Adult Social Care

The provision of services to support vulnerable adults and older people is a major priority for councils and accounts for around a quarter of total council spend. Both council run and council commissioned services are included here. Social care services have undergone fundamental reform as council services integrate with services from the National Health Service to create new Health and Social Care Partnerships (HSCPs). The purpose of these major changes is to strengthen the partnership working across public services to help improve outcomes for those using health and care services and also improve efficiency through the provision of more joined up services.

To reflect this major reform, we continue to work with Social Work Scotland, Chief Officers of the Integration Authorities, and the new Health and Social Care Improvement body to agree benchmarking measures which will usefully support Integration Joint Boards fulfil their new duties. The current social care figures are likely to become more difficult to interpret over time as integration continues and the personalisation agenda gains pace. Work will therefore draw upon the core suite of health and social care integration measures and will consider measures which might usefully be included to provide a fuller picture of improvement towards the national health and wellbeing outcomes and user experience.

Social care is an area where councils and their partners face growing demands due to an ageing population and the increasing complexity of needs experienced by vulnerable adults. It is forecast that the percentage of the population aged 65 or over will rise from 18.7% to 20.6% by 2024. In the face of these increasing demands, councils and their partners continue to modernise and transform social care provision to deliver better anticipatory and preventative care, provide a greater emphasis on community-based care, and enable increased choice and control in the way that people receive services.

Home care services

Council spend on home care services has been standardised around home care costs per hour for each council. This includes expenditure across all providers. Since 2010/11 there has been a real-terms increase of 5.4% in spending per hour on home care for people over 65 across Scotland. This reflects an overall 15.7% increase in gross expenditure and 9.8% increase in the number of hours delivered during this period, although movement between years has fluctuated.

### Home care costs per hour for people aged 65 or over

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Change 2010-11 to 2017-18</th>
<th>Change 2016-17 to 2017-18</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>£22.54</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>£21.84</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>£22.16</td>
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<td>2013-14</td>
<td>£21.54</td>
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<td>2014-15</td>
<td>£21.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>£22.07</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>£23.06</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>£23.76</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
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</table>

In the past 12 months, spending per hour has increased by 3.0% from £23.06 to £23.76. This reflects a 3.1% increase in expenditure and a 0.1% increase in hours delivered. The increase in expenditure will reflect in part the commitment from October 2016 to pay all social care workers the living wage. Going forward, some caution may be required in the interpretation of care hour figures as we move away from recording hours of care into more person-centred care with the ability to select direct payments or more inventive provision of care under self-directed support options.

There is significant variation across councils, with spend per hour ranging from £13.28 to £46.76. The level of variation observed is wider than any preceding year, however there is no longer any systematic relationship with rurality. Although rural councils still tend to have higher costs on average, often due to longer travel time between clients, this is no longer statistically significant. Over time, average rural costs have reduced and average urban costs have increased.

Older persons (over 65) home care costs per hour (£)

Balance of care

The second area of adult social care services covered in the framework is the percentage of adults over 65 with long term care needs receiving care at home. This is an area of growing importance in an effort to care for more people in their own home rather than institutional setting such as hospitals. The effective design and delivery of home care services can help prevent those most at risk of unplanned hospital admissions from entering the hospital sector unnecessarily. For those who do enter hospital, it can also help prevent delayed discharges.

The balance of care has shifted in line with policy objectives across the period with a growth in home care hours provided (9.8%) and a relative decline in residential places (-1.7%). The percentage of people with intensive needs who are now receiving personal care at home has increased from 58.9% in 2010/11 to 61.7% in 2017/18. As importantly, the number of people receiving home care has decreased over time and the hours of care they receive on average has increased, i.e. in shifting the balance of care, a greater resource has become targeted on a smaller number of people with higher needs.

Percentage of people aged 65 or over with long-term care needs receiving care at home

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>58.9</td>
<td>59.2</td>
<td>59.8</td>
<td>59.8</td>
<td>60.0</td>
<td>60.7</td>
<td>60.1</td>
<td>61.7</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
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Source: Social Care Survey, Scottish Government; council supplied expenditure figures
There is significant although narrowing variation across councils in relation to the balance of care, ranging from 42.6% to 73.7% across Scotland. Councils with larger populations have significantly lower rates of people receiving personal care at home than smaller areas (58% compared to 69%).

**Percentage of people aged 65 or over with long-term care needs who are receiving personal care at home**

![Bar chart showing percentage of people aged 65 or over with long-term care needs who are receiving personal care at home across different council areas in Scotland. The y-axis represents the percentage ranging from 0 to 90, and the x-axis represents 2010-11 to 2018-19. The chart shows a range from 42.6% to 73.7% across various council areas.]

