



Cheshire West & Chester Council

# Ageing Well Accommodation and Support Strategy 2022 - 2026



Cheshire West  
and Chester



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## Executive Summary

The way social care is delivered in West Cheshire is changing and will continue to evolve in the foreseeable future. Working in partnership with our CCG, planning and housing colleagues, our focus is on helping our residents to stay independent for longer and enabling them to make an informed decision on the care and support services they may need.

Cheshire West and Chester Council is committed to developing and implementing an accommodation, care and support strategy focusing on where needs are greatest across the borough. This strategy will include and promote:-

- accommodation which becomes the **centre of vibrant communities** for people to live and age well that promotes **independence** and **social inclusion**
- working alongside other services and communities to meet an **individual's needs**
- an infrastructure to deliver **flexible care and support** in a planned, person-centred way
- the provision of **dementia-friendly** environments
- Is **affordable** and **sustainable** for the future.

The borough is divided into 9 care communities, which has a mixture of pockets of affluence and deprivation. By 2035 it is projected that there will be an increase of a third of people aged 85 plus, living locally. The local vision for Adult Social Care is based upon a strength-based approach through the implementation of community led support which helps people to live well for longer in the appropriate housing, with their own home being the preferred place. With the acknowledgement that a mixture of housing tenure and types are required to meet the needs of our residents. This may include adaptations to their homes to support their desired outcomes.

The mixture of housing will include accessible owner occupier and social housing, independent and extra care housing, and care homes. Our data shows that the largest potential Care Home shortfall in available residential and nursing beds is Chester Central, Ellesmere Port and Winsford. Chester Central is projected to have a deficit of 26 beds by 2035, Ellesmere Port a deficit of 87 beds and Winsford a deficit of 45 beds.

To ensure that we meet this future need we will work with developers and providers of accommodation with care and support who can demonstrate that their models of care:

- Mitigate against future care costs as people's needs change, especially in comparison to more long-term institutionalised care
- Support people in the continuum of care through to end of life
- Reduce risks of hospital admissions
- Follow best practice in design and care
- Are transparent about the cost of the care package within their charges
- Meet evidenced local need
- Help support the Climate Change agenda

- Provide wider Social Value in their delivery

## Introduction

This strategy outlines the Cheshire West and Chester Council vision for supporting adults over 55 to live well within its borough. It details what we want to achieve over the next 5, 10 and 15 years within accommodation-based care and support for older adults, focusing on public value and resident experience. It sets out our strategic intent for all the accommodation-based services we commission and provide for those over 55 years and who are resident in West Cheshire. Our vision and intention is to shape the market and support residents with accommodated based support, building on individual's strengths and abilities to enable them to achieve a fulfilled life. Referencing the current trends in demand and demographics within our boundary and best practice from across the Country in innovative accommodation with care and support.

Under the Care Act 2014, the Council has a duty to promote diversity and quality whilst shaping, providing choice, control and a sustainable marketplace to those that live within their area. Its focus is on prevention, whilst providing information and advice, making explicit reference to integration across health, housing, and social care. As this strategy reflects the local vision for the next five years, accommodation and support commissioned on behalf of the council must be:

- **Person centred** - Enable residents to exercise choice and control and promote independence.
- **Outcome focussed** – Focus on improving residents' wellbeing and integrating with communities.
- **Innovative** – Learn from innovative practice elsewhere and maximise all opportunities to deliver a digital service.
- **Future proof** – Have a clear understanding of predicted future demand and supply and create financially viable and value for money services.
- **Partnership focussed** – reflect joint working between the Council, Clinical Commissioning group (CCG), Care Quality Commission (CQC), and with providers, planners, and developers to deliver the right accommodation for the local area.
- **Intelligence led** – Where decisions will be based on relevant data and recognise and share best practice. We will be transparent about decision making.

## Priorities and Vision

The Council's Adult Social Care vision is based upon a strength-based approach in which we support residents of West Cheshire to live well for longer and have great lives. By providing the appropriate support, in the appropriate place so that residents feel engaged and part of the community that they live in. As part of this, the Council is introducing Community Led Support to ensure that early intervention and prevention enables individuals to remain as independent as possible, for as long as possible.

