

# Poole in Profile: Older People in Poole – Housing



*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.*

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## Introduction

Changing population structures will have implications for housing policies and their effects on older people. The government aims to reduce the number of older people living in communal establishments. It is expected that most elderly people will choose to live in their current homes. Some owner-occupiers may wish to release some of their equity and move in to smaller dwellings. There has been an increase in “care villages” recently where older people live independent lives but have access to care services. These are predicted to increase.

In this short article we look at certain aspects of housing in Poole with respect to older people.

## Types of Tenure of Pensioner Households

We first examine the tenure of Pensioner Households. (A household is classified as a Pensioner Household if and only if the Household Reference Person is a pensioner.)

The table below shows the number of Pensioner Households, broken down into two broad tenure types – owned and rented – with corresponding percentages. The data is at Ward level.

As can be seen, home-ownership is high among Pensioner Households and ranges from 66% in Poole Town to 93% in Broadstone and Canford Cliffs

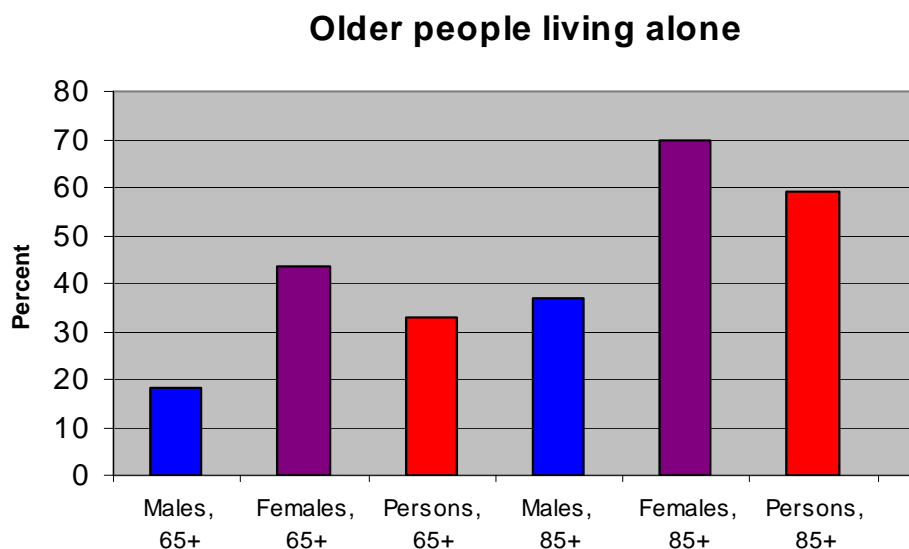
**Tenure of Pensioner Households**

Wards	Pensioner Households - Total, 2001	Pensioner Households - Owned	Pensioner Households - Rented	% owned	% rented
Alderney	1459	1024	435	70.2	29.8
Branksome East	725	522	203	72.0	28.0
Branksome West	726	610	116	84.0	16.0
Broadstone	1637	1528	109	<b>93.3</b>	<b>6.7</b>
Canford Cliffs	2170	2013	157	<b>92.8</b>	<b>7.2</b>
Canford Heath East	516	461	55	89.3	10.7
Canford Heath West	551	364	187	66.1	33.9
Creekmoor	1198	938	260	78.3	21.7
Hamworthy East	717	513	204	71.5	28.5
Hamworthy West	627	460	167	73.4	26.6
Merley & Bearwood	1138	1023	115	89.9	10.1
Newtown	1527	1063	464	69.6	30.4
Oakdale	1615	1312	303	81.2	18.8
Parkstone	2001	1621	380	81.0	19.0
Penn Hill	1590	1386	204	87.2	12.8
Poole Town	1519	998	521	<b>65.7</b>	<b>34.3</b>
<b>Borough of Poole</b>	<b>19716</b>	<b>15836</b>	<b>3880</b>	<b>80.3</b>	<b>19.7</b>

Source: Census 2001

## Living Alone

Living alone is a significant characteristic of getting older. Because of the greater life expectancies of women, older women are more likely to live alone than older men. The proportion of both women and men living alone increases with age. The chart below shows the proportions of all elderly people who are living in private households in Poole who are living alone.



