

### Housing Strategy & Older People

Older people play an important part in the life of Barking and Dagenham as workers, carers, taxpayers, producers and consumers of local goods and services. The housing and support requirements of older people are determined by a range of factors much wider than simply their housing background. These factors include family, financial and health circumstances for example.

The number of older people aged 65 and over in Barking and Dagenham is expected to increase from 19,500 in 2010 to 21,800 in 2030 (LBBD Housing Needs Survey 2011, B&D JSNA 2011). Increased life expectancy is impacting upon the numbers of the very elderly with an expected increase from 1,100 people over the age of 90 in 2010 to 1,900 by 2030, an increase of 72% (B&D JSNA 2011). The borough has a higher proportion of older people aged 75+ than the London average. We are also seeing an increase in the numbers of older people from black and minority ethnic populations. Additionally although there are people of all ages with a physical disability, 74.6% are aged 65 and over (B&D JSNA 2011). In May 2011, the borough had an estimated 3,500 people with a physical or sensory disability (B&D JSNA 2011). The number of people with dementia is expected to increase by 70 to 1,630 by 2030 (B&D JSNA 2011).

Remaining independent is central to quality of life so our housing strategy for older people is aimed around supporting older people to stay in their own homes for as long as possible. If this is not possible, then the individual may move to adaptable accommodation. Supported living options are considered where neither of the previous solutions are possible. To facilitate independent living, the B&D Housing Strategy also prioritises mixed tenure housing developments comprising high quality, sustainable and adaptable lifetime homes. Bungalow developments perfectly fit this model.

Once the housing development is delivered, our housing strategy for older people (itself broader than a purely accommodation based strategy) will be implemented. This strategy focuses upon a number of objectives across all tenures including:

- Safer and warmer homes
- Promoting and sustaining independence living
- Housing options and advice
- Active Neighbourhoods