The future vision for older people's accommodation must support integration across health, social care and the community and be accessible for all. The Council want people to live healthy, happy and independent lives, achieving their full potential by

staying independent in their own homes for as long as possible and make informed decisions about any future care and support services they may need.

The priorities for older residents with care and support needs include:

- Priority 1 – To enable people to stay in their own homes for longer.

The Care Act 2014 places a duty on the Council to provide services which help people to maintain good health and wellbeing, and to promote a good quality of life. Part of this must include the arrangement of services, grants or resources that prevent people needing long term care and support. These preventative services include:

- **Information and advice** – Providing access to services and support that is available to help individual needs and wishes
- **Technology Enabled Care** – Items of equipment which can provide remote reassurance such as pendant alarms, falls detectors or Alexa devices.
- **Community Equipment** – Equipment which aids independence such as grab rails, commodes, and hoists
- **Home Improvement Agency (HIA)** – funded or part funded major works through the Disabled Facility Grant (DFG) such as ramps, stairlifts and level access showers in a resident's own home.

To achieve part of this priority the Council will work with preventative providers to establish a vibrant market, whilst updating the way these services are publicised with people living within West Cheshire to promote preventative services.

Additionally, Adult Social Care will work with developers and landlords in partnership with housing and planning colleagues to make sure that homes are accessible and adaptable meaning that they are homes for life. We will work with private landlords through the Cheshire West Landlord Accreditation Scheme to improve the quality of Registered Housing providers.

Finally, to support people to live comfortably and with pride at home the Council would like to work with the Community and local sector to increase access to services that might be required to maintain a home such as garden maintenance, increasing access to the handypersons service and cleaning.

- Priority 2: Provide an alternative provision for when home is no longer appropriate.

Through Care Act assessments, and close links with health colleagues, the Council support people to remain at home for as long as possible but also recognise that long-term care plans can change, and a move into more suitable accommodation may be necessary to meet needs. As part of the strategy, we want to make residents aware

that a move into a care home is not always the only or best option and highlight other “step up” provisions like independent accommodation.

There are many different types of independent accommodation which may be appropriate as a next step from living at home such as:

- **Sheltered Housing** – private independent units, with some shared facilities such as communal halls and access to a housing support staff member. Most Sheltered Housing includes Technology Enabled Care (such as a pendant that can call remotely for help should you need it.)
- **Extra Care Housing** – similar to sheltered housing but with the additional support of a care team on site to assist.
- **Respite care** – is also a time limited service, for people who need supported accommodation on a temporary basis to assist the family or friend caring for them to have a break from their caring role.

The delivery of new accommodation options is a critical element of this strategy. The strategy sets out how we intend to work with Planning colleagues and ensure we have a pivotal voice in decision making for the future. Specifically, we want to influence private developers within the development plan to design independent accommodation which are flexible enough to be easily adapted to meet the changing needs of its occupants as they age.

The Council would like to work with providers of these services and potential developer (within areas identified as requiring additional independent accommodation) to deliver a high-quality inclusive service. With the aim of assisting more vulnerable adults to live within their local community with:


- peace of mind and reassurance
  - flexible care and support designed around the individual
  - the integration of digital technologies and adaptations.

We also recognise the invaluable support given by carers and family members and in accordance with the Care Act 2014, their needs will also be assessed and supported through the use of a Respite service, with regular reviews and services designed to meet their needs and aspirations.

- Priority 3: To support people with changing and complex needs within Care Homes

As people’s needs continue to change and their health deteriorates, The Council will assess and review their needs to consider more suitable accommodation with higher levels of care and support such as a Care Home placement.

There are two main types of care homes within Cheshire West and Chester, they are Residential and Nursing homes. Each type additionally has a sub section of EMI provision to support people with complex dementia.



We know that people want to stay in their own homes or independent accommodation for as long as possible and as such, there is decreased demand for Residential care home placements, in favour of care coming into their home.

