

I. SERVICES

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1.1 Private sector nursing homes for older people

Using PSS EX1 2013/14¹ returns updated by the PSS pay & prices inflator, the median cost per person for supporting older people in a non-local authority nursing care home was £524 per week, with an interquartile range of £479 to £573. The mean cost was £535 per week. The standard NHS nursing care contribution is £110.89, and the higher-level NHS nursing care contribution is £151.10.² When we add the standard NHS nursing care contribution to PSS expenditure, the total expected median cost is £617 and the mean cost is £621.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
A. Fees	£821 per week	The direct unit cost of private sector nursing homes is assumed to be the fee. Where a market is fairly competitive, such as that for private sector nursing homes, it is reasonable to assume that the fee will approximate the societal cost of the service. ³ A weighted average fee for England reflecting the distribution of single and shared rooms was taken from the Laing & Buisson market survey. ⁴ Care home fees have been split into their component parts by Laing & Buisson (2013). ⁵ For nursing care for frail elderly people, total fees comprise care costs (45%), accommodation costs (20%), ancillary costs (27%) and operator's profit (8%).
External services B. Community nursing C. GP services D. Other external services		No current studies indicate how external services are used by nursing home residents. See previous editions of this volume for sources of information.
E. Personal living expenses	£24.40 per week	The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) personal allowance for people in residential care or a nursing home is £24.40. ² This has been used as a proxy for personal consumption.
Short-term care		No current information is available on whether residents in short-term care are less costly than those who live full-time in a nursing home. See previous editions of this volume for sources of information.
Dependency		No current information is available on the relationship of dependency with cost. See previous editions of this volume for sources of information.
Occupancy	89.6 per cent	The occupancy level in England for-profit and not-for-profit homes was 89.6 per cent in 2014. ⁴
London multiplier	1.05 x A	Fees in London nursing homes were 5 per cent higher than the national average. ⁴
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£821 establishment cost per permanent resident week (A); £845 establishment cost plus personal living expenses per permanent resident week (A and E).		

¹ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2015) *PSS EX1 2013/14*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

² PayingForCare (2015) Types of state and local authority support, <http://www.payingforcare.org/types-of-state-and-local-authority-support> [accessed 8 October 2015].

³ Kavanagh, S., Schneider, J., Knapp, M., Beecham, J. & Netten, A. (1992) *Elderly people with cognitive impairment: costing possible changes in the balance of care*, PSSRU Discussion Paper 817/2, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

⁴ Laing & Buisson (2015) *Care of older people: UK market report 2014/2015*, Laing & Buisson, London.

⁵ Laing & Buisson (2013) *Councils rely on a 'hidden tax' on older care home residents*, Laing & Buisson, London. <http://www.laingbuisson.co.uk/MediaCentre/PressReleases/CareofElderly201213PressRelease.aspx> [accessed 19 September 2014].

1.2 Private sector residential care for older people

Using PSS EX1 2013/14¹ returns updated by the PSS pay & prices inflator, the median cost per person for supporting older people in a residential care home provided by all non-local authority organisations was £488 per week, with a mean cost of £504 per week.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
A. Fees	£595 per week	The direct unit cost of private care homes is assumed to be the fee. Where a market is fairly competitive, such as that for private sector residential homes, it is reasonable to assume that the fee will approximate the societal cost of the service. ² A weighted average fee for England reflecting the distribution of single and shared rooms was taken from the Laing & Buisson market survey. ³ Care home fees have been split into their component parts by Laing & Buisson (2013). ⁴ For residential care for the frail elderly, total fees comprise care costs (33%), accommodation costs (25.5%), ancillary costs (34.5%) and operator's profit (7%).
External service B. Community nursing C. GP services D. Other external services		No current studies indicate how external services are used by residential care home residents. See previous editions of this volume for sources of information.
E. Personal living expenses	£24.40 per week	The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) personal allowance for people in residential care or a nursing home is £24.40. ⁵ This has been used as a proxy for personal consumption.
Short-term care		No current information is available on whether residents in short-term care are less costly than those who live full-time in a residential care home. See previous editions of this volume for sources of information.
Dependency		No current information is available on the relationship of dependency with cost. See previous editions of this volume for sources of information.
London multiplier	1.11 x A	Fees in London residential homes were 11 per cent higher than the national average. ³
Occupancy	90.5 per cent	The occupancy level in England for-profit and not-for-profit homes was 90.5 per cent in 2014. ³
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£595 establishment cost per permanent resident week (A); £619 establishment cost plus personal living expenses per permanent resident week (A and E).		

¹ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *PSS EX1 2013/14*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

² Kavanagh, S., Schneider, J., Knapp, M., Beecham, J. & Netten, A. (1992) *Elderly people with cognitive impairment: costing possible changes in the balance of care*, PSSRU Discussion Paper 817/2, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

³ Laing & Buisson (2015) *Care of older people: UK market report 2014/2015*, Laing & Buisson, London.

⁴ Laing & Buisson (2013) *Councils rely on a 'hidden tax' on older care home residents*, Laing & Buisson, London.
<http://www.laingbuisson.co.uk/MediaCentre/PressReleases/CareofElderly201213PressRelease.aspx> [accessed 3 October 2014].

⁵ PayingForCare (2015) Types of state and local authority support, <http://www.payingforcare.org/types-of-state-and-local-authority-support> [accessed 8 October 2015].

1.3 Local authority residential care for older people

This table uses the Personal Social Services Expenditure return (PSS EX1) for 2013/14¹ for local authority expenditure, which has been updated using the PSS pay & prices inflator.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
Capital costs (A, B & C)		
A. Buildings and oncosts	£93 per week	Based on the new-build and land requirements for local authority residential care establishments. These allow for 57.3 square metres per person. ² Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent.
B. Land	£18.40 per week	Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency. ³ The cost of land has been annuitised at 3.5 per cent over 60 years.
C. Other capital costs		Capital costs not relating to buildings and oncosts are included in the local authority expenditure costs so no additional cost has been added for items such as equipment and durables.
D. Total local authority expenditure (minus capital)	£999 per week	The median estimate is taken from PSS EX1 2013/14 updated using the PSS pay & prices Index. ¹ Capital charges relating to buildings and oncosts have been deducted. The mean cost is £889 per week (interquartile range £789-£1,395).
E. Agency overheads		Social services management and support services (SSMSS) costs are included in PSS EX1 total expenditure figures so no additional overheads have been added.
External services		
F. Community nursing		
G. GP services		
H. Other external services		No current studies indicate how external services are used by residential care home residents. See previous editions of this volume for sources of information.
I. Personal living expenses	£24.40 per week	The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) personal allowance for people in residential care or a nursing home is £24.40. ⁴ This has been used as a proxy for personal consumption.
Use of facility by client	52.18 weeks per year	
Occupancy	89 per cent	Based on information reported by Laing & Buisson. ⁵
Short-term care		No current information is available on whether residents in short-term care are less costly than those who live full-time in a residential care home. See previous editions of this volume for sources of information.
Dependency		No current information is available on the relationship of dependency with cost. See previous editions of this volume for sources of information.
London multiplier	1.32 x (D)	Based on PSS EX1 2013/14 data. ¹
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£1,110 establishment cost per permanent resident week (includes A to E); £1,134 establishment cost plus personal living expenses per permanent resident week (includes A to D and I).		

¹ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *PSS EX1 2013/14*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

² Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

³ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

⁴ PayingForCare (2015) Types of state and local authority support, <http://www.payingforcare.org/types-of-state-and-local-authority-support> [accessed 8 October 2015].

⁵ Laing & Buisson (2010) *Councils set to shunt social care costs to the NHS and service users as cuts take effect*, Laing & Buisson, <http://www.laingbuisson.co.uk/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=7NqbsCOgKA%3D&tabid=558&mid=1888> [accessed 10 October 2014].

1.4 Local authority day care for older people

This table uses data from the Personal Social Services Expenditure return (PSS EX1) for 2013/14¹, which has been updated using the PSS pay & prices inflator. The median and mean cost was £137 per client week (including capital costs). These data do not report on the number of sessions clients attended each week.

To determine the best unit of activity, we have submitted a Freedom of Information request to ask local authorities the duration of a 'unit of activity' and to provide approximate guidance on how many times a week clients attend.

Based on information provided by ten local authorities,² we have calculated an average cost per client attendance and also a cost per client hour. We have then used this information to calculate the cost of a client session lasting 3.5 hours, which is a typical standard unit of day care for most local authorities responding to our information request.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
Capital costs (A, B & C)		
A. Buildings and oncosts	£5.60 per client attendance	Based on the new-build and land requirements for local authority day care facilities (which do not distinguish client group). ³ Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent. Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency. ⁴ These allow for 33.4 square metres per person. The cost of land has been annuitised at 3.5 per cent over 60 years.
B. Land	£1.40 per client attendance	
C. Other capital costs		Capital costs not relating to buildings and oncosts are included in the local authority expenditure figures so no additional cost has been added for items such as equipment and durables.
D. Total local authority expenditure (minus capital)	£52 per client attendance	The median and mean cost per week is taken from PSS EX1 2013/14 and has been updated using the PSS pay & prices index. Based on PSSRU research, ² older people attend on average 2.5 times per week (4.6 hours in duration) resulting in a median and mean cost per day care attendance of £52 and £57. Capital charges relating to buildings have been deducted.
E. Agency overheads		Social services management and support services (SSMSS) costs are included in PSS EX1 total expenditure figures so no additional overheads have been added.
Use of facility by client		Assumes clients attend 2.5 times per week. ²
Occupancy		
London multiplier	1.34 x A 1.88 x B 1.32 x D	Relative London costs are drawn from the same source as the base data for each cost element.
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£59 per client attendance (includes A to D); £13 per client hour; £45 per client session lasting 3.5 hours.		

