

Oldham Capacity and Demand Summary

May 2025

Introduction

Local authorities, including Oldham Council, have a responsibility in shaping and developing the adult social care market. This responsibility is detailed in The Care Act 2014, and it means that the Council needs to make sure there are good providers in the borough that can support and care for local people.

As part of this, Oldham Council produces a “Market Position Statement”. The aim of this is so that existing and potential providers of care can clearly see the need and demand, as well as understand local issues with capacity and pressures and understand Oldham’s plans to address this in order to support and drive a stable and diverse local market that offers people as much choice as possible.

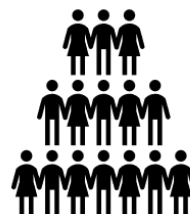
This document is part of the suite of documents that make up the Market Position Statement and its purpose is to provide a summary of the current and predicted population growth and how adult social care services are currently used and expected to grow. A more detailed Capacity and Demand Profile is also available to review, this provides much more detail about the local market and is intended aimed at providers looking to develop in the locality.

About Oldham’s population

The following data is from the 2023 Office of National Statistics mid-year estimates...



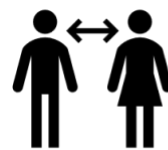
The total population of Oldham is 246,130



5.2% population growth is expected by 2033



15.9% are 65+ (with a 43.8% increase projected in those aged over 85 over the next 10 years), 61.4% are 18-64, and 22.7% are under 18



Life expectancy is lower than the England average – it’s 76.3 years for men and 80.1 years for women



35% of areas in the borough are among the 10% most deprived in England



Those living in the most deprived areas live shorter lives – 12.7 years for males and 12.8 years for females



The working wage population is expected to increase by 5.06% by 2040



There are approximately 20,000 carers in Oldham, with a significant proportion who are unpaid and/or over 65

There is a need to better understand the non-White British community in Oldham, as the data suggests that there may be a gap in current adult social care provision to meet the cultural and religious needs of distinct groups.

Because of this, there is a need to work with these communities to understand their needs and requirements around care. The aim of this will be to look to address any current barriers to accessing existing provision, as well as assessing and dealing with any gaps in service.

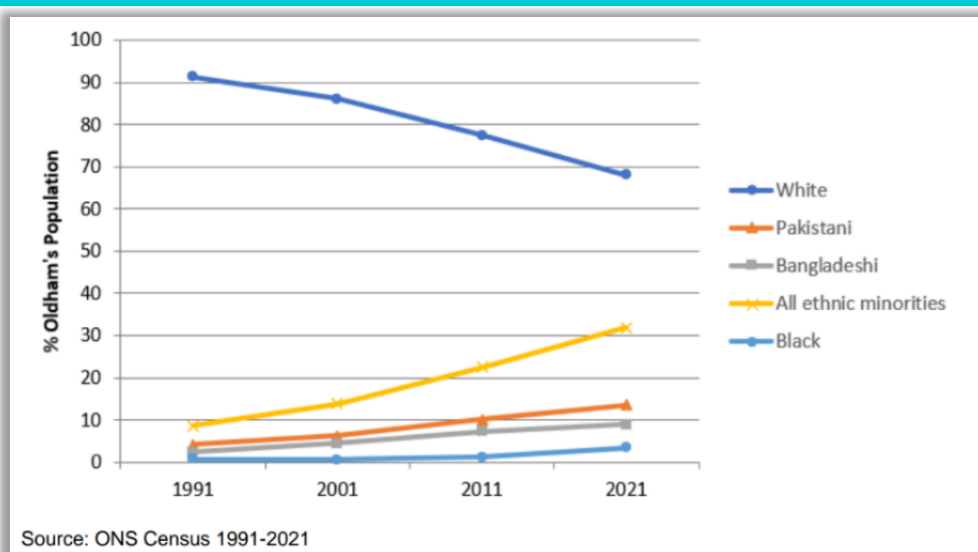
ETHNICITY

The non-White British population has been increasing gradually in Oldham and is expected to continue to increase. This is particularly anticipated around the Bangladeshi and Pakistani communities.