We also know that there will be increased demand over coming years for nursing care, particularly given the predicted prevalence of dementia, due to people living longer and the increased health risk this brings. The provision of more nursing homes will become a priority

The Council therefore would like to work with providers who provide a high-quality service for people with more complex needs in care communities in which data has shown a shortfall, reducing the number of Residential beds across the borough.

- Priority 4: Our residents to feel part of the community that they live in

Our priority is to ensure personalisation, choice and flexibility through a range of accommodation types and that people feel part of the community in which they live.


We want to be able to offer residents a choice which meets their changing health and wellbeing needs through differing levels of accommodation whether that be at home, independent accommodation or care homes, with the focus remaining on promoting independence and good health by connecting with the community where they live, as well as friends and family.

Building on people's strengths and abilities is a key driver for people living in all accommodation types. A priority is that any independent accommodation and Care Homes become inclusive of the community in which they are based; inviting local residents in, while supporting people living within their accommodation to access the community in which they live.

We also want to work with care providers to understand what is working well in our communities and how we can best support the development of greater provision in the future. Whilst the data clearly indicates that older residents want to stay in their own homes for longer, we are aware that this must not lead to social isolation and loneliness. The Council aspires to create ways for residents to stay connected within their communities by the use of an array of community-based activities to take place in a range of settings to encourage residents to meet up and feel a real sense of community.

- Priority 5: To ensure there is affordable accommodation with care and support across the borough to enable people to stay in their homes for longer

Any model of accommodation provision in West Cheshire should be affordable, sustainable and flexible to meet the needs of older residents. Cheshire West and Chester is a diverse borough, with affluent and deprived areas and a range of



household circumstances; from those who are able to access owner/occupier homes and services, those who are equity rich, but cash poor, to households who are benefit dependent. Therefore, the Council wants to make sure the types of accommodation and assistance available are accessible for all.

For example, to ensure that the Council and local health partners pay a fair rate to care home providers, a fair cost of care exercise was completed during 2021 which resulted in a significant increase to our contracted rates. Further work on the fair cost of care will be completed during 2022 as part of work linked to the Government's wider adult social care charging reforms.

We will continue to review the cost of provision across all accommodation and support services to ensure we receive value for money and can invest in areas required to meet our vision.

As we move to a preventative way of delivering care and support, the shift in spend will reflect this vision. We also recognise that people who wish to remain at home may require major adaptations or improvements to their property and we will review the available financial assistance available, including Disabled Facilities Grants, Decent Homes Loans and Home Safety Grants, to ensure they achieve their respective aims.

## What the future looks like

We need to be able to offer residents the right accommodation options to meet their health and wellbeing needs, in a way that supports them to live as independently as possible. We recognise that there will still be a role for traditional care services in West Cheshire in the future, but we will look more creatively at how care and support can be integrated into accommodation to reduce the need for those traditional services for most residents.

The Council will think and act productively in addressing the challenges we face, whilst pursuing a preventative approach to accommodation. This approach will involve the following priorities:

- Maximising value for money in the range of services commissioned.
- Developing new and innovative models of accommodation with care and support
- Maximising the potential of the Council's assets.
- Influencing providers to develop more community-based care services in the local areas where the needs are the greatest.
- Maximising the benefits of collaboration with key partners across the local health and social care economy.
- Encouraging developers and social housing partners to deliver new homes that are designed to be flexible and easily adaptable.

In addition to independent accommodation, we will present positive choices for older people to live independent lives. These forms of accommodation can assist more vulnerable adults to live within their local community through:



- multiple tenure options
- peace of mind and reassurance
- flexible care and support designed around the individual
- the integration of digital technologies and adaptations.

We will work with providers, service users and informal carers to understand what is working well in our communities and how we can best support the development of greater provision in the future.

Through preventative services our aspiration is to support people to remain at home for longer resulting in the need for more complex Care Home specialist services. From local data we can better understand the needs of our population and know that we are requiring dedicated provision for single sex (male only), bariatric and older people with challenging and complex mental health support.