¹ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *PSS EX1 2013/14*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

² Based on research carried out by PSSRU in 2014.

³ Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

⁴ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

1.5 Extra-care housing for older people

This is based on an evaluation of extra-care housing which followed the development of 19 new-build extra-care housing schemes located across England.¹

Extra-care housing is primarily for older people, and the accommodation is (almost always) self-contained. Care can be delivered flexibly, usually by a team of staff on the premises for 24 hours a day. Domestic care and communal facilities are available. For more information, see the Bäumker & Netten article in the 2011 edition of this report, <http://www.pssru.ac.uk/project-pages/unit-costs/2011/index.php>.

All costs have been updated from 2008 to current prices using the appropriate inflators. The mean cost of living in extra-care housing was estimated at £455 per resident per week, with a standard deviation of £189 and a range of £184 to £1,302. The median cost was £380 per resident per week.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
A. Capital costs		
Building and land costs	£113 per resident per week	Based on detailed valuations for the buildings and the land provided by the housing associations operating the extra-care schemes. For properties constructed before 2008, capital values were obtained from the BCIS, and adjusted using the All-In Tender Price Index. Includes the cost of land, works including site development and landscaping, equipment and furniture, professional fees (architects, design and surveyors' fees). ¹
B. Housing management and support costs		
Housing management	£55 per resident per week	Information taken from the annual income and expenditure accounts for each individual scheme after at least one full operational year. Average running costs were calculated by dividing the adjusted total running cost by the number of units in the scheme. The cost includes management staff costs (salary and oncosts including national insurance and pension contributions, and office supplies), property maintenance and repairs, grounds maintenance and landscaping, cleaning of communal areas, utilities, and appropriate central establishment costs (excluding capital financing).
Support costs	£10 per resident per week	
C. Personal living expenses	£99 per resident per week	As significant variability existed in the approaches to meal provision in the schemes, items related to catering costs were removed from the financial accounts, and the cost of food and other consumables was estimated using the Family Expenditure Survey (2013), table 24. ² and updated using the Retail Price Index.
D. Health and social service costs	.	Estimates of health and social service costs were made combining resource use information reported by 465 residents six months after admission, with the appropriate unit costs taken from the respective local authorities or, where appropriate, from national sources. ³
Health services	£71 per resident per week	Health care estimates ranged from £0-£720.
Social services	£107 per resident week	Social care estimates ranged from £0-£703
Use of facility by client	52.18 weeks per year	
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£179 accommodation, housing management and support costs; £278 accommodation, housing management, support and living expenses; £455 total cost (A to D).		

¹ Darton, R., Bäumker, T., Callaghan, L. & Netten, A. (2011) *The PSSRU evaluation of the extra-care housing initiative: Technical Report*, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

² Office for National Statistics (2013) *Family spending 2013 edition*, Office for National Statistics, London, available at http://data.gov.uk/dataset/family_spending [accessed 10 October 2014].

³ Curtis, L. (2008) *Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2008*, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

1.6 Dementia memory service

Memory assessment services support the early identification and care of people with dementia. They offer a comprehensive assessment of an individual's current memory abilities and attempt to determine whether they have experienced greater memory impairment than would be expected for their age. Memory assessment services are typically provided in community centres by community mental health teams, but also are available in psychiatric and general hospitals. Some commissioners consider locating services (or aspects of such services) in primary care, where they are provided by practitioners with a special interest in dementia.¹ The goal is to help people, from the first sign of memory problems, to maintain their health and their independence. See *Commissioning a memory assessment service for the early identification and care of people with dementia* for more information on this service.²

Information for this service has been provided by the South London and Maudsley (SLAM) NHS Foundation Trust. Based in the Heavers Resource Centre, Croydon, the service provides early assessment, treatment and care for people aged 65 and over who have memory problems that may be associated with dementia. The initial assessment is provided in the client's own home wherever possible. The average annual cost per client is £996. Two further dementia memory services provided by SLAM (but not providing assessments) had average annual costs per client of £1,007 (Lambeth and Southwark) and £761 (Lewisham). The costs of another London dementia memory service can be found in <http://www.londonhp.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/Dementia-Services-Guide.pdf>.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
A. Wages/salary	£445,366 per year	Based on mean salaries for Agenda for Change (AfC) bands. ³ Weighted to reflect the input of 1 WTE associate specialist, 0.40 WTE consultant, 2 WTE occupational therapists (bands 6 & 7), 2.8 WTE psychologists (bands 5, 7 & 8) and nurses (band 6 & two nurses on band 7).
B. Salary oncosts	£113,711 per year	Employer's national insurance is included plus 14 per cent of salary for employer's contribution to superannuation.
C. Overheads Management and administration	£110,059 per year	Provided by the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust and based on median salaries for Agenda for Change (AfC) administrative and clerical grades. ³ Includes 3 FTE administrative and clerical assistants (bands 3, 4 & 5) and management provided by 0.2 WTE psychologist (band 8).
Non-staff	£181,458 per year	Provided by the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust. This includes expenditure to the provider for travel/transport and telephone, education and training, office supplies and services (clinical and general), as well as utilities such as water, gas and electricity
D. Capital overheads	£3,776 per year	Based on the new-build and land requirements of 4 NHS offices and a large open-plan area for shared use. ^{4,5} Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent.
Working time	50.4 weeks per year 40 hours per week	Unit costs are based on 2,016 hours per year: 260 working days (8 hours per day) minus bank holidays.
Caseload	708 clients per year	Provided by the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust.
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
Total annual cost £854,370; total cost per hour £424; cost per client £996.		

¹ Department of Health (2011) *Commissioning services for people with dementia*, http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/Browsable/DH_127381 [accessed 9 October 2014].

² National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) (2007) *Commissioning a memory assessment service for the early identification and care of people with dementia*, <http://dementianews.wordpress.com/2011/05/12/nice-commissioning-guide-memory-assessment-services/> [accessed 9 October 2014].

³ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2015) *NHS staff earnings estimates to June 2015*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

⁴ Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

⁵ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

2. Services for people with mental health problems

- 2.1 NHS reference costs for mental health services
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- 2.6 Behavioural activation delivered by the non-specialist
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- 2.8 Deprivation of liberty safeguards in England: implementation costs
- 2.9 Mindfulness-based cognitive therapy: group-based intervention
- 2.10 Interventions for mental health promotion and mental illness prevention

2.1 NHS reference costs for mental health services

We have drawn on the *NHS Trust and Primary Care Trusts combined* to report on the NHS reference costs of selected mental health services.¹ All costs have been updated to 2014/15 prices using the HCHS pay & prices inflators. Only services with more than 10 data submissions have been included, but weighted costs have been provided for service groups which do include services with fewer than 10 submissions. Children's services have only been included in the group averages, and the costs of selected mental health care services for children can be found in table 6.1.

As the first step towards the introduction of a national tariff for mental health services, the Department of Health mandated the use of the mental health care clusters as the currencies for adult mental health services for working-age adults and older people. The care clusters cover most services for working-age adults and older people, and replace previous reference cost currencies for adult and elderly mental health services. They also replace some currencies previously provided for specialist mental health services or mental health specialist teams. The mental health care cluster for working-age adults and older people focuses on the characteristics and needs of a service user, rather than the individual interventions they receive or their diagnosis. See *NHS reference costs guidance* for 2013-2014¹ for more information on care clusters and the method used to allocate drugs to services.

Each reported unit cost includes:

- (a) direct costs – which can be easily identified with a particular activity (e.g. consultants and nurses)
- (b) indirect costs – which cannot be directly attributed to an activity but can usually be shared among a number of activities (e.g. laundry and lighting)
- (c) overheads – which relate to the overall running of the organisation (e.g. finance and human resources).

	Mean £	Lower quartile £	Upper quartile £
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES			
Mental health care clusters (per bed day)	£223	NA	NA
Mental health care clusters (initial assessment)	£284	£190	£342
All drug and alcohol services (adults and children)	£128	£94	£148
Alcohol services – admitted (per bed day)	£341	£320	£357
Alcohol services – community (per care contact)	£122	£115	£137
Alcohol services – outpatient (per attendance, consultant-led)	£130		
Drug services – admitted (per bed day)	£433	£336	£539
Drug services – community (per care contact)	£124	£81	£1584
Drug services – outpatient (per attendance)	£130	£79	£113
Mental health specialist teams (per care contact)	£118	£831	£136
A&E mental health liaison services	£206	£155	£234
Criminal justice liaison services	£197	£108	£295
Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT), adult and elderly	£105	£86	£118
Prison health adult and elderly	£82	£16	£121
Forensic community, adult and elderly	£235	£118	£278
Secure mental health services (per bed day)	£521	£465	£583
Low-level secure services	£395	£3372	£460
Medium-level secure services	£497	£454	£555
Specialist mental health services (per bed day)	£353	£281	£394
Eating disorder (adults) – admitted	£435	£363	£479
Mother and baby units – admitted	£684	£610	£746

¹ Department of Health (2015) *NHS reference costs 2013-2014*, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-reference-costs-2013-to-2014> [accessed 4 October 2015].

2.2 Local authority care homes for people with mental health problems

This table uses the Personal Social Services Expenditure return (PSS EX1)¹ for expenditure which has been updated using the PSS pay & prices inflator.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
Capital costs		
A. Buildings and oncosts	£105 per resident week	Based on the new-build and land requirements for homes for people with mental health problems. ² Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent.
B. Total local authority expenditure (minus capital)	£801 per resident week	The median revenue weekly cost estimate (£801) for supporting adults in own-provision residential care (includes full-cost paying and preserved-rights residents). Capital costs relating to buildings and land have been deducted. The mean cost per client per week is reported as £765. Councils reporting costs of over £2,000 per client week have not been included in this estimate.
C. Agency overheads		Social services management and support services (SSMSS) costs are included in PSS EX1 expenditure figures so no additional overheads have been added.
Other costs		
D. Personal living expenses	£24.40 per week	The DWP personal allowance for people in residential care or a nursing home is £24.40. ³ This has been used as a proxy for personal consumption.
E. External services		No information is available.
Use of facility by client	365.25 days per year	
Occupancy	100 per cent	No statistics available, therefore 100 per cent occupancy assumed.
London multiplier	1.05 x (A to B)	Relative London costs are drawn from the same source as the base data for each cost element.
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£906 per resident week establishment costs (includes A to B); £930 per resident week (includes A to D).		

