About this release

The Information Services Division has released results for financial year 2021/22 from the Resource Allocation Formula for NHSScotland. The previously published shares for 2019/20 and 2020/21 are also shown. The Formula is used to inform the budget allocations to territorial NHS Boards in Scotland for the provision of hospital and community healthcare services and GP prescribing. The final shares for these years may be different from the calculated target shares, as the results are used to inform the final allocation, not to determine them.

Main Output

The unified budget shares show the target shares by NHS Board for the combined budget for HCHS and GP Prescribing. These are combined using the care programme expenditure weights.
Background

The 14 territorial NHS Boards in Scotland are responsible for providing healthcare services to the populations they serve. It is crucial that resources are distributed fairly across Scotland, taking account of the many factors that influence the need for healthcare in particular areas and the costs of supplying those services.

The formula uses the projected population of each NHS Board as the basis of its allocation. Adjustments are made for three factors that affect relative need for healthcare resources:

- The Age/Sex composition of the population.
- The Additional Needs due to morbidity, life circumstances and other factors
- The Unavoidable Excess Costs of delivering healthcare in remote areas.

The adjustments to the base population result in what is known as a weighted population. Calculations are initially carried out on the populations of small geographical areas and GP practices, which are then aggregated up to provide NHS Board level shares. This is then used to determine the target share of funding for each Health Board.

The final shares actually allocated to the Boards are different from the target shares calculated by the formula. The policy of the Scottish Government Health & Social Care Directorate (SGHSCD) is to phase in the Formula by way of ‘differential growth’ whereby all Boards would continue to enjoy real-terms growth in their allocations year-on-year, with those above parity (i.e. above their formula target share) receiving less growth than those below parity until the new distribution was achieved.

More detailed information can be found on our Resource Allocation Formula pages.

Contact

Edmund Anderson
Principal Information Analyst
NSS.isdCOSTSINFO@nhs.net
0141 282 2182

General enquiries
NSS.isdCOSTSINFO@nhs.net

ISD and Official Statistics

Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of ‘Official Statistics’. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Further information about our statistics.