### The Local Picture<sup>1</sup>

Cheshire West and Chester sits within the North West region bordering North Wales and is surrounded by five Local Authorities. It covers approximately 350 square miles and is the fourth largest unitary Authority within its' region. It has a population of over 343,823 (CW&C, 2022) people living within a mixture of urban and rural areas, with an above national average percentage of older aged adults. The projected life expectancy within the borough for females is 83.3 and 80.1 for males.

Both nationally and locally, people are living longer due to advances in preventative Public Health measures including childhood immunisations and medical advances too. The population continues to grow, but at a slower rate recently due to the coronavirus (COVID – 19) pandemic: Between 1 January 2020 and 26 November 2021 19% of deaths within Care Homes in Cheshire West and Chester were Covid related. In England and Wales, the pandemic caused 75,000 excess deaths resulting in the greatest fall in life expectancy since 1945. Within West Cheshire 35.6% of the population is aged 55 and over, this is 4.8% higher than England as a whole.

By 2035 the population of older aged adults over 75 will increased by 58% and 94% for those aged 85 and over, resulting in residents who require medium or high support (daily or 24 hours support) increasing by 17%. With the ageing population, the borough has an above national average prevalence of Dementia, and it is forecast that by 2035 those with increased level of need linked to Dementia (will increase from 600 in 2018 to 1000 (67%). Under a quarter of the population within West Cheshire are living with fair, bad or very bad health, which is similar to the North West region.

There are approximately 161,900 dwellings within the borough with over a quarter of the population living within the rural areas. Sixty nine percent of dwellings are either owned outright or owned with mortgage or loan and only 15.1% are social housing. Cheshire West and Chester is ranked 183<sup>rd</sup> out of 317 Local Authorities on the deprivation scale. It has 16 neighbourhoods ranked in the 10% most deprived in England meaning that although there are pockets of deprivation within the borough there is a high proportion of affluent areas in comparison to some of its neighbouring

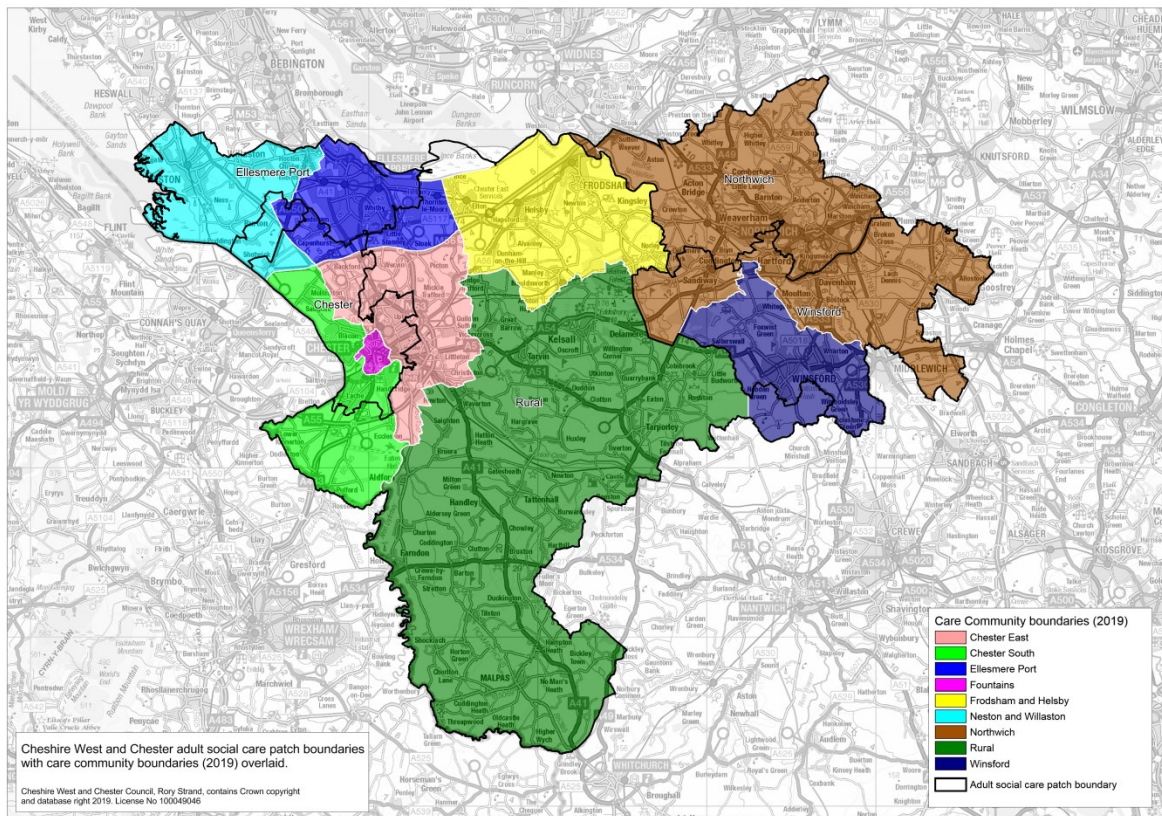
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<sup>1</sup> Note: The Council is awaiting release of 2021 Census Data which may impact future trends.

