

Poole in Profile: Older People in Poole – Health



This report is one in a series profiling Older People in Poole produced by the Corporate Research Team. These reports have been designed to help inform service and policy planning, by summarising available research and statistical evidence.

Introduction

Age does not depend upon years, but upon temperament and health. Some men are born old, and some never grow so.
Tryon Edwards- American Theologian 1809 - 1894

The majority of people aged over 65 live active and healthy lives, although there is a recognition that as we get older stamina decreases and aches and pains increase. The proportion of people with an illness or disability that restricts daily activities increases with age, and consequently older people are the main users of services provided by the National Health Service.

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- Long Term Limiting Illness
- Dementia Dental Care
- Further Information

Life Expectancy

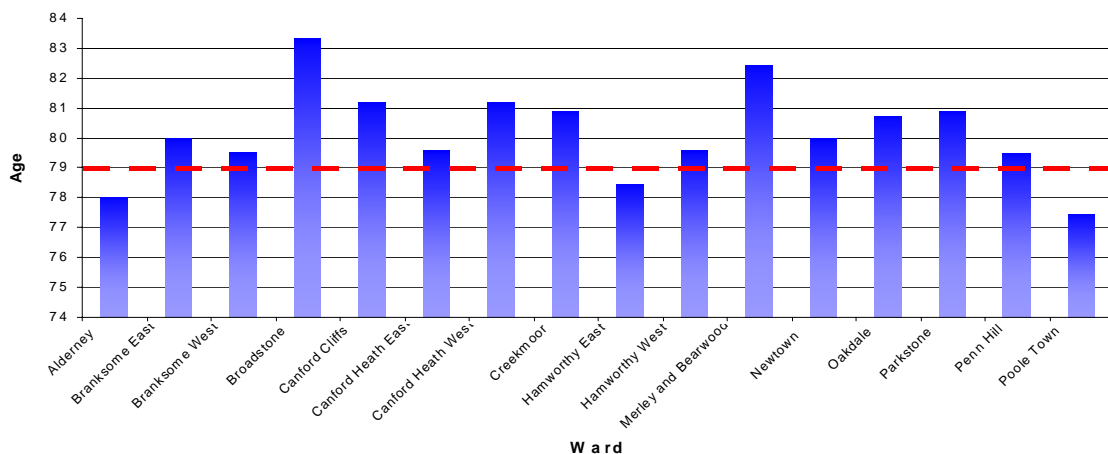
People today can expect to live longer than those in the past. A man today aged 65 can expect to live a further 19 years, and by 2051 this is predicted to have risen to 21 years. Women will continue to live longer than men, although the gap is decreasing.

Although life expectancy is increasing nationally there are variations. For example a male child born in Dorset can expect to live 11 years longer than a male child born in Glasgow with the onset of ill health being greatly affected by factors such as exercise, diet, smoking habits, deprivation levels and occupational class.

The graph below shows that the average life expectancy at birth in the South West is 79 years (as portrayed by the broken line). Of the 16 wards in Poole only 3 fall under this average. They are Alderney, Poole Town and Hamworthy East.

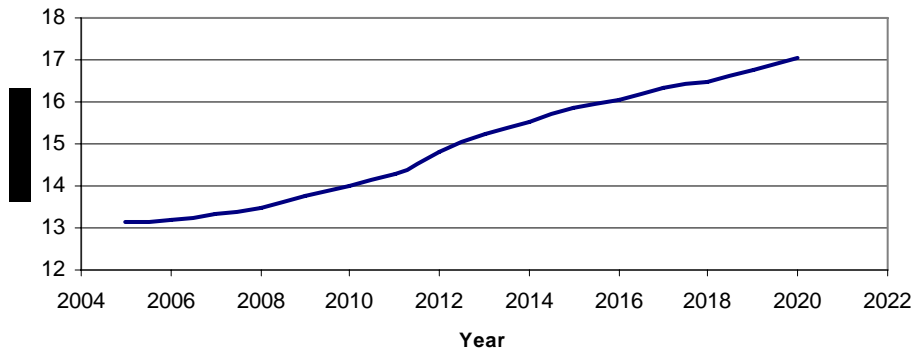
The majority of wards are considerably above this figure, with a gap of 6 years difference between Broadstone and Poole Town, the two wards in Poole with the highest and lowest life expectancy.