We are already seeing a cohort of over 65s in these communities but at a smaller percentage than in the wider population.

80% of current adult social care packages are provided to people of a White British background, with the remaining 20% split across a variety of groups, with the largest groups being Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Black African and "White Other".

Analysis of current home care packages purchased suggests there is also an under representation of non-White British communities.



What are the key health and social care issues in Oldham?

PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

- There are expected to be significant increases in the number of people aged 18-24 with a serious personal care disability by 2040, meaning projected support needs are also expected to increase.
- The number of over 65s projected to need help with domestic tasks or self-care activities is expected to increase significantly in the same timeframe.

DEMENTIA

- The projections show a 38.4% increase in people over 65 with dementia by 2040, with the increase predicted to rise more sharply from 2025 onwards.
- The numbers of people with early onset dementia are small, with a predicted increase of 3% 2040, there is a gender split in relation to the prevalence towards men.

MENTAL HEALTH

- Common mental disorders are predicted to increase 4.9% by 2040.
- Borderline personality disorders are predicted to increase 4.9% by 2040.
- Anti-social personality disorders are predicted to increase 5.1% by 2040.
- Psychotic disorders are predicted to increase 5% by 2040.
- People with two or more psychiatric disorders are predicted to increase 5% by 2040.

LEARNING DISABILITIES

- People with moderate or severe learning disabilities likely to need support from services is expected to increase 6% by 2024.
- There is also expected to be an increase in challenging behaviours by 5% in the same timeframe.
- There is likely to be an increase of these adults living with parents, with a significant issue being those over 45 years old, creating a potential carer risk as the parents age.

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

- Men are more likely to have an autism spectrum disorder (1.8% of the total population) when compared to women (0.2% of the total population).
- The National Autistic Society states that the proportion of people with an autism spectrum disorder who also have a learning disability is not possible to quantify accurately.
- There is expected to be an overall increase of autism spectrum disorders of 5% by 2040.

What are the current capacity and expected demand pressures in the market?

Analysing local housing needs, there is a need to build more adapted, or adaptable, accommodation so that people can be supported at home for as long as possible. (51.7% of over 65s would prefer to be at home with support.)

When it comes to the packages of care, the main types of provision purchased has not changed much in the last three years. Most package types are as follows.

- **33% is home care** – within this we have seen an increase in use for 18- to 30-year-olds with a learning disability.
- **30% is care homes** – when including short term stays, permanent stays, residential and nursing care.
- **27% is direct payments** – which can be a range of services and is about people being able to directly choose their care (non-residential services).
- although **supported living** only accounts for a relatively small proportion of placements, it is an area with increasing costs due to the complexity of supported needed currently, and also likely in the future.
- **short stay placements** have seen an increase for those of working age with mental health issues.

It should be noted that not all mental health problems will need support from adult social care, and not everyone receiving personal care will need support from Oldham Council if this is self-funded or via unpaid carers.

In February 2025 3,008 people were supported by adult social care, and 60% were 65 or over.

Care Homes	Home Care	Extra Care Housing	Supported Living
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oldham care home population is predicted to increase from 1,708 beds (2023) to 2,404 beds by 2040. (A combination of privately and Council-funded placements.) The current number of beds is 1,600 so there is a shortfall, as the number of Care Quality Commission-registered beds has been falling in recent years. Capacity fluctuates, but the average in the last 3 years was between 86.5% and 93.6%. A functioning care system does require some capacity as this would impact the flow of people from hospital and the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single cover packages represent 59% of all packages of home care. This number is steadily declining as double cover packages increase, pointing to an increase in complexity of needs We are currently increasing our offer around care technology to support people and exploring opportunities to support people at home in a way that maximises their independence, this may impact the volume of packages placed in the long-term and we will monitor this closely as we role these plans out. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are currently 254 properties across six sites, which are focused on older adults with only 5% of the current residents under 60. There is evidence of demand from younger people which cannot be met within the current sites. It is expected that 995 extra care units will be needed by 2041 (though some of this will be privately funded and delivered). There are some limitations on the adaptability and suitability of the current sites for people with disabilities as only one of the six sites was purpose built for extra care housing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of March 2025, of the 190 supported living beds in Oldham, 12 were vacant Work is underway to map those on the supported living waiting list into cohorts to assess why the vacancies are not appropriate – this is showing that additional types of supported living are needed for those with complex needs, those needing trauma-informed care, support for younger people, and support for Muslim women, to name a few areas.

