Insights into Social Care in Scotland

Support provided or funded by health and social care partnerships in Scotland 2017/18

Figures to March 2018

An Official Statistics publication for Scotland (Experimental)

Publication date: 11 June 2019

About this release

This release by Information Services Division (ISD) comprises a national report and a dashboard of more detailed analyses on people receiving social care support and services in Scotland during 2017/18. This is the first time ISD has published on this topic. In previous years the Scottish Government has published a series of annual compendia of information about Local Authority social care in Scotland. The publication covers many aspects of social care and focuses in particular on four key topics: self-directed support, home care, care homes and community alarms/telecare.

Main Points

- An estimated 1 in 24 people of all ages in Scotland received social care support and services during 2017/18.

- Of the total number of people receiving social care services/support in 2017/18, an estimated 75% were involved in choosing and controlling their support through self-direct support options.

- The number of people choosing a direct payment (SDS Option 1) to purchase the services/support they require continues to increase, with an estimated 8,880 people in 2017/18 compared to 8,290 in 2016/17, an increase of 7%.

- In Scotland, 67,985 people received home care between January-March 2018.

- On 31 March 2018 Health and Social Care Partnerships were financially supporting 33,972 people (partly or fully) to live in a care home in Scotland.

- In 2017/18, an estimated 132,000 people had an active community alarm and/or a telecare service. This is a 2.5% increase in provision from the previous year.
**Background**

ISD has collaborated with the Scottish Government to improve the way that national information on social care is collated and disseminated. ISD now has responsibility for collecting nationally and publishing statistics on social care, previously the remit of the Scottish Government. The new arrangements are also intended to bring added benefits to Health and Social Care Partnerships, supporting their local requirements for better, more integrated information and intelligence.

The new social care dataset can be used to link social care activity with routinely collected health data some examples of which have been included in this release. Further information on the data collection is available on the ISD website.

It should be noted that due to the way that the data were collected nationally for 2017/18 the figures for the different topics may vary in terms of the time periods to which they refer. Data for home care and care homes were provided for January to March 2018, and data for self-directed support and community alarms/telecare were provided for period April 2017 to March 2018. In future years it is expected that annual figures will be available.

In all cases the information relates only to services and support where a partnership has an involvement. People entirely self funding their care are not included.

When trend data or comparisons are provided, the figures for previous years are from the Scottish Government Social Care Survey publication.

Not all areas were able to provide information for all social care services/support for 2017/18. Further information on data completeness is available in the main report and the dashboard. For trends, missing data for 2017/18 has also been estimated.

Due to the changes in the processing arrangements, and some changes made to the content in the information collected nationally, this publication has been released as ‘Experimental Statistics’.

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**Further Information**

The data from this publication is available to download from our dashboard. Background information, glossary and metadata are available in the full report. Technical details are available in the technical document.

For related topics, please see the health and social care community care pages.

The next release of this publication will be in 2020.

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**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.