authorities. This is reflected in the high percentage of self-funders. Self-funders are individuals who fund their own care as they have savings (or assets). More information could be found [here](#).

Due to the differing demographics across Cheshire West and Chester, the borough is shaped into nine care communities. These communities bring together organisations such as health and social care, voluntary and third sector, local employers, faith and sporting groups, parish councils and the community itself, with the aim to transform, develop and deliver inclusive services.


## Care Communities



(Table 1)

To develop a representative and inclusive strategy borough wide, each care community's own data is considered in isolation (Appendix 1). The 9 care communities across Cheshire West and Chester are:

- Neston and Willaston
- Ellesmere Port
- Frodsham, Helsby and Elton
- Chester East
- Chester South
- Chester Central (Fountains)
- Winsford
- Rural Alliance
- Northwich



Whilst predicated population increases in those aged over 75 and those aged over 85 are reflected across each of these care communities by 2035. There are notable percentage increases projected in Chester South (110% increase in those aged over 85), Ellesmere Port (100% increase in those aged over 85), and Northwich and Winsford (between 70% of those aged over 75 in Northwich, to 165% of those aged over 85 in the Winsford area).

Overall, Cheshire West and Chester is forecast to see large increases in the number of older people who are likely to be able to remain independent but also increases in those with complex care needs. This increase is due to more individuals reaching 85 years or older who have higher levels of dependency, dementia, and comorbidity (more than one long term medical condition). The number of older people with medium or high dependency and requiring substantial care (daily or 24 hour) is predicted to increase from 9,400 in 2018 to 11,100 in 2035.

The last Strategic Housing market Assessment (SHMA) for Cheshire West and Chester was completed in 2013 and showed that the vast majority of older people consulted (71%) wanted to stay in their existing home, with help and support provided when needed.

Only around 10% of older person households consulted said they would consider other options including sheltered accommodation, Extra Care accommodation or renting from a social landlord. Almost a quarter (23%) said they would consider buying an alternative property, but the preference was clearly to stay in their own home for as long as possible.


Research by the Manchester School of Architecture and the Centre for Better Ageing (2018) shows that, in reality, it is often only when a crisis occurs that many older person households will consider moving out of their existing home and this supports anecdotal evidence from colleagues and partners working with older people locally.

The research showed that, nationally, just 3.4% of those aged over 50 are likely to move house in any given year. Of those who had moved, less than half (47%) chose a property with fewer rooms than their existing home and further, those who had downsized had only reduced the size of their accommodation by one room.

Moving to a smaller property was more common where the head of household was aged over 80 and was more common among households in social or private rental accommodation, rather than owner occupier households. Of those who had moved, just over half (57%) said they would have preferred to stay in their old home, indicating that the move was a forced one, rather than a chosen option.

