential and nursing homes in Barnet may register places for the care of older people who have dementia and places for people who require nursing care. Places for people who require neither type of specialist care are known as 'mainstream places'. The current supply of mainstream residential places in Barnet exceeds placements made by the Council and is also a national issue.

Together they provide capacity for over 3,000 people, with the majority of places designed for older people. The effect of this additional supply is to increase the potential of cross border purchasing from outside Barnet. This will place a greater burden on NHS Barnet and our budget.

<sup>1</sup> Projecting Older People Population Information system (POPPI) projections

Commissioning residential care placements is now more focused on providing places for people with dementia as demand has increased. However, it is considered that sufficient capacity will be achieved through existing homes. Demand for nursing home places is constant and the current supply is sufficient to meet demand.

Our position on the care home market supports the [Council's Local Development Framework](#) (planning permission). More information is included in the planning section of our website under advice for organisations.

## Strategic relevance

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Care homes form a key area of provision in supporting frail and elderly people. The way in which care homes manage ill-health and long-term conditions of their residents, and promote good health through preventative measures can reduce the pressure on NHS and social care services and improve their residents' quality of life. Conversely poor management of health and long-term condition can place unnecessary strain on services as opportunities to take preventative measures in care homes may be missed and elderly patients' health deteriorates, leading to admissions to hospitals and other care services.

The number of older people with dementia needing care home provision is expected to rise over the next two decades. People with dementia require greater support so care homes will need to increase their capability to provide this support in future. We will therefore encourage the remodelling of such facilities to other forms of provision for older people such as extra care housing or supported living. These are viable alternatives in many cases to residential care, allowing residents more independence whilst encouraging community and activities. (See market message on Extra Care and Supported Housing)

There are numerous national initiatives supporting workforce development around social care and safeguarding (e.g. Health and Social Care Diploma and National Competence Framework for Safeguarding Adults), however there is less focus on the health management aspects of care. Specific opportunities to improve the quality and consistency of clinical care have been identified in the prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers, dementia care, management of medication and conditions and end of life care.

Our vision is that residents of care homes in Barnet will have consistently high quality care and we are working to achieve this through a number of service/market supporting developments:

- **Project to improve the quality of care within Care Homes in Barnet**
  - Building stronger partnerships between care homes, the community and wider health and social care.
  - Ensuring that residents and carers are at the centre of everything we do and that they are involved in the decision making of the homes

- Introducing support targeted at improving the consistency and quality of care within Care Homes, share lessons learnt and good practice across the sector locally and nationally.

- **Integrated Quality in Care Homes Team (IQIC)**

- Developing and promoting an enabling relationship with care providers
- Providing advice and support to care homes
- Working with care staff and managers where potential improvements and /or safeguarding issues have been identified

## **Other initiatives impacting on care homes**

- **Frail Elderly Pathway**

In Barnet the pathway of support and interventions for frail elderly people aims to reduce avoidable admissions to hospital and reduce admission to residential care through:

- Quick access to enablement and Intermediate Care Team
- Rapid response referral from GPs
- Risk analysis to support GPs to identify the frail and elderly
- Multi disciplinary support around the individual
- Clinics at Finchley Memorial Hospital
- Care navigators

- **Care Navigation Service**

The overall aim of the Care Navigation Service is to provide personalised integrated health and social care interventions for frail and elderly patients (aged 65 and over). Aligned to GP practices it will aim to improve health and wellbeing and independence by:

- Identifying those most at risk
- Creating personalised health and social care support plans
- Working with people and their families and carers to help manage their own conditions
- Signposting for support

## Service details

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Care home supply in the borough is one of the largest in Greater London. Within Barnet, there are 95 residential and 23 nursing homes registered with the Care Quality Commission. In total, these homes provide 3,068 beds for a range of older people and younger people with disabilities. The council funds 1147 (37%) places within a wide variety of homes. 187 (6%) are funded within a variety of homes through Continuing Health Care. There is a mix of providers from small to large and care homes in Barnet.

## Key contacts

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- [Adult.commissioning@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:Adult.commissioning@barnet.gov.uk) for queries relating to the provision or future plans
- The Care Quality Commissioning – [www.cqc.org.uk](http://www.cqc.org.uk)