¹ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *PSS EX1 2013/14*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

² Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

³ PayingForCare (2015) Types of state and local authority support, <http://www.payingforcare.org/types-of-state-and-local-authority-support> [accessed 8 October 2015].

2.3 Voluntary and private sector care homes for people with mental health problems

This table uses the Personal Social Services Expenditure return (PSS EX1)¹ for 2013/14 for expenditure costs, which have been updated using the PSS pay & prices inflator.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
Capital costs		
A. Buildings and oncosts	£105 per resident week	Based on the new-build and land requirements for homes for people with mental health problems. ² Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent.
B. Total expenditure (minus capital)	£631 per resident week	The median cost estimate (£633) for supporting adults in residential care provided by all non-local authority organisations (includes full-cost paying and preserved-rights residents). The mean cost per client per week is reported as £647. Capital charges relating to building and oncosts have been deducted. ¹ Councils reporting costs of over £2,000 per client week have not been included in this estimate.
C. Agency overheads		Social services management and support services (SSMSS) costs are included in PSS EX1 expenditure figures so no additional overheads have been added.
Other costs		
D. Personal living expenses	£24.40 per week	The DWP allowance is used as a proxy for personal consumption. ³
E. Service use		No information available on service use.
Use of facility by client	365.25 days per year	
Occupancy	100 per cent	No statistics available, therefore 100 per cent occupancy assumed.
London multiplier	1.15 x (A to B)	Relative London costs are drawn from the same source as the base data for each cost element.
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£736 per resident week establishment costs (includes A to B); £760 per resident week (includes A to D).		

¹ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *PSS EX1 2013/14*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

² Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

³ PayingForCare (2015) Types of state and local authority support, <http://www.payingforcare.org/types-of-state-and-local-authority-support> [accessed 8 October 2015].

2.4 Local authority social services day care for people with mental health problems

This table uses the Personal Social Services Expenditure return (PSS EX1)¹ for 2013/14 for local authority expenditure costs, which have been uprated using the PSS pay & prices inflator. Councils reporting costs of more than £500 per client week have been excluded from these estimates. The median cost was £104 and mean cost was £107 per client week (including capital costs). These data do not include the number of sessions clients attended each week.

To determine the best unit of activity, we submitted a Freedom of Information request to ask local authorities the duration of a 'unit of activity' and to provide approximate guidance on how many units a week clients attend.

Based on information provided by ten local authorities,² we have calculated an average cost per client attendance and also a cost per client hour. We have then used this information to calculate the cost of a client session lasting 3.5 hours, which is a typical standard unit of day care for most local authorities responding to our information request.

For day care for people with mental health problems, the average number of sessions attended per week was 3, which is also the number of sessions recommended as part of a total recovery programme.³

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
Capital costs		
A. Buildings and oncosts	£5.60 per client attendance	Based on the new-build and land requirements for local authority day care facilities (which do not distinguish client group). Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent.
B. Land	£1.40 per client attendance	Based on research carried out by the Valuation Office Agency. ⁴ These allow for 33.4 square metres per person. ⁵ The cost of land has been annuitised at 3.5 per cent over 60 years.
C. Other capital		Capital costs not relating to buildings and oncosts are included in the local authority expenditure figures, so no additional cost has been added for other items such as equipment and durables.
D. Total local authority expenditure (minus capital)	£25 per client attendance	The median cost per client week has been taken from PSS EX1 2013/14 ¹ and uprated using the PSS pay & prices index. Assuming people with mental health problems attend on average 3 times per week (4.1 hours in duration), the median and mean cost per day care attendance is £25 and £19 respectively. Capital charges relating to buildings have been deducted.
E. Agency overheads		Social services management and support services (SSMSS) costs are included in PSS EX1 expenditure figures so no additional overheads have been added.
Use of facility by client		Assumes clients attend 3 times per week. ²
London multiplier	1.07 x A 1.88 x B 1.09 x D	Relative London costs are drawn from the same source as the base data.
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£32 per client attendance (includes A to D); £8.00 per client hour; £28 per client session lasting 3.5 hours.		

¹ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *PSS EX1 2013/14*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

² Based on research carried out by PSSRU in 2014.

³ Salford City Council (2011) *Mental health*, Salford City Council. <http://www.salford.gov.uk/mentalhealth.htm> [accessed 9 October 2014].

⁴ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

⁵ Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

2.5 Private and voluntary sector day care for people with mental health problems

This table uses the Personal Social Services Expenditure return (PSS EX1)¹ for 2013/14 for expenditure costs, which have been uprated using the PSS pay & prices inflator. The median cost was £99 per client week and the mean cost was £86 (including capital costs).

To determine the best unit of activity, this year we have submitted a Freedom of Information request to ask local authorities the duration of a 'unit of activity' and to provide approximate guidance on how many times a week clients attend.

Based on information provided by ten local authorities,² we have calculated an average cost per client attendance and also a cost per client hour. We have then used this information to calculate the cost of a client session lasting 3.5 hours, which is a typical standard unit of day care for most local authorities responding to our information request.

For day care for people with mental health problems, the average number of sessions attended per week was 3, which is also the number of sessions recommended as part of a total recovery programme.³

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
Capital costs		
A. Buildings and oncosts	£5.60 per client attendance	Based on the new-build and land requirements for local authority day care facilities (which do not distinguish client group). Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent.
B. Land	£1.40 per client attendance	Based on research carried out by the Valuation Office Agency. ⁴ These allow for 33.4 square metres per person. ⁵ The cost of land has been annuitised at 3.5 per cent over 60 years.
C. Other capital		Capital costs not relating to buildings are included in the local authority expenditure figures, so no additional cost has been added for other items such as equipment and durables.
D. Total local authority expenditure (minus capital)	£34 per client attendance	The median cost per client week has been taken from PSS EX1 2013/14 ¹ and uprated using the PSS pay & prices index. Assuming people with mental health problems attend on average 3 times per week (4.1 hours in duration), ² the median cost per day care attendance per day is £34 and the mean cost per day is £30. Capital charges relating to buildings have been deducted.
E. Agency overheads		Social services management and support services (SSMSS) costs are included in PSS EX1 expenditure figures so no additional overheads have been added.
Use of facility by client		Assumes clients attend 3 times per week. ²
Occupancy		
London multiplier	1.07 x A 1.88 x B 1.05 x D	Relative London costs are drawn from the same source as the base data.
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£41 per client attendance (includes A to D); £10.10 per client hour; £35 per client session lasting 3.5 hours.		

¹ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *PSS EX1 2013/14*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds

² Based on research carried out by PSSRU in 2014.

³ Salford City Council (2011) *Mental health*, Salford City Council. <http://www.salford.gov.uk/mentalhealth.htm> [accessed 9 October 2014].

⁴ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

⁵ Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

2.6 Behavioural activation delivered by a non-specialist

Behavioural activation provides a simple, effective treatment for depression. This group-based intervention is delivered over 12 one-hour sessions by two mental health nurses on post-qualification pay bands with no previous formal therapy training. They received 5 days training in behavioural activation and 1 hour clinical supervision fortnightly from the principal investigator.¹ Sessions are usually attended by 10 people. Costs are based on Agenda for Change band 7, the grade normally used for this service. However, if we base the costs on Agenda for Change band 5, the cost per session per person is £10 (£12 with qualifications) and for 12 sessions £125 (£149 with qualifications).¹

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
A. Wages/salary	£76,664 per year	Based on the mean full-time equivalent basic salary for Agenda for Change band 7 of the July 2013-June 2014 NHS staff earnings estimates. ²
B. Salary oncosts	£19,117 per year	Employer's national insurance is included plus 14 per cent of salary for contribution to superannuation.
C. Qualifications	£21,237 per year	Qualification costs have been calculated using the method described in Netten et al. (1998). ³ Current cost information has been provided by the Department of Health and Health Education England (HEE). ⁴ This is for 2 mental health nurses.
D. Training for behavioural activation	£649 per year	Training costs were calculated by facilitators' hourly rate for the duration of the training (35 hours) divided by the number of participants attending (n=10) (£220 per therapist). Supervision costs were based on 1-hour fortnightly contact for 40 weeks (£2,963 per therapist). 12 session behavioural protocol (£228 per therapist). These costs have been annuitised over the working life of the nurse.
E. Overheads		Taken from the 2013/14 financial accounts for 10 community trusts. See Preface for more information.
Management, administration and estates staff	£23,466 per year	Management and other non-care staff costs were 24.5 per cent of direct care salary costs and included administration and estates staff.
Non-staff	£36,588 per year	Non-staff costs were 38.2 per cent of direct care salary costs. They include costs to the provider for office, travel/transport, publishing, training courses and conferences, supplies and services (clinical and general), and utilities such as water, gas and electricity.
F. Capital overheads	£7,435 per year	Based on the new-build and land requirements of NHS facilities (2 offices) but adjusted to reflect shared use of both treatment and non-treatment space. ^{5,6} Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent.
Working time	42 weeks per year 37.5 hours per week	Unit costs are based on 1,575 hours per year: 210 working days minus sickness absence and training/study days as reported for all NHS staff groups. ⁷
Ratio of direct to indirect time		
Face-to-face contacts	1:0.89	Based on the National Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service Mapping data and returns from over 500 grade G nurses, 45 per cent of time was spent on direct clinical work, 13 per cent on consultation and liaison, 8 per cent on training and education, 4 per cent on research and evaluation, 23 per cent on administration and management, 7 per cent on other work. Seventeen per cent was spent on tier 1 work and this was assumed to be spread across all types of activity for the purpose of the analysis.
Patient-related work	1:0.33	
Duration of contact		One-hour sessions included direct treatment time of 40-50 minutes and administration.
Unit costs available 2014/2015 (costs including qualifications given in brackets)		
Cost per session per person £15 (£17); Cost per 12 sessions per person £183 (£207)		

¹ Ekers, D., Godfrey, C., Gilbody, S., Parrott, S., Richards, D., Hammond, D. & Hayes, A. (2011) Cost utility of behavioural activation delivered by the non-specialist, *British Journal of Psychology*, 199, 510-511, doi:10.1192/bjp.bp.110.090266

² Health & Social Care Information Centre (2015) NHS staff earnings estimates to June 2015 (not publicly available), Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

³ Netten, A., Knight, J., Dennett, J., Cooley, R. & Slight, A. (1998) *Development of a ready reckoner for staff costs in the NHS, Vols 1 & 2*, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

⁴ Personal communication with the Department of Health and Health Education England (HEE), 2014.