Complex Care

Data suggests that there are nationally increasing numbers of older people requiring long-term care, but also that the care required is becoming increasingly complex. Projections suggest that in the future (and particularly over the next ten years), people will be living longer and the approach to service delivery and workforce planning will need to reflect the increasingly complex needs of people who need support due to age-related conditions.

An increase in intermediate care services in the community will be needed, and the number of residential placements is expected to rise – it is likely these may be for shorter periods with a focus on specialist nursing and dementia care.

Out of borough (OOB) placements

When it comes to out of borough placements, the majority is for residential care, with the remainder utilising nursing care, supported living and rehabilitation. 53% of those placed out of area are over 65.

The majority (75%) of this out of area provision is within Greater Manchester, with 61% of this being with the three authorities sharing a boundary with Oldham (Manchester, Tameside and Rochdale).

The main reason people are placed out of borough is due to a lack of suitable provision available in Oldham (72%), which likely relates to the increase complexity noted above. However, 23% is due to family or resident choice, and 5% is where there is a court directive that the person needs to be placed out of the area.

People who fund their own care

The Office of National Statistics shows that Oldham has a lower than national, and lower than regional, percentage of people able to self-fund their care.

The adult social care workforce in Oldham

The adult social care workforce is the key enabler to deliver the right services, at the right time, the right standard to meet the needs of Oldham's people.

Skills for Care estimates for 2023/24 there were over **8,900 jobs** in adult social care in Oldham split between the council at **3%**, the independent sector at **73%** and working with direct payment recipients (personal assistants) at **19%** and other sectors **5%**

Nationally, turnover in adult social care is high and the workforce is aging. In 2023/24 for Oldham, **Skills for Care** estimated the staff turnover to be **22.5%**, which is lower than the regional average of **25.4%** and lower than the national average of **24.8%**.





Skills for Care data suggests that staff working in care in Oldham have an average of **11.3 years** of experience in the sector, with **76%** of the workforce having been in the sector for the last three years.











Oldham Council has a contract requirement which excludes the use of zero hours contracts for framework providers and is committed to the Living Wage Foundation Rate, rather than the National Living Wage rate.















The training levels for Oldham staff are above the regional and national averages, and when combined with the turnover, suggest there is a skilled and experienced workforce.





Summary of Oldham's Capacity and Demand

The information in the table below provides a summary and conclusion for the data presented throughout this document. For more detail on how we will be implementing these next steps please see the Commissioning Delivery Plan and the service specific Commissioning Position Statements.

Service Type	Supply	Demand	Summary	Next Steps
Standard Residential care			We will reduce the number of standard residential care beds we have across the borough to increase occupancy and quality in other homes and provide alternative care options for older people.	Continued engagement with in-borough provision around options for remodeling to fill identified gaps.
Nursing care			We have faced a significant decline. We will continue to collaborate with providers to develop nursing capacity across the borough, including complex dementia and other mental health requirements and bariatric provision to support the pressures in the market.	Continued engagement with in-borough providers and providers seeking to develop new provision to seek to fill current gaps in provision.