## Accommodation and Support – The way forward

While the delivery of new accommodation options is a critical element of this strategy, it is still the case that the vast majority of older people are accommodated in general needs accommodation, largely in the owner-occupier sector and want to stay in their own home for as long as possible. From the planning stage we intend to support those people and to make sure new housing development takes account of the need to provide accommodation that is flexible enough to be easily adapted to meet the changing needs of its occupants as they age. Providing alternative accommodation



solutions for older people, including downsizing options, can help to free up larger family homes where older people are under occupying existing stock but, crucially, unless these are options that older people actively aspire to move to and are able then they are likely to be unsuccessful.

We will work with private landlords through the Cheshire West Landlord Accreditation Scheme and Registered Housing providers to improve the quality of homes and to increase access to aids and adaptations for households living in the private rented sector, as well as with social housing landlords and private developers to influence the design of new homes in the borough. The majority of new homes delivered by the Council's own development programme, have been built to the former lifetime homes standard (now part M4(2) Building Regulations).

To ensure that we make the best use of local land available, Adult Social Care will work in partnership with Planning colleagues to review any development applications ensuring that the mix, type and tenure of the new properties meet the needs of the local community and our strategic vision.

The Council has agreed to commit to an update of the Local Plan (Part One) and commence initial evidence work. We will work closely with colleagues in planning to ensure the needs of our residents are met through the plan-making process. We will also have input into the Local Plan and aspirations that all new developments include M4 (3) Wheelchair user dwelling specification and M4(2) Accessible and adaptable dwelling standards meaning that new homes built are for life.


Within the framework of integration and strengthening partnerships, we will seek to work with the Care Quality Commission, CCG, and other critical partners to jointly commission solutions and develop flexible models of care. We will seek to co-design services with service users, families and carers. This will ensure that residents receive the best services within their local communities.

## Financial Implications

We are facing unprecedented challenges in West Cheshire, including increasing demographic pressures, the responsibility of maintaining a sustainable local care market, workforce recruitment and significant financial implications of key legislative changes such as the Social Care Reform.

By focussing on ensuring a better understanding of future demand and developing the market sufficiently to meet those needs, whilst also maximising the use of our assets and commissioned services, we are better understanding how we can control and manage costs in future years.

As an example, together the Council and CCG invest over £54m each year in placements in Care Homes. As the public demand for residential care continues to decrease, there needs to be a shift in investment to greater support care at home, and care and support in alternative settings that help to maintain independence and delay the needs for health care. This approach could present cost saving opportunities for commissioning partners, but also presents challenges for providers.



Already the Council is shifting the proportion of spend on long term residential care, to invest a greater proportion in services such as 'Care at Home' domiciliary care, Technology Enabled Care, Community Equipment, and services under the Home Improvement Agency contract that support adaptations. This strategy will support this shift to go further, faster, over the next period.

There is potential for further savings beyond those that are currently built into the Council's Plan. A further example is the proportion of care placements that are placed outside of the borough. With the right provision of accommodation available we may be able to bring people back into accommodation within our borough bringing residents closer to their families and communities and to reduce costs at the same time.

The expansion of Extra Care housing in West Cheshire is one area where further savings are considered possible. Based on an initial assessment of the cost of Extra Care housing compared to alternative forms of care, future demand for care services and capacity of the market to develop new Extra Care housing schemes, an additional revenue savings is possible by 2035.

There may be potential to increase this should sufficient additional market capacity be created around Extra Care housing. The Council will work with partners and the market to maximise any opportunities for additional savings as they arise.

The implementation of the strategy may require capital investment from the Council and partners – this will be considered as part of any resulting business case to ensure value for money is maximised and further approval will be sought from the Cabinet as necessary.

This strategy will contribute to achieving the following whole systems savings:

- Improve health and wellbeing to manage increasing demands on health, wellbeing and care services.
- Continue the shift in investment from expensive long term residential placements, to support care in the home; delivering positive outcomes for residents.
- Recognise the support from, and needs of carers, family, friends and community support.
- Optimise a joined-up approach with the third sector and private sector provision.