⁵ Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

⁶ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

⁷ Contracted hours are taken from NHS Careers (2014) *Pay and benefits, National Health Service*, London, <http://www.nhscareers.nhs.uk/working-in-the-nhs/pay-and-benefits/> [accessed 9 October 2014]. Working days and sickness absence rates as reported in Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *Sickness absence rates in the NHS: April 2009 – April 2014*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

2.7 Individual placement and support

Provided by Justine Schneider and Sheila Durie

Description of Individual Placement and Support (IPS)

People with severe mental health problems face particular barriers to employment, both in relation to their impairments¹ and as a result of stigma and prejudice.² To overcome these, an approach known as Individual Placement and Support (IPS) has been developed³ and has strong evidence to support it.^{4,5} There are 25 criteria for 'fidelity' of IPS to the standards of best practice. The management ratio and the caseload sizes used here are within the bounds of 'good to exemplary' scores; most of the other fidelity criteria have little or no direct impact on service costs. Caseload capacity is determined both by size and by turnover. There is evidence from the US that each place on a caseload serves about 1.8 clients over a year, so a caseload of 20 has a throughput of 38 individuals per year on average. Although caseload size is used here to estimate a range of unit costs for IPS, turnover has not been factored in because it is likely to vary according to the skills of the post-holder.

Necessary conditions for IPS to operate

Successful operation of IPS requires work-oriented mental health services, through cross-sector engagement and partnership working. The specialist skills of IPS staff and managers provide direct interventions with service users and employers to place people in work and support them as required. Responsibility for the maintenance of work-oriented mental health is shared more widely across professionals in the field.

Variations in the costs presented

The IPS approach requires employment specialists to be integrated into the mental health team. However, there is a wide range of levels at which the specialists are currently appointed. Therefore, in table 1 we offer costs for four grades of staff, two with professional qualifications (e.g. psychology, occupational therapy) and two with no particular qualifications. These different levels of pay, combined with a range of caseload sizes, yield a range of unit costs, as shown in table 2. To the salary costs are added the usual overheads, plus a cost for a team leader, who according to IPS guidance should not supervise more than 10 staff and should be available to provide practical support. A small marketing budget is included here, but annual costs for training were not available. We were advised by experienced IPS services that no other costs are commonly incurred. The unit cost per year shown in table 2 ranges from £1,972 to £7,551, depending on caseload size and salary level of the worker. This does not take account of turnover in clients, who are unlikely to remain in the service for a full year.

Comparative costs of day care

Unit costs of IPS may be compared to the costs of private and voluntary sector day care. In schema 2.5 of this volume, the cost of private and voluntary sector day care was £41 per session outside of London. Table 3 shows the unit cost per day for the four grades of staff, combined with the same range of caseload sizes as in table 2. The unit costs per day shown in table 3 range from £47 to £180, depending on caseload size and salary level of the worker. Whereas day care is often allocated in perpetuity, IPS is geared to finding a person paid work, and therefore the amount used by a given individual is likely to decrease over time. Moreover, there is some evidence that those individuals who attain work gain self-esteem⁶ and reduce their reliance on mental health services, though not necessarily on social security benefits.⁷

¹ McGurk, S. & Mueser, K. (2004) Cognitive functioning, symptoms and work in supported employment; a review and heuristic model, *Schizophrenia Research*, 70, 147-174.

² Thornicroft, G. (2006) *Shunned: discrimination against people with mental illness*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

³ Department of Health (2006) *Vocational services for people with severe mental health problems: commissioning guidance*, CSIP for Department of Work and Pensions and Department of Health.

⁴ Bond, G.R., Drake, R.E. & Becker, D.R. (2008) An update on randomized controlled trials of evidence based supported employment, *Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal*, 31, 280-289.

⁵ Burns, T., Catty, J., Becker, T., Drake, R., Fioritti, A., Knapp, M., Lauber, C., Rossler, W., Tomov, T., van Busschbach, J., White, S. & Wiersma, D. (2007) The effectiveness of supported employment for people with severe mental illness: a randomised controlled trial, *The Lancet*, 370, 1146-1152.

⁶ Sesami Research and Practice Partnership (2007) The SESAMI evaluation of employment support in the UK: background and baseline data, *Journal of Mental Health*, 16, 3, 375-388.

⁷ Schneider, J., Boyce, M., Johnson, R., Secker, J., Grove, B. & Floyd, M. (2009) Impact of supported employment on service costs and income of people, *Journal of Mental Health*, 18, 6, 533-542.

Table 1 Cost components

	Unqualified	Unqualified	Qualified	Qualified
	Band 3	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6
Salary	£18,459	£21,248	£23,284	£31,070
Salary oncosts	£4,034	£4,809	£5,375	£7,540
Overheads – staff	£5,511	£6,384	£7,021	£9,459
Overheads – other	£8,592	£9,954	£10,948	£14,749
Capital	£4,370	£4,370	£4,370	£4,370
Team leader	£7,216	£7,216	£7,216	£7,216
Marketing budget	£1,109	£1,109	£1,109	£1,109
Total	£49,290	£55,089	£59,323	£75,512

Table 2 Unit costs per person per year

	Unqualified	Unqualified	Qualified	Qualified
Caseload size	Band 3	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6
10 people	£4,929	£5,509	£5,932	£7,551
15 people	£3,286	£3,673	£3,955	£5,034
20 people	£2,465	£2,754	£2,966	£3,776
25 people	£1,972	£2,204	£2,373	£3,020

Table 3 Unit costs per person per day

	Unqualified	Unqualified	Qualified	Qualified
Caseload size	Band 3	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6
10 people	£117	£131	£141	£180
15 people	£78	£87	£94	£120
20 people	£59	£66	£71	£90
25 people	£47	£52	£56	£72

2.8 Deprivation of liberty safeguards in England: implementation costs

In 2009 the government provided additional funding of £10 million for local authorities and £2.2 million for the National Health Service (NHS) for the implementation of deprivation of liberty safeguards (DoLS). This amends a breach of the European Convention on Human Rights and provides for the lawful deprivation of liberty of those people who lack the capacity to consent to arrangements made for their care or treatment in either hospitals or care homes, but who need to be deprived of liberty in their own best interests, to protect them from harm.

In 2009, a study was carried out to estimate the costs likely to be incurred with the implementation of the DoLS in England, and data on resource utilisation were collected from professionals conducting the six formal assessments required.¹ These are: age assessment, mental health assessment, mental capacity assessment, best-interest assessment, eligibility assessment and no refusal assessment, the latter of which establishes whether authorisation of deprivation of liberty would conflict with other authorities (for example, power of attorney) for decision-making for that individual.

The 40 interviews included professionals conducting the six DoLS assessments, the secretarial staff in DoLS offices and the independent mental capacity advocates. Each professional provided the average time taken for an individual DoLS assessment or for combined assessments, when more than one of the six DoLS assessments were conducted together. Information on average travelling time and distance was also provided. Total assessment time for each individual (including travelling time) was multiplied by the unit cost for that professional and a travelling allowance.

The average cost for a single DoLS assessment across the five DoLS offices was £1,393. The standard deviation around the estimated cost of a single DoLS assessment was £416, and the 95 per cent confidence interval was £536 to £2,169. All costs have been uprated to 2014/2015 prices using the appropriate inflators.

Costs for a single deprivation of liberty safeguards (DoLS) assessment

All assessments include travel time	DoLS office 1	DoLS office 2	DoLS office 3	DoLS office 4	DoLS office 5	Average of the five offices
Assessments by mental health assessor	£496	£226	£578	£287	£247	£367
Assessments by best-interest assessor	£697	£419	£293	£1,020	£568	£600
Secretarial costs	£325	£182	£129	£586	£308	£306
Independent mental capacity advocates assessments	£112	£86	£61	£59	£73	£78
Court protection costs	£43	£43	£43	£43	£43	£43
Total costs	£1,674	£956	£1,104	£1,994	£1,238	£1,393

¹ Shah, A., Pennington, M., Heginbotham, C. & Donaldson, C. (2011) Deprivation of liberty safeguards in England: implementation costs, *British Journal of Psychiatry*, 199,232-238, doi:10.1192/bjp.bp.110.089474.

2.9 Mindfulness-based cognitive therapy – group-based intervention

Mindfulness-based cognitive therapy (MBCT) is a manualised skills training programme designed to enable patients to learn skills that prevent the recurrence of depression. It is derived from mindfulness-based stress reduction, a programme with proven efficacy in ameliorating distress in people suffering chronic disease.

To provide the unit costs of this service, we have drawn on information provided by Kuyken et al. (2008)¹ which was based on data from three mindfulness-based cognitive therapy therapists who took part in the study. There were 12 individuals in each group.

