

# Commissioning Position Statement

## Care Homes – May 2025

### Current position

The number of care home beds in Oldham has reduced by about 200 beds since 2021. This has in particular had an impact upon nursing provision with two large dual registered nursing homes closing in the last two years and prior to that a number of homes reducing or removing their nursing provision. At the same time, we are seeing increased acuity of people requiring permanent residential and nursing care. This is due a combination of factors, which are likely to see this remaining the case:

- the council's Adult Social Care Operating Model, which promotes keeping people in their own home for as long as possible.
- increased acuity of people at the point of discharge from hospital and increasingly complex needs as people live for longer with more co-morbidities.
- increasing rates of dementia
- top up fees in care homes acting as a barrier to placement.

### Current gaps in the Oldham market

We are currently undertaking a detailed review of out of area placements to help us better understand our commissioning gaps. However anecdotally we know:

- we have a limited nursing supply, which has decreased in recent years.
- we need more specialist nursing provision, such as dementia nursing and bariatric provision.
- we need more specialist residential provision, such as complex dementia, bariatric provision.
- we need more mental health specialist and complex provision.
- we also currently have no male only units of either nursing or residential care.

### Commissioning approach

The council is legally obligated to comply with its contract procedure rules and all relevant procurement legislation in delivering services. We are keen to talk to providers who are either interested in repurposing current standard residential provision or are looking to develop new settings in the borough with reference to the gaps in provision above.

We are not currently looking at any block purchasing arrangements – which would require a tendering approach but will be reviewing this position once we have completed our review of out of area placements.

If you would like to talk to us about opportunities in Oldham, please contact [asccommissioning@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:asccommissioning@oldham.gov.uk)

This document should be read in conjunction with the Oldham Council Commissioning Approach <https://www.oldham.gov.uk/mps-commissioning-approach> and Capacity and Demand Profile <https://www.oldham.gov.uk/mps-capacity-and-demand-summary>.

Documents produced May 2025, reviewed annually or as required.

Version 1: May 2025