## Grants and Loans

Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG), Decent Home Loans (DHL) and Home Safety Grants (HSG) are available to help people to fund adaptations to their home and to help maintain it in a safe state of repair:

- DFGs are mandatory grants towards the costs of funding equipment aids and adaptations to the home, part-funded by central government, which can

considerably improve a disabled person's quality of life and help them to maintain their independence and personal dignity

- HSGs are intended to help with the costs of removing serious hazards within the home that could adversely affect the health and safety of occupants, including hazards associated with substantial disrepair
- DHLs facilitate equity release to help homeowners pay for essential repairs and improvements, bringing homes up to the Decent Homes Standard.

There are a number of national case studies showing that DFGs not only deliver improved outcomes for older and disabled people but, by reducing the incidence of slips, trips and falls and helping to prevent deterioration of existing health conditions, can save a considerable amount of money to the local NHS.

Older people with mobility issues and those with physical and learning disabilities are most likely to receive the greatest benefit from these schemes. Equipment provided ranges from simple aids to day-to-day living like ramps, grab rails and handrails, to the installation of a walk-in shower or stairlift. In exceptional circumstances major work may be funded or part-funded, such as the provision of an extension to provide a ground floor toilet/ bathroom or bedroom.

In West Cheshire, these schemes are administered through the Council's Home Improvement Agency, which also offers a 'handyperson' service providing help with a range of small jobs to older and disabled households, such as changing a tap washer, putting up curtain poles, fixing handrails and basic gardening.

A recent baseline assessment study carried out by Chester University<sup>2</sup> found that many older people were not aware that this sort of assistance was available, however, underlining the need for awareness raising among relevant sectors of the community and this will be a key action for the borough's age friendly network going forward.


Adaptations can be very costly to provide. With DFG's having a statutory limit of £30,000 (plus potential discretionary funds), however there must be recognition that supporting people to move into more appropriate accommodation, where this is the best long-term solution for the individual concerned, should be encouraged.

## Conclusion

Cheshire West and Chester is a thriving borough in which the future vision of the Accommodation and Support for Older Age adults will be delivered through partnership working with its key stakeholder, providers, communities, and residents.

The key aims for its older residents with care and support needs will:

- Have improved **health, wellbeing and quality of life.**
- Feel **supported** by their **communities.**

- 
- Be able to live in **suitable accommodation with appropriate care** and support to meet their **changing needs** now and in the future.
  - Have **accommodation choices** available to them to meet their range of health and social care needs **flexibly and responsively**.
  - Get the **right level of support** at the right time and in the right way.

The Council would like to work with partners who understand its vision and are able to implement a flexible, reliable, high-quality and cost-effective service that understands the needs of the local people.

## Appendix 1 – Care Communities

### Chester Central

Chester Central has a current population of 38,000, in which 17.1% are over 65 years. Chester Central has the fewest care homes across the Borough (3, equating to 4% of the total, and 92 beds being 3% of the total). Except for one nursing provision, they each provide a residential care home setting.

Key health indicators show statistics “similar” for most hospital admissions to the national average, but higher in terms of emergency admission for COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disorder). The dementia diagnosis rate is the highest of all the care communities and likewise for avoidable hospital admissions, and above the overall Cheshire West average.

By 2035 the population of older aged adults over 75 will have increased by 65% and 75% for those aged 85, in Chester Central

### Chester East

Chester East has a current population of 37,000 of which 25% is aged over 65 (above the England average of 17.5%). Chester East has the majority of care homes (16 in number, 23% of the Chester total), equating to a total capacity of 770 beds (26%).

Whilst the dementia diagnosis rates in Chester East are slightly above Cheshire West and Chester averages, the area has the lowest percentage of people with 3 or more long term conditions of the 9 care communities. Whilst elective admission for hip replacement is similar to average trends, the emergency admission for hip fracture (further to falls) is higher than average in Chester East and indicates an ageing population potentially remaining in their own homes and managing independently until these falls.

By 2035, the population of older aged adults over 75 will increased by 40 and 50% for those aged 85 as from 2018, in Chester East.