Costs and unit estimation	Unit cost 2014/2015	Notes
A. Wages/salary	£37,931 per year	Based on the mean full-time equivalent basic salary for Agenda for Change band 7 of the July 2013-June 2014 NHS staff earnings estimates. ² See section V for further information on salaries.
B. Salary oncosts	£9,447 per year	Employer's national insurance is included plus 14 per cent of salary for employer's contribution to superannuation.
C. Qualifications		No information available
D. Overheads		Taken from the 2013/14 financial accounts for 10 community trusts. See Preface for more information.
Management, administration and estates staff	£11,608 per year	Management and other non-care staff costs were 24.5 per cent of direct care salary costs and included administration and estates staff.
Non-staff	£18,098 per year	Non-staff costs were 38.2 per cent of direct care salary costs. They include costs to the provider for office, travel/transport, publishing, training courses and conferences, supplies and services (clinical and general), and utilities such as water, gas and electricity.
E. Capital overheads	£4,370 per year	Based on the new-build requirements of NHS facilities, but adjusted to reflect shared use of both treatment and non-treatment space. ^{3,4}
Working time	42.4 weeks per year 37.5 hours per week	Unit costs are based on 1,590 hours per year: 225 working days minus sickness absence and training/study days as reported for all NHS staff groups. ⁵
Face-to-face time	1:0.67	Based on data from the 3 MBCT therapists who took part in the study.
Length of sessions	2 hours	Therapy sessions lasted 2 hours with 12 people attending each session.
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£51 per hour, £86 per hour of direct contact, £171 per session, £14 per service user.		

¹ Kuyken, W., Byford, S., Taylor, R.S., Watkins, E., Holden, E., White, K., Barrett, B., Byng, R., Evans, A Mullan, E. & Teasdale, J.D. (2008) Mindfulness-based cognitive therapy to prevent relapse in recurrent depression, *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 76, 966-978.

² Health & Social Care Information Centre (2015) NHS staff earnings estimates to June 2015 (not publicly available), Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

³ Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

⁴ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

⁵ Contracted hours are taken from NHS Careers (2014) *Pay and benefits*, National Health Service, London. <http://www.nhscareers.nhs.uk/working-in-the-nhs/pay-and-benefits/> [accessed 9 October 2014]. Working days and sickness absence rates as reported in Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *Sickness absence rates in the NHS: April 2009 – April 2014*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

2.10 Interventions for mental health promotion and mental illness prevention

Information has been drawn from Knapp et al. (2011)¹ and explores the economic case for mental health promotion and prevention, based on a detailed analysis of costs and benefits for 15 different interventions. All costs have been updated using the appropriate inflators.

The full report can be downloaded at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_126085/.

Parenting interventions for the prevention of persistent conduct disorders

Context: Conduct disorders are the most common childhood psychiatric disorders, with a UK prevalence of 4.9 per cent for children aged 5-10 years. The condition leads to adulthood anti-social personality disorder in about 50 per cent of cases, and is associated with a wide range of adverse long-term outcomes, particularly delinquency and criminality. The costs to society are high, with average potential savings from early intervention previously estimated at £150,000 (2011 prices) per case.

Intervention: Parenting programmes can be targeted at parents of children with, or at risk of, developing conduct disorder, and are designed to improve parenting styles and parent-child relationships. Reviews have found parent training to have positive effects on children's behaviour, and that benefits remain one year later. Longer-term studies show sustained effects but lack control groups; cost-effectiveness data are limited, but in one trial, health and social services costs were found to reduce over time.

Cost: The median cost of an 8-12 week group-based parenting programme is estimated at £1,009 per family, while that of individual interventions is £2,202. Assuming 80 per cent of people receive group-based interventions and 20 per cent individual interventions, in line with NICE guidance, the average cost of the intervention can be estimated at £1,247 per family.

School-based social and emotional learning programmes to prevent conduct problems in childhood.

Context: Conduct problems in childhood cover a range of oppositional or anti-social forms of behaviour, such as disobedience, lying, fighting and stealing, and are associated with a range of poor outcomes, including increased risk of criminal activity, fewer school qualifications, parenthood at a young age, unemployment, divorce or separation, substance abuse and psychiatric disorders, many of which lead to increased costs across several agencies.

Intervention: School-based Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) programmes help children and young people to recognise and manage emotions, and to set and achieve positive goals. International evidence shows that SEL participants demonstrate significantly improved social and emotional skills, attitudes, behaviour and academic performance.

Cost: The costs of a representative intervention, including teacher training, programme co-ordinator and materials, were estimated at £140 per child per year at current prices.

School-based interventions to reduce bullying

Context: Being bullied at school has adverse effects on both psychological well-being and educational attainment. There is evidence from longitudinal data that this has a negative long-term impact on employability and earnings; on average, lifetime earnings of a victim of bullying are reduced by around £50,000. According to an Ofsted survey,² 39 per cent of children reported being bullied in the previous 12 months.

Intervention: Anti-bullying programmes show mixed results. One high-quality evaluation of a school-based anti-bullying intervention found a 21-22 per cent reduction in the proportion of children victimised.

Cost: Information is limited on the cost of anti-bullying programmes, but one study estimates this at £16 per pupil per year at current prices.

¹ Knapp, M., McDaid, D. & Parsonage, M. (2011) *Mental health promotion and mental illness prevention: the economic case*, Department of Health, London.

² Ofsted (2008) *Children on bullying*, Ofsted, <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/children-bullying> [accessed 9 October 2014].

Early detection for psychosis

Context: It is estimated that each year in England more than 15,000 people exhibit early symptoms before the onset of full psychosis. Progression of the disease is associated with higher costs to public services (including health, social care and criminal justice), lost employment, and greatly diminished quality of life for the individual and their family.

Intervention: Early detection services aim to identify the early symptoms of psychosis, reduce the risk of transition to full psychosis, and shorten the duration of untreated psychosis for those who develop it. Such services include cognitive behavioural therapy, psychotropic medication, and contact with psychiatrists. This contrasts with treatment as usual which typically consists of GP and counsellor contacts.

Cost: One year of an early detection intervention has been estimated to cost £3,089 per patient, compared with £779 for standard care (2009 prices).

Early intervention for psychosis

Context: Psychosis related to schizophrenia is associated with higher costs to public services (including health, social care and criminal justice), lost employment, and greatly diminished quality of life for the individual with the illness and their family.

Intervention: Early intervention teams aim to reduce relapse and readmission rates for patients who have suffered a first episode of psychosis, and to improve their chances of returning to employment, education or training, and more generally their future quality of life. This intervention involves a multidisciplinary team that could include a range of professionals (psychiatrists, psychologists, occupational therapists, community support workers, social workers and vocational workers).

Cost: The annual direct cost per patient of this type of service, plus other community psychiatric services and inpatient care, has been estimated at £11,921 at current prices. The first year of the early intervention team's input is estimated to cost £2,490 per patient.

Screening and brief intervention in primary care for alcohol misuse

Context: It is estimated that 6.6 million adults in England currently consume alcohol at hazardous levels, and 2.3 million at harmful levels.

Intervention: An inexpensive intervention in primary care combines universal screening by GPs of all patients, followed by a 5-minute advice session for those who screen positive.

Cost: The total cost of the intervention averaged over all those screened was £18.40 at current prices.

Workplace screening for depression and anxiety disorders

Context: Labour Force Survey data suggest that 11.4 million working days were lost in Britain in 2008/09 due to work-related stress, depression or anxiety. This equates to 27.3 days lost per affected worker.

Intervention: Workplace-based enhanced depression care consists of employees completing a screening questionnaire, followed by care management for those found to be suffering from, or at risk of developing, depression and/or anxiety disorders. Those at risk of depression or anxiety disorders are offered a course of cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT) delivered in six sessions over 12 weeks.

Cost: It is estimated that £33 covers the cost of facilitating the completion of the screening questionnaire, follow-up assessment to confirm depression, and care management costs. For those identified as being at risk, the authors estimated that the cost of six sessions of face-to-face CBT is £254.

Promoting well-being in the workplace

Context: Deteriorating well-being in the workplace is potentially costly for businesses as it may increase absenteeism and presenteeism (lost productivity while at work), and in the longer term potentially leads to premature withdrawal from the labour market.

Intervention: There are a wide range of approaches: flexible working arrangements; career progression opportunities; ergonomics and environment; stress audits; and improved recognition of risk factors for poor mental health by line managers. A multi-component health promotion intervention consists of personalised health and well-being information

and advice; a health-risk appraisal questionnaire; access to a tailored health-improvement web portal; wellness literature, and seminars and workshops focused on identified wellness issues.

Cost: The cost of a multi-component intervention is estimated at £85 per employee per year.

Debt and mental health

Context: Only about half of all people with debt problems seek advice, and without intervention almost two-thirds of people with unmanageable debt problems will still face such problems 12 months later. Research has demonstrated a link between debt and mental health. On average, the lost employment costs of each case of poor mental health are £12,472 per year, while the annual costs of health and social service use are £1,645.

Intervention: Current evidence suggests that there is potential for debt advice interventions to alleviate financial debt, and hence reduce mental health problems resulting from debt. For the general population, contact with face-to-face advice services is associated with a 56 per cent likelihood of debt becoming manageable, while telephone services achieve 47 per cent.

Cost: The costs of this type of intervention vary significantly, depending on whether it is through face-to-face, telephone or internet-based services. The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills suggests expenditure of £265 per client for face-face-debt advice; telephone and internet-based services are cheaper.

Population-level suicide awareness training and intervention

Context: The economic impacts of suicide are profound, although comparatively few studies have sought to quantify these costs. This is in part because a proportion of individuals who survive suicide attempts are likely to make further attempts, in some cases fatal.

