About this Release

Scottish Health Service Costs (the Costs Book) is compiled annually and provides a detailed analysis of where resources are spent in NHSScotland with a focus on hospital and community services. The information is mainly derived from financial and activity data compiled by the NHS Boards. The Cost Book 2014 reports on how £10.4 billion of operating costs was spent across the 14 geographic health boards and additional hospital services provided by two of the eight special boards, namely the State Hospital and Golden Jubilee National Hospital. The total operating costs made up around 94% of NHSScotland expenditure and 1/3 of all Scottish Government Expenditure in 2014.

Key Points

- The total Board operating costs increased by 2.4% to £10.4bn in cash terms (not adjusting for inflation) compared to 2013. In real terms, (taking inflation into account) the total Board operating costs increased by 0.6% compared to the previous year.

- £5.9bn was spent within the hospital sector. In cash terms, this was an increase of 2.3% compared to 2013. In real terms the increase was 0.5% compared to 2013. The hospital sector accounts for the largest part of expenditure (56.9%) and contains costs for the larger hospitals.

- £1.8bn was spent within the Community sector; a cash terms increase of 4.4% compared to 2013. The corresponding real terms increase was 2.7%. The community sector contains the smaller hospitals which serve their local communities, as well as community services delivered outside hospitals.

- Family health sector expenditure, which includes the cost of running local GP practices as well as local pharmacy, dental and ophthalmic services, amounted to just under £2.4bn in 2014; a cash terms increase of 1.1% and a real terms decrease of 0.6% compared to 2013.

Revision Notes: Within the publication on the 2nd of December 2014, the GDS figure for Western Isles was understated by £3.784m in respect of salaried dentists and should have read as £4.041m. These salaried costs were incorrectly reported within the medical and
nursing staff costs within Community Services. All figures and reports in relation to this were subsequently revised on 23rd December 2014. Also, the 2014 Primary Medical Services figures for NHS Lothian and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde have subsequently been restated due to accounting changes (further details on this are provided on the R100 notes page); the figures in relation to this were revised on 24th November 2015.

Total operating costs in 2014 in the Hospital, Community and Family Health sectors, as well as the NHS funds transferred to local authorities for the continued care of patients (Resource Transfer), are shown in Figure 1.

**Figure 1: Operating Costs (£bn) by Sector 2014**

- **Hospital Sector**: 56.9%
- **Community Sector**: 16.8%
- **Family Health Sector**: 23.0%
- **Resource Transfer**: 3.4%

**Background**

Information contained in Costs Book is primarily derived from Scottish Financial Returns (SFRs) which are compiled by Scottish Health Boards. On a yearly basis, there can be numerous changes to the Costs Book data templates and to the accounting guidance which can influence year-on-year comparisons. While every attempt is made to make comparisons of the data possible, these changes must be considered together with other factors such as organisational change or missing data. See Summary of Changes for important changes about the 2014 data.

**Contact**

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**Further Information**

Further information can be found in the Full Publication Report.

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Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up.

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