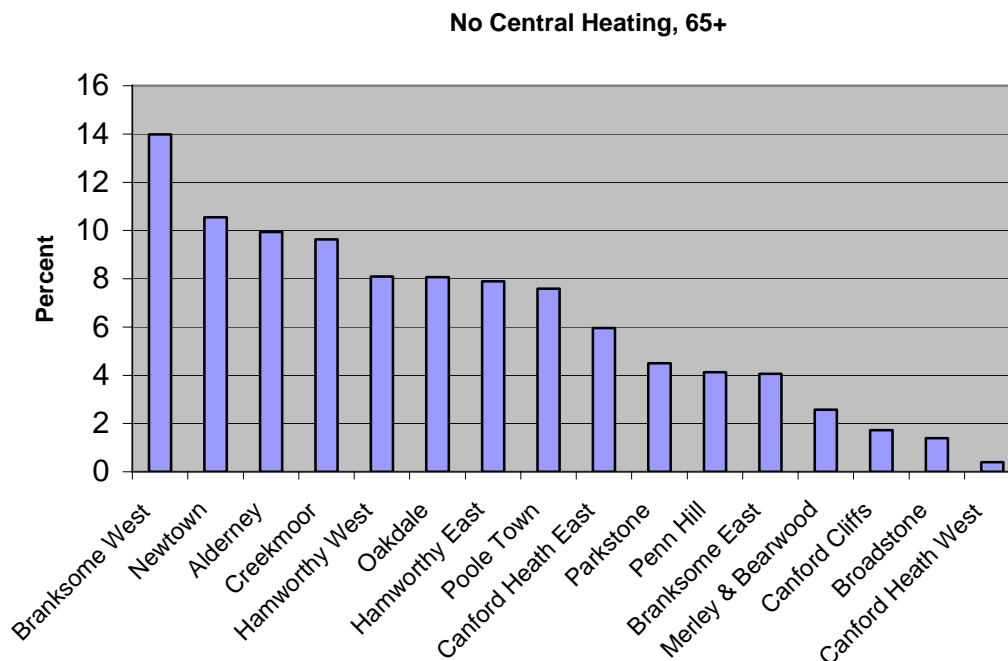
## Living alone – projections

We estimate that the numbers aged 65 and over living alone will increase from 8,900 to 11,600 between 2005 and 2020. The numbers aged 85 and over who are living alone are projected to increase from 2,150 to 3,100 over the same period. These projections are based on demographic trends in population structure and assume the likelihood of living alone given age remains constant.

Those aged 85 and over who live alone are likely to have particular needs, such as home help, assistive technology and so on. There is evidence to suggest that they may be more susceptible to depression and more likely to suffer from loneliness and feelings of social exclusion. A projected increase of 44 percent in their numbers in Poole over 15 years is likely, therefore, to have significant social consequences.

## Older people in private households without central heating

Approximately 6% of those aged 65 and over in Poole who live in private households do not have central heating. The total number is nearly 1600. The rate varies considerably by ward, as shown in the chart below.

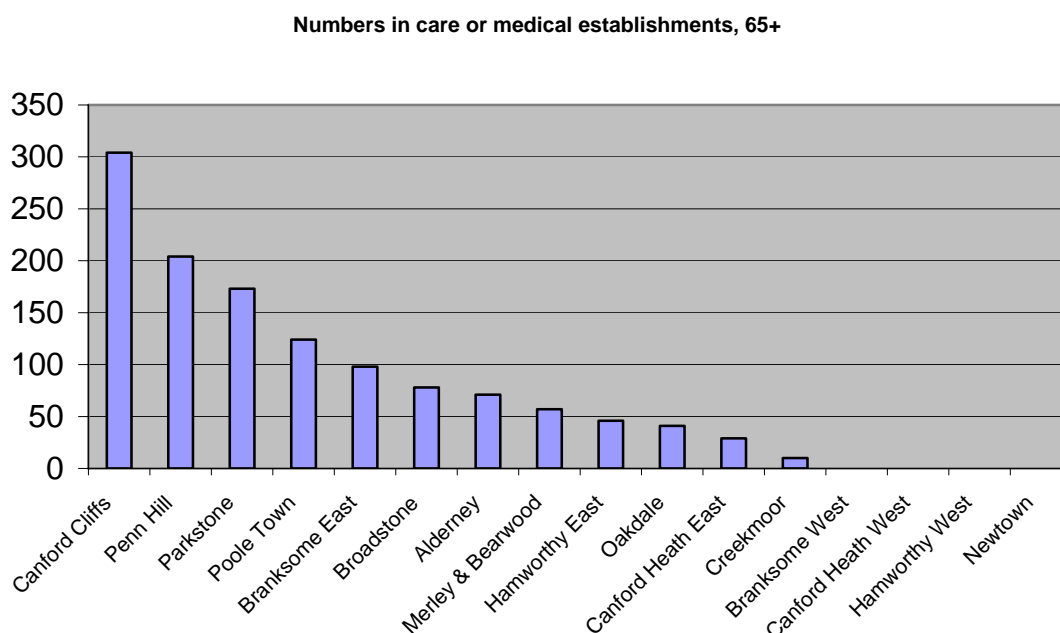


Source: Census 2001

## Living in a medical or care establishment

Just over 1200 of Poole's residents aged 65 and over lived in medical or care establishments as at 2001. This represents 4.4% of this age group and is broadly in line with the national average.

There is marked variation by ward, as shown in the chart below, reflecting the distribution of care homes in the borough.



Source: Census 2001

## **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:

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