Intervention: There is evidence that suicide prevention education for GPs can have an impact as a population-level intervention to prevent suicide. With better identification of those at risk, individuals can receive cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), followed by ongoing pharmaceutical and psychological support to help manage underlying depressive disorders.

Cost: The authors estimated that a course of CBT in the first year is around £436 per person. Further ongoing pharmaceutical and psychological therapy is estimated to cost £1,290 a year. The cost of suicide prevention training for GPs, based on the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) course, is £218.

Bridge safety measures for suicide prevention

Context: Jumping from height accounts for around 3 per cent of completed suicides.

Intervention and cost: Following the installation of a safety barrier in 1998, at a cost of £324,382 at current prices, the number of suicides reduced from an average of 8.2 per year in the five years before the barrier, to 4 per year in the five years after it was installed.

Collaborative care for depression in individuals with Type II diabetes

Context: Depression is commonly associated with chronic physical health problems. US data indicate that 13 per cent of all new cases of Type II diabetes will also have clinical depression. These patterns are important as evidence shows that co-morbid depression exacerbates the complications and adverse consequences of diabetes, in part because patients may more poorly manage their diabetes. This has substantial economic consequences.

Intervention: 'Collaborative care', including GP advice and care, the use of antidepressants and cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) for some patients, can be delivered in a primary care setting to individuals with co-morbid diabetes.

Cost: It is estimated that the total cost of six months of collaborative care is £744, compared with £377 for usual care.

Tackling medically unexplained symptoms

Context: Somatoform conditions present physical symptoms for which there is no identifiable physical cause. These medically unexplained symptoms are thought to be triggered or exacerbated by emotional factors, such as psychosocial stress, depression or anxiety. The financial costs to public services and society are considerable.

Intervention: Cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) has been found to be an effective intervention for tackling somatoform conditions and their underlying psychological causes.

Cost: A course of CBT may last for 10 sessions at £98 per session. Costs associated with the need to raise the awareness of GPs to the potential role of CBT treatment for somatoform conditions, either through e-learning or face-to-face training.

Befriending of older adults

Context: Befriending initiatives, often delivered by volunteers, provide an 'upstream' intervention that is potentially of value both to the person being befriended and the befriender.

Intervention: The intervention is not usually structured and nor does it have formally-defined goals. Instead, an informal, natural relationship develops between the participants, who will usually have been matched for interests and preferences. This relationship facilitates improved mental health, reduced loneliness and greater social inclusion.

Cost: The contact is generally for an hour per week or fortnight. The cost to public services of 12 hours of befriending contact is estimated at £90, based on the lower end of the cost range for befriending interventions.

3. Services for people who misuse drugs or alcohol

3.1 Residential rehabilitation for people who misuse drugs or alcohol

3.2 Inpatient detoxification for people who misuse drugs or alcohol

3.3 Specialist prescribing

3.4 Alcohol health worker, Accident & Emergency Department

Services for people who misuse drugs or alcohol

Using data from the NHS reference costs 2013/14,¹ the mean average cost for an outpatient attendance (adult) for alcohol services is estimated to be £61 and for drug services £105. The mean average cost for community contacts for alcohol services (adults) is estimated to be £122 and for drug services £124. Admitted patient stays for adults cost on average £341 for alcohol services and £433 for drug services. These costs have been updated using the Hospital and Community Health Services (HCHS) inflator.

Statistics published on Public Health England's website (<http://www.nta.nhs.uk/facts-prevalence.aspx>) provide the prevalence of people who misuse drugs or alcohol.

The information presented in schema 3.1 to 3.3 was provided by the National Treatment Agency² and present the unit costs of three treatment interventions: (a) residential rehabilitation, (b) inpatient detoxification and (c) specialist prescribing. These interventions are described fully in *Business Definition for Adult Drug Treatment Providers* (National Treatment Agency, 2010).³

National average costs for the interventions were calculated. These excluded instances where the provider data fell in the top and bottom 5 per cent of unit costs for service users in treatment **OR** days in treatment, and the top and bottom 10 per cent of unit costs for service users in treatment **AND** days in treatment.

¹ Department of Health (2015) *NHS reference costs 2013-2014*, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-reference-costs-2013-to-2014> [accessed 4 October 2015].

² Personal communication with the National Treatment Agency, 2010.

³ National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse (2010) *NDTMS dataset G, definition, business definition for adult drug treatment providers*, <http://www.nta.nhs.uk/core-data-set.aspx/> [accessed 9 October 2014].

3.1 Residential rehabilitation for people who misuse drugs or alcohol

Residential rehabilitation consists of a range of treatment delivery models or programmes to address drug and alcohol misuse, including abstinence orientated drug interventions within the context of residential accommodation. Other examples include inpatient treatment for the pharmacological management of substance misuse, and therapeutic residential services designed to address adolescent substance misuse.

Information has been drawn from a sample of 34 residential rehabilitation programmes to produce a unit cost per resident week of £635 at 2014/2015 prices. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) index has been used to uprate from 2007/08 prices, as suggested by the NTA. It was not possible to provide details of costs for this service due to the method of data collection.

3.2 Inpatient detoxification for people who misuse drugs or alcohol

An Inpatient Unit (IPU) provides care to service users with substance-related problems (medical, psychological or social) that are so severe that they require medical, psychiatric and psychological care. The key feature of an IPU is the provision of these services with 24-hour cover, seven days per week, from a multidisciplinary clinical team who have had specialist training in managing addictive behaviours.

Treatment in an inpatient setting may involve one or more of the following interventions: (a) assessment, (b) stabilisation and (c) assisted withdrawal (detoxification). A combination of all three may be provided, or one followed by another.

The three main settings for inpatient treatment are: (a) general hospital psychiatric units, (b) specialist drug misuse inpatient units in hospitals and (c) residential rehabilitation units (usually as a precursor to the rehabilitation programme). See *Business Definition for Adult Drug Treatment Providers*¹ for more detailed information on this intervention.

Based on information provided by the National Treatment Agency in 2010, the average cost for inpatient detoxification (NHS and voluntary organisations) is £152 per patient day, which is equivalent to £1,067 per patient week.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
A. Direct pay	£88 per patient day	Salaries plus oncosts for care staff.
B. Direct overheads	£16 per patient day	Includes drugs, pharmacy and dispensing costs. Also includes other treatment materials, toxicology and drug testing, medical supplies, rent and rates, staff travel, training, service user travel costs, volunteer expenses, contingency management, office costs specifically attributed to the provision of the service, non-pay administration (for example, telephones and information technology).
C. Indirect costs and overheads	£48 per patient day	Includes capital charges, expenditure on refurbishment, property and buildings, housekeeping, catering, portorage, transport, waste disposal, security, finance, human resources, personnel, communications and corporate charges.
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£152 per patient day or £1,067 per patient week		

¹ National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse (2010) *NDTMS dataset G, definition, business definition for adult drug treatment providers*, <http://www.nta.nhs.uk/core-data-set.aspx> [accessed 9 October 2014].

3.3 Specialist prescribing

Specialist prescribing is community prescribing for drug misuse in a specialist drug service setting, normally staffed by a multidisciplinary substance misuse team. Specialist prescribing interventions normally include comprehensive assessments of drug treatment need and the provision of a full range of prescribing treatments in the context of care-planned drug treatment. The specialist team should also provide, or provide access to, a range of other care-planned health-care interventions including psychosocial interventions, a wide range of harm-reduction interventions, Blood Borne Virus (BBV) prevention and vaccination, and abstinence-oriented interventions.

The teams include specialist doctors who are usually consultant addiction psychiatrists 'with a Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) in psychiatry, with endorsement in substance misuse working exclusively to provide a full range of services to substance misusers'. See *Business Definition for Adult Drug Treatment Providers*¹ for more detailed information on this intervention.

Based on information provided by the National Treatment Agency,² the average cost for specialist prescribing is £53 per patient week. All costs have been updated from 2007/08 using the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) index, as suggested by the NTA.

Using reference costs 2013-2014,³ the mean cost per client contact in a NHS and PCT combined drugs and alcohol mental health team was £119 per face-to-face contact and £51 per non-face-to-face contact. These costs have been updated using the Hospital and Community Health Services (HCHS) inflator.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
A. Direct pay	£24 per patient week	Salaries plus oncosts for care staff.
B. Direct overheads	£19 per patient week	Includes drugs, pharmacy and dispensing costs. Also includes other treatment materials, toxicology and drug testing, medical supplies, rent and rates, staff travel, training, service user travel costs, volunteer expenses, contingency management, office costs specifically attributed to the provision of the service, non-pay administration (for example, telephones and information technology).
C. Indirect costs and overheads	£10 per patient week	Includes capital charges, capital on refurbishment, property and buildings, housekeeping, catering, portage, transport, waste disposal, security, finance, human resources, personnel, communications and corporate charges.
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£53 per patient week		

¹ National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse (2010) *NDTMS dataset G, definition, business definition for adult drug treatment providers*, <http://www.nta.nhs.uk/core-data-set.aspx> [accessed 9 October 2014].

² Personal communication with the National Treatment Agency, 2010.

³ Department of Health (2015) *NHS reference costs 2013-2014*, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-reference-costs-2013-to-2014> [accessed 4 October 2015].