Life Expectancy by Ward in Poole & South West Average



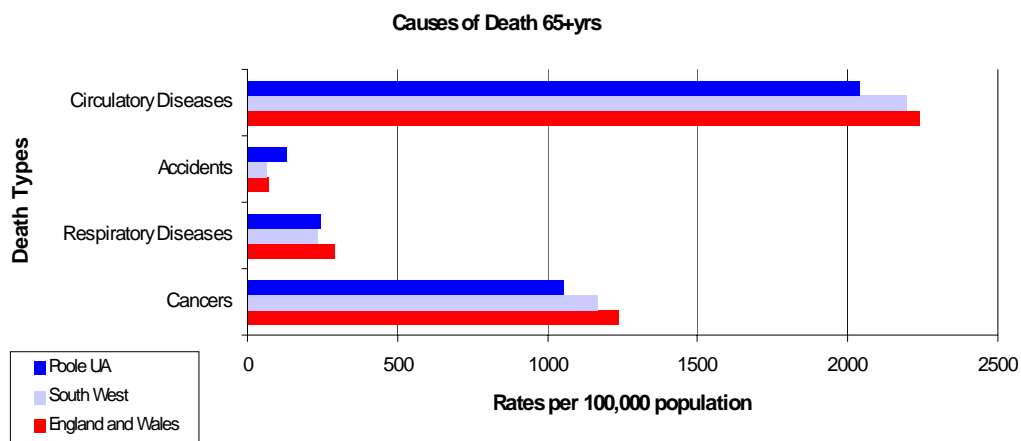
The graph below shows that by comparing the occurrence of long term illness by age and the population projections (and assuming that the occurrence of long term illness in the population remains constant), we can predict that between 2005 – 2020 the number of people in Poole aged over 65 with long term limiting illnesses is likely to rise by 29%, from 13,200 – 17,000.

Projection - Long Term Limiting Illness 65yrs+



Mortality

Circulatory diseases, which include heart disease and stroke, have remained the most common cause of death in England and Wales over the last 90 years, and continues to remain high. The graph below shows comparisons in the numbers of deaths for those aged 65+ in England & Wales, the South West and Poole.



Source: Clinical and Health Indicators 2003

Figure 2: Age related deaths- Clinical and Health indicators 2003

Poole is similar to the national picture in that the most common causes of death for those aged 65+ are circulatory diseases (heart disease and stroke), with the second most common being cancer.

Long Term Limiting Illness

With reference to the report **English Longitudinal Study of Ageing** ODPM 2005, 3 out of every 5 people aged over 80 years have no difficulties with the basic activities of daily living *i.e. getting dressed, washing and preparing meals*. However the proportion of people reporting a long-term limiting illness or disability that restricts their daily activities increases with age.

The table below shows the numbers of people who identified themselves as having a long term limiting illness in Poole by age group.

% of Age Group with LLI by Ward	50-59	60-64	65-74	75-84	85+	Total 50 yrs+
Alderney	25.2	33.8	43.3	55.1	73.1	39.37
Branksome East	18.9	28.2	34.0	52.4	81.2	35.56
Branksome West	21.5	31.3	39.3	56.2	76.7	35.11
Broadstone	12.7	20.9	29.9	45.3	68.0	28.40
Canford Cliffs	14.5	21.0	29.7	48.4	68.0	35.78
Canford Heath East	20.5	28.8	37.6	64.4	80.0	33.95
Canford Heath West	18.4	33.9	40.5	56.7	60.7	32.20
Creekmoor	17.9	31.3	37.8	53.6	67.1	34.22
Hamworthy East	24.3	33.8	45.1	54.4	79.6	39.74
Hamworthy West	27.0	33.0	40.4	55.4	74.1	36.49
Merley & Bearwood	13.7	22.7	32.6	51.1	75.3	28.35
Newtown	24.2	36.6	42.3	55.2	71.3	39.36
Oakdale	21.6	31.8	39.2	54.0	76.7	37.13
Parkstone	19.5	26.7	35.2	53.7	69.8	38.02
Penn Hill	18.8	25.8	32.1	52.6	75.3	35.13
Poole Town	25.4	32.7	38.5	59.7	75.2	42.25

Figure 4 – Source: ONS Census 2001

Key: Highest Lowest

Dementia

Dementia currently affects 750,000 people in the UK, at a rate of 1 person in 20 aged over 65 and rising to 1 in 5 for those aged over 80 yrs. There are many forms of dementia but the most common is Alzheimers with 55% of people having this form of the illness.

Relating national occurrence rates with the projected population in Poole, as shown in the graph below, between 2006 - 2020 there could be a rise of 27% in the number of people aged over 65 with dementia, with an estimated 3,500 people suffering from dementia by 2020.

