

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

MORTALITY PREDICTIONS1. Purpose of report

To provide the Joint Committee with the latest Public Health England mortality predictions.

2. Background and Detail

At its meeting of 17 October 2019 Joint Committee noted and requested the following:

“the data projections for predicted annual death rates be updated and submitted to the next meeting as a result of life expectancies reportedly having plateaued and no longer increasing.”

All the information quoted in this report is taken from the Public Health England report: “Health Profile for England 2019” published 11 September 2019 and updated 24 September 2019.

Historically it was felt that the death rate, and hence the number of deaths, would significantly increase from 2015 onwards as the first years of the “Baby Boom” generation reached the age of 70. However, this has not happened, primarily due to the increase in life expectancy which has been seen over the last few decades - see first Figure in appendix.

The second Figure in the appendix shows mortality rates and shows a predicted slow increase for females to 2024 and a predicted slow reduction for males to 2024. Overall, the suggestion is no significant increase or decrease in mortality rates to 2024.

Obviously, there can be short term factors such as a Covid-19 pandemic, although the main impact of such pandemics tends to be to temporarily accelerate the death rate for the elderly and medically vulnerable. In that respect the Crematorium is training up four additional Broxtowe staff as assistant crematorium technicians, to work alongside fully qualified technicians, should that prove necessary.

Recommendation

The Joint Committee is asked to NOTE the report.

Background papers

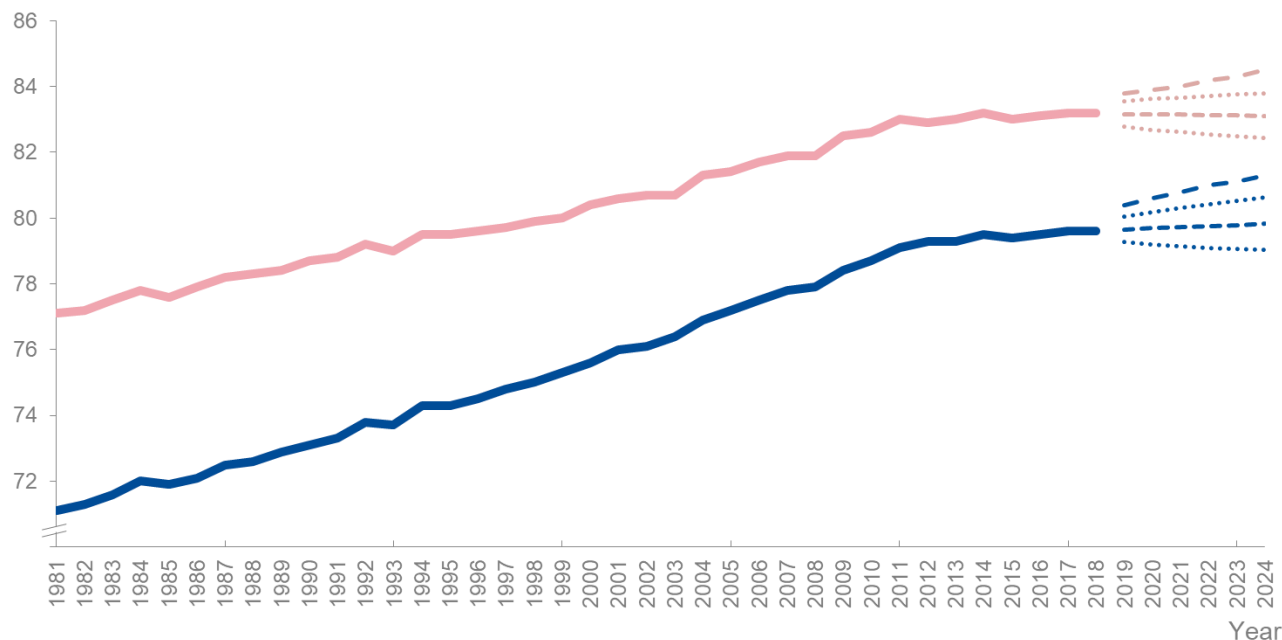
Nil

APPENDIX

Life Expectancy 1981 – 2018 (and various predictions to 2024)

(source: Public Health England – Red/Top = Female; Blue/Bottom = Male)

Life Expectancy (years)



Trends in the age-standardised mortality rates from all causes of death, by sex, England, 2001 to 2017 and forecasts for 2018 to 2024 (mortality rate per 100,000 people)

(source: Public Health England – Purple/Top = Female; Orange/Bottom = Male)

