

EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTIVITY MEASURE DETAIL

SERVICE AREA	Children		
MEASURE	CHN 4: Average unit cost of residential care for children		
SUMMARY DEFINITION	This measures the cost of all residential care provided for children, including within and outwith the authority, including provision for both looked after children, those with disabilities and those with Additional Support for Learning		
RATIONALE FOR MEASURE	This is a significant area of spend		
DETAILED DEFINITION (with inclusions and exclusions)	<p>Data on costs should be as reported in the annual Scottish Executive Local Financing Return.</p> <p>Definitions should be as contained in the CIPFA Scotland BVACOP guidance which covers placements in the following social care units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure accommodation • Children's homes • Young people's units • Close support units • Supported accommodation • Residential educational establishments • Any fees incurred for pupils with Additional Support for Learning (SEN) at independent special schools <p>Children with a disability are defined as children and young people aged 0-17 with learning disabilities, physical disabilities or sensory impairments.</p> <p>The following should be excluded from the scope of this measure:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provision and placement costs in <i>residential schools</i> and in <i>other residential care</i> should exclude expenditure on children who have been placed temporarily in residential care to provide respite for their carers. 2. Placements for children with mental health problems 3. All central support costs (recharges) 		
FORMULA	$N = A/B \text{ where}$ <p>A = total cost of social care and educational residential care (local authority provision + independent sector) B = number of children in residential care</p>		
UNIT OF MEASURE	£	DECIMAL PLACES	None
MEASUREMENT PERIOD	Full year	DATA SOURCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Financing Return • Residential care records

DATA AVAILABILITY AND QUALITY	Cost data available from annual Local Financing Return as provided to the Scottish Executive			
QUALITY CHECK MEASURES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SPI EC 6: Academic achievement: The number and percentage of young people ceasing to be looked after, who achieved SCQF level 3 or better in English and Maths or other subjects 2. User and carer satisfaction 3. Number of absconders 			
DRILL DOWN MEASURES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of children in council owned care homes 2. Number of children in private or independent sector homes 3. Number of children with disabilities in residential homes 4. Number of children with social care needs in residential homes 5. Number of children with Additional Support for Learning needs 6. Number of children placed outwith the authority 7. Number of children in secure accommodation 8. Number of children in residential schools 			
REPORTING YEAR	06/07	Yes	07/08	Yes
PROPOSED FUTURE MEASURE (where applicable)	None			