

## Milton Keynes Council response AP41: Additional data in relation to Policy HN4

### Individuals living with disabilities

1. Table 1 below illustrates the prevalence of disabilities or long-term health problems which limit day-to-day activities amongst different age groups within the Milton Keynes population in 2011, based upon Census 2011 data. Whilst there is no data on how those limitations are manifested, it is reasonable to assume that the design and accessibility of housing is a factor in how their disability does limit their activities. It therefore provides a reasonable but high-level indication of the level of potential need for housing with enhanced accessibility and design features.

**Table 1. Individuals within Milton Keynes that were living with a long term health problem of disability which limits their day-to-day activities, 2011**

<b>Disability</b>	All categories: Long-term health problem or disability	Day-to-day activities limited a lot	%	Day-to-day activities limited a little	%	Day-to-day activities not limited	%
All ages	246,715	14,689	6%	18,359	7%	213,667	87%
0 to 15	55,359	719	1%	1,092	2%	53,548	97%
16 to 49	121,878	3,534	3%	5,443	4%	112,901	93%
50 to 64	43,097	3,812	9%	4,972	12%	34,313	80%
Over 65	26,381	6,624	25%	6,852	26%	12,905	49%

Source: Nomis, Table LC3408EW

2. The data indicates that in 2011 there were 19,572 individuals aged younger than 65 in Milton Keynes borough who were living with disabilities that limit their activities. This equates to around 8% of the total population and 9% of the under 65 population in 2011. This compares to 13,476 individuals aged over 65 who were living with disabilities that limit their activities in 2011. This equates to around 5.5% of the total population and 51% of the over 65 population in 2011.
3. The prevalence of limiting disabilities within the over 65 population is much greater than that within the under 65 population (51% compared to 9%). However, within the population of Milton Keynes as whole in 2011, there were more people aged under 65 that had a limiting disability compared to those aged over 65 (8% compared to 5.5%). It is recognised that population growth over the period 2016 to 2031 is primarily driven by the growth in those aged over 65, however, the number of those aged under 65 is still set to grow by around 25,000 between this period. Therefore, the data above supports the Council's argument that the need for housing with enhanced design and accessibility features, as would be required under Building Regulations Part M, does not simply arise from individuals or households aged over 65.

### **Households seeking housing based on medical need**

4. As of September 2018, the Council's Housing Options and Allocation Scheme showed that 310 out of 1,867 (16.6%) applications to move into (or transfer between) a 'council' house were based in whole or in part on medical need.
5. Whilst seeking a home based on medical need does not directly equate to needing a home with enhanced design and accessibility features, particular wheelchair accessibility, it is reasonable to assume that it is key factor. Therefore, the 16.6% provides further justification for the requirement within Policy HN4 for 10% of affordable homes to be designed to the fully wheelchair accessible standard within Building Regulations Part M4(3).