

Future demand

1 Isle of Man population projections

The Isle of Man's population is projected to rise in the coming decade with a notable increase in the number of people aged 65 and over. Estimates show that:

- The 65+ population in the Isle of Man will increase by 11.2% and 20.3% by 2019 and 2024 respectively. This is higher than the United Kingdom projects.
- The proportion of the population aged 85 years and over, projected to increase until at least 2026, is again higher in the Isle of Man than in the United Kingdom. Unfortunately there is a gap in data preventing identification of life expectancy in the Isle of Man. It is also recognised that the fastest growing sector of the population is the 85+ age group.

Overall the over 65 population (22%) of the Isle of Man is greater than that of under 15's (17%).

Changes in the population structure significantly affect the levels of need for support, in regard to both chronic illnesses and social care. People aged 85 years and over are more likely to have complex support needs than younger people. Part of the challenge for this age group is to provide access to sufficient preventative services to enable them to be independent and to self-care for as long as possible.

2 Population trends in towns, villages and parishes

The Isle of Man is divided into 16 parishes, 4 villages and 4 towns. Generally, the towns and villages have higher populations than the mainly rural parishes although this is not always the case. Based on the Isle of Man Census 2011 17.7% of the population are aged 65+ and 2.4% aged 85+.

Of the towns two have 65+ populations above the national figure, Ramsey (23.6%) and Castletown (18.7%). All of the villages have populations of 65+ above the national figure and 10 of the 16 parishes as well. The parishes of Ballaugh, Bride, Lezayre, Malew, Maughold and Rushen have 65+ populations of over 20%. Four out of six of these parishes are in the North of the Isle of Man.

Ramsey has an 85+ population (4.1%) above the national figure. Port Erin and Port St Mary also have 85+ populations above the national figure (3.3% and 3.6% respectively). Three parishes; Lezayre (3.3%), Malew (3.4%) and Rushen (4.7%), have 85+ populations above the national figure.

3 Geographical areas of special focus or need

Across seven domains of income deprivation, acute morbidity, anxiety disorder,

mood disorder, Mental Health Service referrals, crime rates and housing deficiencies Douglas has a significant presence in all seven (but it is dispersed amongst several areas), Ramsey appears in four, Peel in three and Castletown in two.

As Douglas is the single largest population area its position in these domains is to be expected. Peel and Castletown (although Castletown is slightly above the national average) do not have particularly ageing populations. Ramsey has a population significantly above the national average plus high incidence of income deprivation, acute morbidity (measured by hospital admission), Mental Health Service referrals, and crime rate.

Therefore, commissioning intentions should place specific emphasis on;

- Douglas, and
- Ramsey.

4 The effects of ageing on the population

The demand for care and support services arising from specific groups will place significant challenges for Adult Care Services in the coming years. In particular the challenges are around providing sufficient quantities of quality care with the skills, competence and knowledge to support people with dementia and the general needs of an ageing population.

5 Isolation and inequality of access

The Isle of man is a predominately rural community. While 44% of the population live in one urban conurbation in the east of the Island (Douglas and Onchan) the remainder live in small towns, villages or hamlets. After Douglas and Onchan the next largest urban area, Ramsey, accounts for 9.25% of the population.

The parishes of Bride, Maughold, Santon and Patrick are all some distance (4 miles) from their nearest GP practice, food shop or post office. All four areas are not demonstrably income or employment deprived in relation to other areas.

The parishes of Marown and Lonan are both approximately 3 miles away from the same facilities.

In addition the parishes of Andreas, Ballaugh and Lezayre are distant from GP practices.

The parishes of Arbory and Malew are 2 miles or more distant from Post Offices.

6 Elderly Frail

Independence, choice and wellbeing come under threat when older people develop illnesses or become frail. If this is combined with a lack of access to the right type of support, then the overall sense of well-being amongst affected

people will worsen as they feel more isolated, become more independent and are exposed to greater risk.

The term 'frailty' does not have a single defined medical definition. It can relate to a long term condition, such as heart disease, or a combination of conditions which together severely limit independence. As a result, frailty can be a condition that can be defined and measured by older people themselves.

Regardless of its description, the term elderly frail is often used to define care need. The risk factors associated with early admission to long term residential or nursing care on the basis of frailty are not always disability related, and include;

- critical interval care needs (care needs relating to unpredictable conditions, such as incontinence),
- physical ill health or impaired mobility,
- depression,
- dementia,
- falls
- carer breakdown,
- living alone, social exclusion and isolation,
- fears for personal safety,
- lower socio-economic status and/or poverty, and
- previous admission into hospital over the preceding 12 months.

Aspirations for older people with frailty and associated high support needs cover a wide spectrum of interests, activities and relationships. Their aspirations are often around wanting the opportunity to 'live a normal life', for example to be part of daily routines, to keep fit and healthy, and to contribute to family and community life.

7 Dementia

It is estimated that 1,151 with dementia are living in the Isle of Man. As dementia most commonly affects those over the age of 65 this represents approximately 1 in every 17 people of that age group.