3.4 Alcohol health worker, Accident & Emergency Department

Alcohol health workers (AHWs) are experienced mental health nurses who have undertaken specific training in counselling people who misuse alcohol. AHWs interact with people in a non-confrontational and patient-centred way, and during an assessment may offer feedback about safe levels of drinking and suggest a range of strategies aimed at reducing levels of consumption. Information for this table is based on a study carried out by the Centre for the Economics of Mental and Physical Health at the Institute of Psychiatry (now King's Health Economics), London.¹

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
A. Wages/salary	£31,914 per year	Based on the mean full-time equivalent basic salary for Agenda for Change band 7 of the July 2013-June 2014 NHS staff earnings estimates. ² An additional 14.7 per cent can be added to reflect payments for over-time, shift work and geographic allowances. See Preface and section V for further information on salaries.
B. Salary oncosts	£7,774 per year	Employer's national insurance contribution is included, plus 14 per cent of salary for employer's contribution to superannuation.
C. Qualifications	£10,619 per year	Qualification costs have been calculated using the method described in Netten et al. (1998). ³ Current cost information has been provided by the Department of Health and Health Education England (HEE). ⁴ It has been assumed that this health worker requires the same qualifications as a staff nurse/ward manager.
D. Overheads		Taken from the 2013/14 financial accounts for 10 community trusts. See Preface for more information.
Management, administration and estates staff	£10,619 per year	Management and other non-care staff costs were 24.5 per cent of direct care salary costs and included administration and estates staff.
Non-staff	£16,687 per year	Non-staff costs were 38.2 per cent of direct care salary costs. They include costs to the provider for office, travel/transport, publishing, training courses and conferences, supplies and services (clinical and general), and utilities such as water, gas and electricity.
E. Capital overheads	£3,718 per year	Based on the new-build and land requirements of NHS facilities, but adjusted to reflect shared office space for administration, and recreational and changing facilities. ^{5,6} Treatment space has not been included.
Working time	41.7 weeks per year 37.5 hours per week	Unit costs are based on 1,565 hours per year: 225 working days minus sickness absence and training/study days as reported for all NHS staff groups. ⁷
Ratio of direct to indirect time on: clinic contacts	1:0.22	Based on a survey of AHWs in a London A&E department, ¹ 82 per cent of time is spent on face-to-face contact and 18 per cent on onward referral. Based on survey of AHWs in London A&E department. ¹
Length of contact	55 minutes	Per clinic contact. Based on survey of AHWs in London A&E department. ¹
Unit costs available 2014/2015 (costs including qualifications given in brackets)		
£49 (£56) per clinic consultation		

¹ Barrett, B., Byford, S., Crawford, M.J., Patton, R., Drummond, C., Henry, J.A. & Touquet, R. (2006) Cost-effectiveness of screening and referral to an alcohol health worker in alcohol misusing patients attending an accident and emergency department: a decision-making approach, *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 81, 1, 47-54.

² Health & Social Care Information Centre (2015) NHS staff earnings estimates to June 2015 (not publicly available), Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

³ Netten, A., Knight, J., Dennett, J., Cooley, R. & Slight, A. (1998) *Development of a ready reckoner for staff costs in the NHS, Vols 1 & 2*, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

⁴ Personal communication with the Department of Health and Health Education England (HEE), 2014.

⁵ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

⁶ Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

⁷ Contracted hours are taken from NHS Careers (2014) *Pay and benefits*, National Health Service, London. <http://www.nhs.gov.uk/working-in-the-nhs/pay-and-benefits/> [accessed 9 October 2014]. Training days as recommended by professional bodies. Working days and sickness absence rates as reported in Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *Sickness absence rates in the NHS: April 2009 – April 2014*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

4. Services for people with learning disabilities

- 4.1 Local authority day care for people with learning disabilities
- 4.2 Advocacy for parents with learning disabilities
- 4.3 Adults with learning disabilities
- 4.4 Residential care for adults with autism and complex needs

4.1 Local authority day care for people with learning disabilities

This table uses the Personal Social Services Expenditure return (PSS EX1)¹ for 2013/14 for expenditure costs, which have been updated using the PSS pay & prices inflator. The median cost was £284 per client week and the mean cost was £293 per client week (including capital costs). These data do not report on the number of sessions clients attended each week.

To determine the best unit of activity, we have submitted a Freedom of Information request to ask local authorities the duration of a 'unit of activity' and to provide approximate guidance on how many times a week clients attend.

Based on information provided by ten local authorities,² we have calculated an average cost per client attendance and also a cost per client hour. We have then used this information to calculate the cost of a client session lasting 3.5 hours, which is a typical standard unit of day care for most local authorities responding to our information request.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
Capital costs (A, B & C)		
A. Buildings and oncosts	£5.60 per client attendance	Based on the new-build and land requirements for local authority day care facilities (which do not distinguish client group). Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent. ³
B. Land	£1.40 per client attendance	Based on research carried out by the Valuation Office Agency. ⁴ The cost of land has been annuitised at 3.5 per cent over 60 years.
C. Other capital		Capital costs not relating to buildings and oncosts are included in the revenue costs so no additional cost has been added for other capital such as equipment and durables.
D. Total local authority expenditure (minus capital)	£74 per client attendance	The median cost per client week has been taken from PSS EX1 2013/14 ¹ and updated using the PSS pay & prices index. Assuming people with learning disabilities attend on average 4.8 times per week (4 hours in duration), ² the median and mean cost per day care attendance is £74. Capital charges relating to buildings have been deducted. Councils reporting costs of over £2,000 per client week have not been included in this estimate.
E. Agency overheads		Social services management and support services (SSMSS) costs are included in PSS EX1 expenditure figures so no additional overheads have been added.
Use of facility by client		Assumes clients attend 4.8 times per week. ²
Occupancy		No current information is available.
London multiplier	1.58 x (A to B) 1.42 x (D to E)	Relative London costs are drawn from the same source as the base data for each cost element. ^{3,4}
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£81 per client attendance (includes A to D); £17 per client hour; £59 per client session lasting 3.5 hours.		

¹ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *PSS EX1 2013/14*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

² Based on research carried out by PSSRU in 2014.

³ Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

⁴ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

4.2 Advocacy for parents with learning disabilities

Advocacy can help service users both to understand their rights and choices and also to support them in resolving issues of great significance to their lives. We have drawn on an article by Bauer et al. (2014)¹ for the costs of providing an advocate for parents with learning disabilities and at risk of having their children taken into care. Based on information provided by two of the four projects and taking mid-points of salary ranges provided, combined with routine data and assumptions made for staff employed by local authorities, the mean cost of an advocacy intervention consuming 95 hours of client-related work (including one-to-one sessions, external meetings, but excluding travel and training costs) was £4,251. Information on the wider costs and benefits of advocacy and early intervention signposted or referred to by the advocate can be found in the referenced paper (Bauer et al. 2014).¹

The costs below are based on the average of two advocacy projects. The first is in rural and urban parts of the country where most service users are in areas of deprivation; and the second in urban regions with large areas of poverty and child protection issues.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes (for further clarification see Commentary)
A. Wages/salary	£31,093 per year	Project A: Two part-time advocates (salary range £20,000-£25,000); Project B: Eighty per cent of a service manager (salary range £29,604-£31,766), plus one part-time (3.5 hours per week) advocate (salary range £26,401-£28,031).
B. Salary oncosts	£10,857 per year	Employer's national insurance is included plus 20 per cent of salary for employer's contribution to superannuation.
C. Overheads Management/supervision	£5,980 per year	Project A: supervision from a service manager for 2 hours per month (24 hours per year) Project B: service manager is provided with 4 hours formal supervision and 20 hours informal supervision per month (288 hours per year). Advocate has 3 hours formal and 3 hours informal supervision by manager per month (72 hours per year).
Direct overheads	£2,937 per year	Premises costs (office, stationery, utilities etc.) are estimated at 7 per cent of salary costs. ²
Indirect overheads	£6,712 per year	Indirect overheads assumed to be 16 per cent of direct care salary costs. ² They include general management and support services such as finance and human resource departments.
D. Qualifications	No costs available	Project A: advocates required 20 hours of national advocacy training. Project B: NVQ level 4 management and national advocacy qualification required.
E. Training	No costs available	Project A: further training consisted of 8 hours by Family Rights Group plus additional training to individual requirements. Project B: 5 days per year provided by a range of safeguarding, advocacy, legal and community organisations.
F. Capital overheads	£2,566 per year	It is assumed that one office is used and costs are based on the new-build and land requirements of a local office and shared facilities for waiting, interviews and clerical support. Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent.
G. Travel	No costs available	Project A: average travel time per intervention = 70 minutes, range (40-120 minutes) Project B: average travel time = 15 minutes.
Working time	41 weeks per year 37 hours per week	Includes 29 days annual leave and 8 statutory leave days. Ten days for study/training and 8.2 days sickness leave have been assumed based on the median average sickness absence level in England for all authorities. Unit costs assume 1,516 hours of client-related work per year.
Ratio of direct to indirect time on client-related work	1:0.13	1,344 hours of client-related work are assumed per year. ¹
Caseload		Project A: Caseload of 8-10 parents. Project B: 10 families.
Time per case	95 hours of client related work.	On average, an advocacy intervention consisted of 95 hours of client-related work (one-to-one sessions, external meetings travelling and preparation time) provided over a 10-month period. Face-to-face time ranged from 3 to 68 hours.
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
Average cost per working hour £26, average cost per client-related hour £45. (Estimates exclude travel costs).		
Average total cost £60,145; Total cost for project A: £41,374; Total cost for project B: £78,916.		
Average cost per advocacy intervention (based on 95 hours); £4,251 (Project A £2,924 and Project B £5,578).		

¹ Bauer, A., Wistow, G., Dixon, J. & Knapp, M. (2014) Investing in advocacy for parents with learning disabilities: what is the economic argument? *British Journal of Learning Disabilities*, doi: 10.1111.bl.12089.

² Based on information taken from Selwyn, J., Sempik, J., Thurston, P. & Wijedasa, D. (2009) *Adoption and the inter-agency fee*, University of Bristol, Bristol; and Glendinning, C. et al. (2010). Home care re-ablement services: Investigating the longer-term impacts, Final Report, University of York, PSSRU Kent, Department of Health, London.

4.3 Adults with learning disabilities

The following schema draw on research carried out by Laing & Buisson¹ and commissioned by the Department of Health. They provide illustrative cost models in learning disabilities social care provision, first for residential care homes and then for supported living schemes.