Source: Social Care Survey, Scottish Government

**Direct payments and personalised managed budgets**

From 1st April 2014, self-directed support introduced a new approach which gives people who require social care support more choice and control over how their support is delivered. Social work services continue to drive forward changes to ensure people’s outcomes are being met, rather than a person fitting in to a service.

The Self-Directed Support Act 2013 puts a duty on local authorities to be transparent about the resources available to provide support and offer a choice as to how that support is managed/delivered/organised through the following four options:

1. Direct payment (a cash payment)
2. Personalised Managed Budget (PMB) where the budget is allocated to a provider the person chooses (sometimes called an individual service fund, where the council holds the budget but the person is in charge of how it is spent)
3. The local authority arranges the support
4. A mix of the above.

The indicator here refers to the percentage of total social work spend allocated via direct payments or Personalised Managed Budgets. The breakdown of spend available across the four options will

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26 The PMB breakdown was included in councils return to the Improvement service for 13/14 - 17/18, and...
become more sophisticated as the approach is fully implemented and this will be reflected in the development of this framework.

Since 2010/11, the proportion of total social work spend allocated via direct payments and Personalised Managed Budgets has grown from 1.6% to 6.7%. Glasgow accounts for a significant proportion of this growth, where expenditure via these two options has grown from £4.8 million to £79.3 million. Excluding Glasgow, the spend on direct payments and PMB as a percentage of total social work spend increased from 1.6% to 4.8% across the same period, with direct payments accounting for 74% of this spend.

In the last 12 months, the proportion of spend via Direct Payments and Personalised Managed Budgets rose slightly from 6.5% to 6.7% (4.7% to 4.8% excluding Glasgow).

Spend on direct payments and personalised managed budgets as a percentage of total social work spend

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2017/18 the range in spend across councils was 1.1% to 21.1% (1.1% to 10.2% excluding outliers). The variation has narrowed in recent years. The data reveals a relationship between rurality and deprivation, and the uptake of direct payments and Personalised Managed Budgets. Those councils with lower levels of deprivation tend to have higher uptake of direct payments (5.0% compared to 2.4% in the most deprived areas). Councils with higher levels of deprivation tend to have higher uptake of PMB, although this is not statistically significant (3% compared to 1.5% in the least deprived areas). This finding is supported by Scottish Governments examination of the uptake of direct payments and SIMD which shows that people living in less deprived areas are more likely to choose direct payments.27

Analysis of the LGBF data reveals rurality is also important in understanding the variation between councils, with supported people in rural authorities more likely to opt for direct payments, and supported people in urban authorities more likely to opt for personalised managed budgets (although this last relationship is not significant).

27 Source: Self-Directed Support, Scotland, 2016-17
https://www.gov.scot/publications/self-directed-support-scotland-2016-17/
Spend on direct payments and personalised managed budgets as a percentage of total social work spend on adults 18+

Source: Council supplied expenditure figures
Note: Missing values reflect no data returned for that year

Care homes

The fourth area covered by the framework relating to adult social care is the net cost of care home services. The measure has been standardised using net costs per week per resident for people over the age of 65.

It is important to note that the figures for 2012/13 to 2017/18 have in agreement with the local government Directors of Finance excluded a support cost component which was included in 2010/11 and 2011/12, and therefore a direct comparison with costs from earlier years is not possible.

Over the six years for which we have comparable data, there has been a 3.5% reduction in unit costs from £400 to £386. This has been driven by a 2.8% reduction in net expenditure while the number of adults supported in residential care homes during this period has increased by 0.8%.

Gross expenditure levels have remained steady over this period therefore the reduction in net expenditure indicates an increase in the income received by councils rather than a reduction in expenditure. The increase in the number of privately or self-funded clients as a proportion of all long stay residents over this period would support this trend (an increase of 2.9% between 2010/11 and 2016/17).

In the last 12 months, the average cost per week per resident increased by 1.8% from £379 to £386. This reflects a small increase in net expenditure (1.2%) and a small reduction in the number of residents (-0.6%). However, as the net expenditure data for 2017/18 is calculated on a slightly different basis from previous years and includes an element of other accommodation-based services such as sheltered housing, it is not directly comparable to previous years.

Source: Care Home Census 2010-2018, ISD, [http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Health-and-Social-Community-Care/Care-Homes/](http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Health-and-Social-Community-Care/Care-Homes/)
There is a considerable level of variation across councils with care home costs ranging from £195 to £1,349 in 2017/18. Island and rural authorities on average report higher costs, although the difference is not statistically significant. When island councils are excluded, costs range from £195 to £527. The level of variation is significantly higher than observed in the first three years, although has remained unchanged in the past 12 months.