This figure is expected to increase to 1,486 by 2023. This represents a 29% increase over 9 years which reflects the increasing prevalence of dementia in an ageing population.

One of the key challenges in relation to supporting people with dementia is diagnosis. As of March 2014 the Older Peoples Mental Services have 647 open cases so are known to have a diagnosis (though some of this caseload will be due to enduring mental health issues). In addition, many people with a diagnosis will no longer be on their caseload following admission to appropriate care environments and consequent discharge from service. In the case the Isle of Man is in a much better position than the United Kingdom (where it is estimated that only a third of people have a formal diagnosis) it still leaves a potential for up to nearly 500 people without a diagnosis. These people will find it difficult to plan their care and support appropriately and in enough time to live at home in the community for as long as they choose to.

People with dementia can have more than one co-morbidity, which must be taken into account when care and treatment is provided.

8 Long term conditions

A long term condition is one that cannot be cured but can be managed through medication and/or therapy. There is no definitive list of long term conditions but it includes conditions such as diabetes, asthma, coronary heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, dementia and long term neurological conditions.

Using four of these conditions; diabetes, asthma, coronary heart disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease the Isle of Man has a prevalence rate of:

- Diabetes - 4.11 for every 100 people (United Kingdom – 4.97)
- Asthma – 6.4 for every 100 people (United Kingdom (5.97)
- Coronary heart disease – 3.67 for every 100 people (United Kingdom – 3.36)
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease – 1.53 for every 100 people (United Kingdom - 1.8)

These figures demonstrate a fairly close correlation with United Kingdom prevalence rates. The Isle of Man has not correlated age and long term conditions. We can perhaps extrapolate from the United Kingdom Department of Health data that demonstrates that 50% of people aged over 60 have a long term conditions and people with long term conditions are the most frequent users of healthcare and social care services.

There is no data correlating long term health conditions with deprivation on the Isle of Man. Data from the United Kingdom suggests that long term conditions fall more heavily on the poorest in society.

9 Carers

The 2011 census reveals that out of a population of 84,497 that 17, 847 were retirement age and over 65+ a total of 3,485 residents had a sole carer:

- 1,823 caring for family members and 1,662 friends.
- 8,236 of people living within the community are suffering a long term illness or disability.
- 23% of carers support someone for more the 50 hours a week.
- 30% of carer supports someone over the age of 75.
- 24% of carers are aged over 65.
- 66% of carers are aged between 30 and 64.
- There are 195 young carers.
- 69% of carers support a spouse or parent.
- 24% are supporting a child.

Based on research by the Princess Royal Trust for Carers (2006) it can be assumed that:

- Every 2,000 patients registered with GP Practice will include 200 carers of that number 67 are likely to be caring over 20 hours per week and 40 will be caring more than 50 hours a week.

- Under the current eligibility criteria carers who care for over 20 hours per week would fit into critical and substantial need categories.
- The number of carers referred for assessment varies across England and Wales from 2.5% to 14% these being extreme, the average being in the region of 5%.
- The number of referrals increases significantly following a period of publicity and campaigning.
- If these figures are applied to the Isle of Man we would see 8,353 carers, 2,798 being critical and substantial i.e. over 20 hours per week with 1,670 over 50 hours per week.
- If we apply the lower percentage of 2.5% to critical and substantial criteria this would indicate a referral rate of 140 carers. Two GP practices have said they have had 12 requests each for carer's assessments which would give us a figure of 144 if applied across all GP practices.
- Current referrals indicate that 25% of that number would be seeking 3 hours support or break per week.

10 Demand for Adult Social Care services

In the 12 month period 1st January 2013 to 31st December 2013 the Adult Services Access Team received 2,164 contacts. 1,431 were referrals from, or for, people aged 65+. Of age 65+ referrals 1,025 progressed to a social work team for allocation of a social worker; 448 to the Older Peoples Community Social Work Team and 577 to the Older peoples Hospital Social Work Team. From this data it can be seen that approximately 72% of contacts relating to people aged 65+ lead to allocation of a social worker.

Based on projected demographic trends it can be inferred that the demand for social work input will increase by 11.2% by 2019 (or an additional 115 people).

11 What we need to know more about

There is insufficient data regarding mortality. In particular the average life expectancy on the Isle of Man is not known, and therefore we are unable to identify local variations.

There is no data collated on cause of death. This affects the ability to assess the impact of chronic conditions and target specific health issues.

There is very limited data available regarding the number of individuals who enter residential or nursing care as self funders whose resources are then reduced and require welfare benefit funding to continue in their placements.

In general, with regard to self funding individuals there is a lack of information regarding care needs as self funders do not currently require a needs assessment if entering a residential or nursing care placement, except for directly provided residential, as a private arrangement.

12 Service areas outside of the scope of this market position statement, and related, commissioning intentions for older people

Intentions for services for older people with a learning disability are contained within the Adult Learning Disability Service Strategy 2014 – 2019.