### Chester South


Chester South has a current population of 34,000 and 19.5% of this population is 65+ (just above England aver of 17.5% of total England population). Similar to Chester Central, emergency admissions for COPD are higher than Cheshire West as a whole, otherwise other health indicators are unremarkable. Care homes have 196 beds in this area.

By 2035 the population of older aged adults over 75 will increased by 60% and 110% for those aged 85 which represents a significant predicated percentage increase.

### Frodsham, Helsby and Elton

Frodsham, Helsby and Elton has a current population of 27,000 with 24.6% being age 65+, notably higher than the England average of 17.5%. There are 6 care homes,





with 223 beds in total, but a relatively low number of people in receipt of social care packages of care (second lowest to the Rural Alliance) and statistics indicate an average as it relates to unpaid carers at home. This suggests an ageing population that is remaining independent for longer.

By 2035 the population of older aged adults over 75 will increased by 50% and 90% for those aged 85

#### Neston and Willaston

Neston and Willaston has a current population of 21,000, with 28.4% being aged 65+, well above the England average of 17.5%. There are 5 care homes, with a total of 162 beds. Neston and Willaston indicate positive health statistics with the lowest dementia diagnosis rate across the Borough and below average rates for those with 3 or more health conditions and low avoidable hospital admissions. Furthermore, there are low admission for COPD (perhaps due to less industry).

By 2035 the population of older aged adults over 75 will increased by 50% and 90% for those aged 85, in Neston and Willaston.

#### Rural Alliance

The Rural Alliance has a Current population of 39,000 and the largest geographical footprint, but only 3 care homes and a total of 202 beds. Of the population, 25.9% are aged over 65, which is well over England average of 17.5%. The Rural Alliance has the fewest number of people throughout all care communities to be receiving Local Authority funded care. Those with 3 or more long term health conditions; and avoidable hospital admissions and dementia diagnosis are all below average. All other key health indicators are lower than Cheshire West and Chester averages with the exception of emergency admission for stroke, elective admission for hip replacement and emergency admission for myocardial infarction which is similar across the Borough).

By 2035 the population of older aged adults over 75 will increased by 45% and 90% for those aged 85

#### Northwich

Northwich has a current population of 72,000 of whom 20.5% are aged over 65, just above the England average of 17.5%. There are 14 care homes and 608 beds. Health indicators are largely in line with Cheshire West and Chester averages except high in emergency admission for hip fractures, hospital stay for self-harm and elective surgeries

By 2035 the population of older aged adults over 75 will increased by 70% and 90% for those aged 85 in Northwich.

## Ellesmere Port

Ellesmere Port has a current population of 69,000 of whom 18.1% of aged over 65, slightly higher than the England average of 17.5%. Ellesmere Port has 15 care homes and a total of 449 beds. Given the high population and number of care homes, it's not surprising that Ellesmere Port also has the highest percentage of all care communities receiving adult social care support package and similarly are the highest, and above average percentage of people receiving unpaid care at home. Also have the second highest percentage (second to Winsford) of those with more than 3 long term health conditions and avoidable hospital admissions, and second highest (second to Chester central) of dementia rates with could potentially be linked to health inequalities.

By 2035 the population of older aged adults over 75 will increased by 60% and 100% for those aged 85 in Ellesmere Port.

## Winsford

Winsford has a current population of 35,000 of whom 16.3% of are aged 65 and over which is below the England average of 17.5% and the only care community to fall below that England average. There are 8 care homes, and 232 beds in total. Winsford is the 3rd highest of the care communities to be receiving Local Authority funded care packages which could also be linked to health inequalities, and above average (second highest to Ellesmere Port) for unpaid carers at home. Winsford residents rank as highest for having 3 or more health conditions and avoidable hospital admissions. Winsford has the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest figures for dementia diagnosis and all other health indicators are higher than the Cheshire West and Chester average with the exception of elective admission for hip fracture which is the similar to the average.

By 2035 the population of older aged adults over 75 will increased by 80% and 165% for those aged 85, which is significant for Winsford.

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## Bibliography

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