Older persons (over 65s) residential care costs per week per resident (£)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>£400</td>
<td>£385</td>
<td>£390</td>
<td>£380</td>
<td>£379</td>
<td>£386</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Change 2016-17 to 2017-18: 1.8%
Change 2012-13 to 2017-18: -3.5%

Source: Community Care Quarterly Key Monitoring Return, Scottish Government; council supplied expenditure figures

Up to and including 2017/18, the National Care Home Contract (NCHC) for residential care for older people will, to a large extent, have standardised costs. However, it is important to note that the net cost per resident will not equate to the NCHC rate, as care home residents will pay a proportion of their care home fees. The NCHC rate only applies to LA-funded residents who are in private and voluntary run care homes. Residential care costs however include net expenditure on:

- The net cost of any LA-funded residents (paying the NCHC rate)
- The cost of paying free personal care and free nursing care payments to self-funders (there are around 10,000 self-funders receiving Free Personal Care payments (around two-thirds also receive the Free Nursing Care payment)
- The net cost of running any LA care homes (this will be gross cost less charges to residents). These will not equate to the NCHC rate and not all LAs run their own care homes so this may be something to explore further when examining differences across councils.

Range = 195.3 to 1348.6

29 The net expenditure data for 2017/18 is calculated on a slightly different basis from previous years and includes an element of other accommodation-based services such as sheltered housing and is not directly comparable to previous years.
Therefore, if we compare net expenditure with all long-stay care home residents (private/voluntary and local authority) we would expect the average rate to be lower than the NCHC rate.

Based on the above, variation in net costs between councils will be largely influenced by the balance of LA funded/self-funded residents within each area, and the scale of LA care home provision and associated running costs.

### Percentage of adults satisfied with adult social care services

In 2015/16, two measures from the Health and Care Experience Survey were introduced to the benchmarking suite to reflect service user satisfaction with social care services. These measures align with the core suite of HSC integration measures and provide a more locally robust sample than is available from the Scottish Household Survey in relation to social care. The survey takes place every 2 years, and only 3 years of data is currently available limiting trend analysis at this stage.

The percentage of adults receiving any care or support who rate it as excellent or good reduced from 84% in 2014/15 to 80% in 2017/18, a significant reduction at national level. Similarly, the percentage of adults supported at home who agree that their services and support had an impact in improving or maintaining their quality of life reduced from 85% in 2014/15 to 80% in 2017/18. This reduction is also significant.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of adults receiving any care or support who rated it as excellent or good</td>
<td>84.0</td>
<td>81.0</td>
<td>80.2</td>
<td>-0.8%</td>
<td>-3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of adults supported at home who agree that their services and support had an impact in improving or maintaining their quality of life</td>
<td>85.0</td>
<td>84.0</td>
<td>80.0</td>
<td>-4.0%</td>
<td>-5.0%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

The variation between councils in satisfaction rates has widened, ranging from 71% to 94% for those rating the care/support as excellent or good, and from 71% to 97% for those who agree their support had an impact in improving or maintaining their quality of life. Respondents in rural areas are more likely to rate their care or support as excellent or good compared to those in urban areas (83% compared to 80%). There is no systematic effect of deprivation, rurality or size of council in relation to views on whether the services and support had an impact in improving or maintaining their quality of life.
Percentage of adults supported at home who agree that their services and support had an impact in improving or maintaining their quality of life

Range = 70.7 to 96.6

Source: Scottish Care and Experience Survey, Scottish Government

Percentage of adults receiving any care or support who rate it as excellent or good

Range = 71.4 to 94.3

Source: Scottish Care and Experience Survey, Scottish Government
Work within Family Groups has identified the following factors as important in understanding the local variation between authorities

- **Rurality:** there is some connection between rurality and the cost of social care provision. Rural authorities have higher residential and home care costs, although this effect is not significant. Rural areas also tend to have higher satisfaction rates in the quality of the service and in relation to its impact on their outcomes, although again, this is not statistically significant. Councils with the largest populations have a significantly lower proportion of people cared for at home.

- **Demographic variability:** the number and proportion of over 75s within local populations will have a significant influence on the cost and balance of social care service provision locally.

- **Proportion of self-funders locally and impact on residential care expenditure:** variations in net expenditure between councils are systematically related to the percentage of self-funders within council areas.  

- **Local service design and workforce structure:** local factors such as the service delivery balance between local authority provision and private/voluntary provision locally, along with variability in the resilience and capacity within local workforce and provider markets, will influence both costs and balance of care.

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