## Request

1. For each financial year from 2022 onwards, provide the number of care home placements sought, commissioned, arranged or funded for older people (aged 65+).
2. Number of placements where no suitable local bed was available within 5 miles of the person's preferred location.
3. Number of placements where no suitable local bed was available within 10 miles of the person's preferred location.
4. Number of placements where no suitable local bed was available within 20 miles of the person's preferred location.
5. Number of placements requiring out-of-area placement due to lack of local capacity.
6. Number of placements delayed due to lack of appropriate nursing care provision.
7. Number of placements delayed due to lack of appropriate dementia care provision.
8. Number of placements delayed due to lack of other specialist care provision.
9. Provide any information held on distance from an individual's preferred location or previous place of residence if distance-band data are not routinely recorded.
10. Provide the closest equivalent measure held where data is not recorded precisely as described.
11. Provide any accompanying notes, definitions, caveats or explanations necessary to interpret the data provided.

## Response Q1

### Placements for 65+ funded throughout the financial year

2022/23 = 1871
2023/24 = 1829
2024/25 = 1839
2025/26 = 1770

## Response Q2 – Q11

The Council does not routinely record data in the format requested as placement decisions are not made solely on the basis of bed availability or distance from a preferred location, as such we do not maintain datasets that categorise placements according to specific mileage thresholds, delays attributable to particular types of care provision or whether placements were made outside a person's preferred area solely due to capacity constraints. When arranging care home placements for older people, the Council considers a range of factors to identify the most appropriate placement, these include, but are not limited to:

- The assessed care and support needs of the individual
- The availability of services able to meet those needs
- The wishes, preferences and informed choice of the individual and where appropriate their family or representatives
- Proximity to family, friends and community networks and the individual's preferred geographical location
- Existing relationships with providers

As a result, the reason a particular placement is made is often multifactorial and cannot be reliably attributed to a single factor such as local capacity, nursing provision, dementia provision or distance from a preferred location.

Placement decisions are person-centred and based on individual circumstances rather than proximity alone.  This means a placement located further from an individual's preferred area does not necessarily indicate a lack of local capacity, as the placement may reflect the person's informed choice, specialist care requirements, family considerations, provider preference, or other personal factors.  The Council seeks wherever possible to support individuals to access a care home that meets their needs whilst taking account of their preferences and the views of those important to them.

To collate the information within the request would therefore involve a manual review of case documentation and would trigger Section 12 - of FOIA where the estimated cost of complying would exceed the statutory appropriate limit.