Service Type	Supply	Demand	Summary	Next Steps
Dementia care			We will continue to collaborate with providers to improve our dementia offer to service users and their families. We are aware that there are developments taking place which may increase supply.	Continued engagement with in-borough providers and providers seeking to develop new provision to seek to fill current gaps in provision.
Intermediate care/ bed based reablement			We want to support more people requiring intermediate/reablement care in their own home. The TOMs model promotes reablement services before packages of care are required. A full review is taking place of the intermediate care in older adults in 2024/25.	Reviewing the in borough reablement offer in line with a wider Greater Manchester Intermediate Care Review. Increasing this offer will also support us to give more people the opportunity to be discharged and then rehabilitated to go home. There is a risk where people go into a care home on discharge this then becomes a long-term need as care homes do not have the therapy staff or specific skills for reabling people back to their own homes.
Community Reablement			In line with the refreshed Adult Social Care Target Operating Model, we are working to increase the capacity of the reablement service in order to support more people to live independently in the community	This is being reviewed as part of the wider Intermediate Care Review.
Home Care			We continue to collaborate with providers and their support of people in the community. During 2024/25 we have opened the Flexible Purchasing System to new providers and entered into a mini competition to select two new Cluster Leads due to exits of providers from the local market. The current contract is in place until March 2026.	We are working to coproduce a specification for a full re-tender in 2026.
Extra Care Housing			As we start to reduce residential care, we anticipate the demand for extra care housing to increase. We will review our extra care accommodation to ensure that it meets the needs of Oldham residents. This includes considering nighttime support.	As part of the Commissioning Development Plan, we are looking to increase the available accommodation for Extra Care services in borough. The current contract for the

Service Type	Supply	Demand	Summary	Next Steps
				Extra Care Service, which is a part of the Care at Home contract, will be retender in 2026 (as above for Home Care).
Accommodation with support (this includes Supported Living.			Various accommodation with support options is currently available to support people with Autism, Learning Disabilities and Mental Health Conditions. This includes Supported Living and Respite.	We are exploring opportunities to use Greater Manchester Frameworks for Supported Living to deliver this service moving forwards. We are also exploring opportunities to develop new accommodation within borough to support this model expanding.
Individualised Service Funds			We are developing our systems to enable more Individualised Service Funds in the borough.	We will consider this vehicle in all future contracting.
Third Party Brokers			Third Party Brokers support people in receipt of Direct Payments.	Looking at opportunities to utilise the Greater Manchester Framework.
Day opportunities			Oldham has a range of day opportunities to access for people with a learning disability and also offers day care to older adults. We want to work with day service providers with a view to creating a 'Recognised Provider List.'	We are exploring opportunities to commission via Greater Manchester.
Early Intervention and prevention			We will be looking at opportunities to increase our offer around early intervention and prevention, developing support in our communities and ensuring people utilise community assets wherever possible.	We will collaborate with partners across the council, including Public Health to ensure services are available to support people in the community.
Community equipment and adaptations			We are reviewing our current offer around equipment to ensure opportunities are maximised to people to remain as independent as possible for as long as possible.	We are completing a full review of these services.
Care Technology Enabled Care			Ageing population projections, increasing home care packages and hours, a focus on strengths-based practice and enabling residents to live independently for as long as possible to meet their care outcomes.	A need to ensure that we remain on top of latest developments via the benefit of a strategic partner relationship. Competitive dialogue provides best route for this given the dynamic market and system developments.

Service Type	Supply	Demand	Summary	Next Steps
Support for unpaid cares			We recognise that the number of unpaid carers continues to increase. We need to ensure we provide support to those carers to allow them to maintain to play this crucial role and avoid carer breakdown.	<p>We will be refreshing our carers strategy and developing plans to reach more people and improve the range of support offered to unpaid carers in the next couple of years.</p> <p>This will closely like with the prevention agenda referenced above.</p>
Third Party Brokers			Third Party Brokers support people in receipt of Direct Payments.	Looking at opportunities to utilise the Greater Manchester Framework.

Resources

For a full list of the resources used to develop this document and for more detail around the information contained please review the Capacity and Demand Profile at <https://www.oldham.gov.uk/mps-capacity-and-demand-profile>.