



REQUEST 18062

I did several searches for SL demand in Wigan and it looks like you have a high demand for older people, individuals with disabilities, and those with mental health needs but the availability is limited. We would be grateful if you could provide the following information under the Freedom of Information act:

1. **Current and future demand:** What types of supported living accommodation are currently in high demand (for adults with learning disabilities, young people, mental health, complex needs, etc?) Are there particular areas or postcodes within SWigan where the need is especially high?
2. **Design guidance:** Does the council provide any guidance or preferred standards/specifications for properties to be used for supported living (accessibility features, room sizes, layouts...?)
3. **SL providers:** Which supported living providers does the Council currently work with or commission services from?
4. **ICB Contact:** Who in the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board should we contact regarding SL in Wigan? Can you include their name, role, and preferred contact details (ideally including a phone number) please?
5. **Housing Authority contact:** Who is the relevant contact in the housing or adult social care department for discussions around SL accommodation? Please provide their name, role, and contact details.

RESPONSE

1. [Housing Strategy and Housing Needs Assessment](#) please see our Housing Prospectus however, we are in the process of updating this to review our future needs. I wouldn't describe that we have limited availability as we have developed and significantly increased the capacity of our supported living market over the last 12 years.
2. Yes this is included in our Prospectus see link [Housing Strategy and Housing Needs Assessment](#)
3. Care Choice NW
Creative Support
Possabilities CIC
Cherish UK
Bolton Cares T/A Wigan Cares
Community Integrated Care
Mediline Supported Living
Caretech Community Srvs
Imagine Act & Succeed
4. We are not at liberty to give out ICB contact details please contact the ICB directly on the ICBs general email gmicb-wb.corporateoffice@nhs.net
5. Joanne Willmott, Assistant Director, j.willmott@wigan.gov.uk

6. **Support for empty houses:** Are there any grants, funding schemes, or Council-led initiatives to support property owners or investors in repurposing empty properties for supported living use?

6. There are not currently any grants, funding schemes or Council-led initiatives in relation to repurposing empty properties specifically for the use of supported living.

The Council is however delivering the following initiatives in relation to empty homes:

A pilot Empty Homes Investment Scheme, whereby financial assistance is available to refurbish homes that have been empty for 2 years or more and bring them up to a good lettable standard; these homes are then taken onto a lease with the Council and used as general-needs, affordable rented accommodation for local families.

Providing empty homes opportunities to local developers, landlords and investors through our Landlord Hub platform. Users who are interested in purchasing and repurposing local homes can register at <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Business/Private-property-and-Land/Private-Landlords/Landlord-Hub.aspx> and receive email notifications when properties are available for sale, before they are open to the general market.