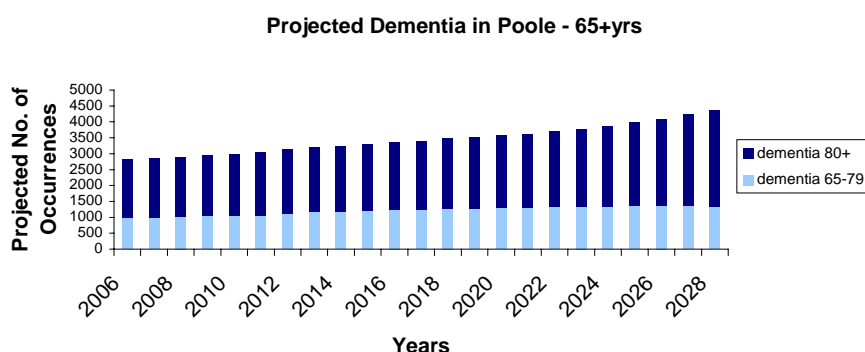
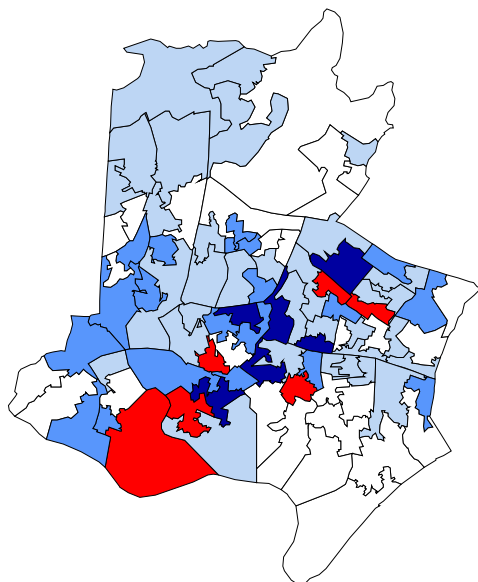


Figure 5 – Source: National Dementia Data

Figure 6: Poole Revs & Benefits 2006



People claiming Attendance Allowance in Poole - Feb 2006
Poole Revs and Benefits Data

- 0 to 4
- 4 to 8
- 8 to 12
- 12 to 16
- > 16

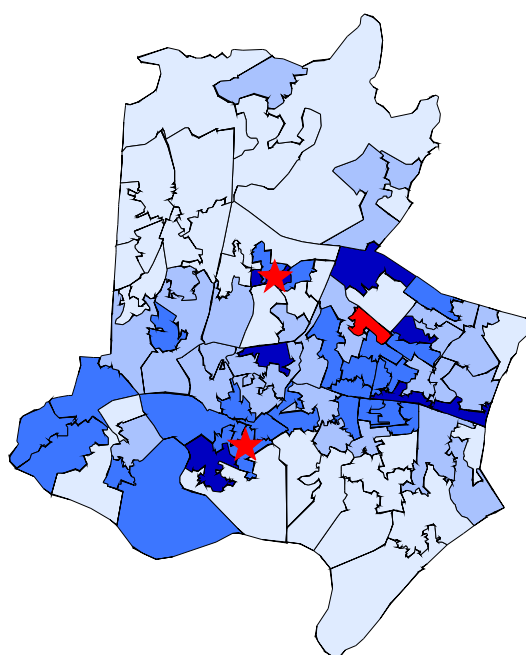
Dental Care

Currently there are only two dentists within the Borough borders who are accepting new National Health Service (NHS) patients. The thematic map on the right highlights the NHS dentists with a star and shows the concentrations of older people within the borough who are affected by income deprivation.

There is one area that features in the ranking of the worst 10% nationally. This is in Newtown ward, adjacent to Trinidad school.

Attendance Allowance is a tax free allowance payable to those over 65 years who need help with their personal care due to physical or mental disability. Currently the higher rate stands at £62.25 a week, and the lower rate £41.65 a week.

The thematic map on the left shows a snapshot of Poole where people are claiming **Attendance Allowance, Council Tax Benefit** and **Housing Benefit**. The highest concentrations of claimants occur in Hamworthy East and Poole Town, and parts of Oakdale, Parkstone, Newtown and Alderney.



Index of Multiple Deprivation for Older People

- Least Deprived - Amongst Lowest 10% in UK
- 10% - 25% in UK
- 25% - 50% in UK
- 50% - 75% in UK
- Most Deprived - Amongst top 75% - 100% in UK

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Figure 7 – Source: NHS Dental Practice Data & IMD ODPM

Further information

This paper provides a summary of the research and analysis that has been carried out under this heading. For further information on this subject or to access detailed data, maps and information please contact:

**Corporate Research Team, Strategic Planning Services
Borough of Poole**

Tel: 01202 633086
email: research@poole.gov.uk
Web: www.boroughofpoole.com/statistics

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