4.3.1 Residential care homes

The table below provides examples of high-specification care homes in the South East of England, one with 4 bedrooms and one with 8 bedrooms. Twenty four-hour support is provided in both houses; they are well equipped and include en suites with bath or shower rooms and good communal spaces. The average fee paid for a place in the 4-bedroom house is £1,979 per week and is £1,728 for a place in the 8-bedroom house.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/15	
	4-bed house	8-bed house
Staff costs		
Salaries	£211,404	Based on approximately 7.5 WTE staff providing 257 hours of support per week plus 1 waking night staff member and an additional sleep-in support staff member. There is also a full-time manager earning £28,395 per year.
Training	£6,328	£6,855
Staff overheads	£7,277	£21,515
Capital costs		
Building	£23,906	The purchase price of the building was £596,167. This has been annuitised over 60 years at 3.5 per cent
Equipment	£9,563	Major adaptations cost £238,466. This amount has been annuitised over 60 years at 3.5 per cent
Living expenses		
Personal living expenses	£26,477	Living expenses per person per week cover £48 food, £48 travel, £24 service user activities and £6 for holidays.
Utilities	£7,565	£15,130
Direct overheads		
Maintenance/ service	£29,503	Includes the costs of boiler and other equipment maintenance, cleaning materials, maintenance staff costs and damages and breakages.
Indirect overheads		
Head office costs	£18,457	Head office costs are charged at £88 per person per week, on the basis of full occupancy.
Total cost per year	£340,480	£536,013
Total cost per person per year	£85,120	£67,002
Total cost per person per week	£1,631	£1,284

¹ Laing & Buisson (2011) *Illustrative cost models in learning disabilities social care provision*, Department of Health, London.

4.3.2 Supported living homes

The weekly unit costs per service user for both homes in this table are similar. Both homes support service users with, on average, the same level of needs for support hours, although there are some offsetting differences: in particular, staff costs are higher at the two-bedded home but the manager costs are lower, reflecting input of only five hours a week for both services (i.e. 2.5 hours per service user).¹

Costs and unit estimation	This example is of a two-bedded supported living home in the North West of England, using budgeted costs (average of 94 hours of support)		This example is of a three-bedded supported living home in the North West of England, using budgeted costs (average of 85.7 hours of support)	
	Per person fee/cost per week (including oncosts)	2 residents Total per year	Per person fee/cost per week (including oncosts)	3 residents Total per year
Income				
INCOME				
Fees	£935	£97,241	£935	£145,862
COSTS				
Direct staff costs				
Senior support staff	£218	£22,714	£274	£42,838
Support staff	£373	£38,853	£303	£47,321
Sub-total	£590	£61,566	£577	£90,158
Waking nights				
Sleep-in	£113	£11,243	£72	£11,243
Manager	£40	£4,078	£92	£14,524
Sub-total	£153	£15,322	£164	£25,767
Recruitment	£5	£514	£5	£745
Training	£12	£1,335	£12	£2,054
Other staff overheads	£16	£1,712	£20	£3,010
Total staff support costs	£777	£80,449	£778	£21,734
Management costs-area, division, central	£127	£13,261	£128	£20,079

¹ Laing & Buisson (2011) *Illustrative cost models in learning disabilities social care provision*, Department of Health, London.

4.4 Residential care for adults with autism and complex needs

This schema has been prepared in collaboration with 3 members of the Autism Alliance <http://autism-alliance.org.uk/about-us/the-alliance>, a major UK network of specialist autism charities supporting thousands of people with autism and complex needs. The annual cost per client year has been calculated by taking an average of the per client figures from the three participating agencies.

When interpreting the costs, it should be taken into account that these clients have very specific needs, resulting in the necessity for a high level of staff support (usually one-to-one) and more specialist staff training and therefore higher salaries. There is also a need for specialist professionals such as behavioural specialists and psychologists and speech and language therapists who provide support in response to urgent need and fulfil a function that a LA specialist would be unable to meet. Given that the clients often display challenging behaviour, there is more staff sickness and also more costs associated with furniture and equipment as well as the need to recruit specialists. The people these organisations support have problems sharing space, and therefore a cost associated with environment and specifically space has to be factored in. The people in question will have specific demands on transport and the costs associated with transport, specialist diets, clothing, and bedding. Also there must be consideration for the type of activities and specific interests that the person will demand with regularity and its associated costs.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
A. Wages/salary	£44,826 per client year	Based on actual salaries of care staff including support workers, service co-ordinators, team leaders, waking night support and sleep-in workers. Therapists are included in this cost (includes positive behaviour and communications therapists).
B. Salary oncosts	£6,386 per client year	Employer's national insurance contribution plus employer's contribution to superannuation.
C. Direct overheads Management and supervision	£9,612 per client year	Support staff and management included administrators, cooks and managers. Staff costs were 19 per cent of direct care salary costs.
Non-staff	£10,940 per client year	Non-staff overheads formed in total 21 per cent of direct care salary costs. They include training (2%), supplies and services (5%), maintenance (4%), utilities (3%), staff travel (0.1%), rent (5%) and other (2%).
D. Indirect overheads	£12,732 per client year	Indirect overheads include general management and support services such as finance departments and human resource departments. On average, these costs comprised 33 per cent of direct care salary costs.
E. Personal living expenses	£3,777 per client year	This includes an amount for groceries, household provisions, clothing and medical expenses, comprising 8 per cent of direct care salary costs.
F. Day Care	£23,712 per client year	This includes the costs for 37.5 hours per week per person of separately based specialist day care with a ratio of one member of staff for every two clients attending.
Working time	24 hours per day, 365 days per year.	
Number of clients	65	This cost was based on the expenditure for 65 clients.
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
Average annual cost per client (excluding day care) £88,274; average weekly cost per client £1,691.		
Average annual cost per client (including day care, ratio one member of staff for every two clients attending) £111,985; average weekly cost per client £2,153.		

5. Services for adults with a physical disability

5.1 Local authority care homes for adults with a physical disability

5.2 Voluntary, private and independent sector care homes for adults with a physical disability

5.3 Day care for adults with a physical disability

5.4 Home care for adults with a physical disability

5.1 Local authority care homes for adults with a physical disability

This table uses the Personal Social Services Expenditure return (PSS EX1) for 2013/14,¹ which has been updated using the PSS pay & prices inflator.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
Capital costs		
A. Buildings and oncosts	£213 per resident week	Based on the new-build and land requirements for local authority residential care establishments. These allow for 57.3 square metres per person. ² Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent.
B. Land costs	£17 per resident week	Based on Department for Communities and Local Government statistics. ³ The cost of land has been annuitised at 3.5 per cent over 60 years.
C. Total local authority expenditure (minus capital)	£604 per resident week	The median revenue weekly cost estimate (£604) for supporting adults in own-provision residential care (includes full-cost paying and preserved-rights residents). Capital costs relating to buildings and land have been deducted. The mean cost per client per week is reported as being £851.
D. Agency overheads		Social services management and support services (SSMSS) costs are included in PSS EX1 expenditure figures so no additional overheads have been added.
Other costs		
E. Personal living expenses	£24.40 per week	The DWP personal allowance for people in residential care or a nursing home is £24.40. ⁴ This has been used as a proxy for personal consumption.
F. External services		No information is available.
Use of facility by client	365.25 days per year	
Occupancy	100 per cent	No statistics available, therefore 100 per cent occupancy assumed.
London multiplier		No statistics available.
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£834 per resident week establishment costs (includes A to C); £859 per resident week (includes A to E).		

¹ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *PSS EX1 2013/14*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

² Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

³ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

⁴ PayingForCare (2015) Types of state and local authority support, <http://www.payingforcare.org/types-of-state-and-local-authority-support> [accessed 8 October 2015].

5.2 Voluntary and private sector care homes for adults with a physical disability

This table uses the Personal Social Services Expenditure return (PSS EX1)¹ for expenditure which has been updated using the PSS pay & prices inflator.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
Capital costs		
A. Buildings and oncosts	£213 per resident week	Based on the new-build and land requirements for local authority residential care establishments. These allow for 57.3 square metres per person. ² Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent.
B. Land costs	£17 per resident week	Land costs have been based on research carried out by the Valuation Office Agency. ³ The cost of land has been annuitised at 3.5 per cent over 60 years.
C. Total expenditure (minus capital)	£673 per resident week	The median weekly expenditure (£673) for supporting adults in residential care provided by others (includes full-cost paying and preserved-rights residents). Capital charges relating to buildings and land have been deducted. The mean cost per client per week is reported as being £652.
D. Agency overheads		Social services management and support services (SSMSS) costs are included in PSS EX1 expenditure figures so no additional overheads have been added.
Other costs		
E. Personal living expenses	£24.40 per week	The DWP personal allowance for people in residential care or a nursing home is £24.40. ⁴ This has been used as a proxy for personal consumption.
F. External services		No information is available.
Use of facility by client	365.25 days per year	
Occupancy	100 per cent	No statistics available, therefore 100 per cent occupancy assumed.
London multiplier		No statistics available.
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£903 per resident week establishment costs (includes A to C); £869 per resident week (includes A to E).		

¹ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *PSS EX1 2013/14*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

² Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

³ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

⁴ PayingForCare (2015) Types of state and local authority support, <http://www.payingforcare.org/types-of-state-and-local-authority-support> [accessed 8 October 2015].

5.3 Day care for adults with a physical disability

This table uses the Personal Social Services Expenditure return (PSS EX1) for 2013/14¹ for revenue costs, which have been updated using the PSS pay & prices inflator. The median cost was £214 per client week and the mean cost was £213 per client week (including capital costs). These data do not report on how many sessions clients attended each week.

To determine the best unit of activity, we submitted a Freedom of Information request to ask local authorities the duration of a 'unit of activity' and to provide approximate guidance on how many times a week clients attend.

Based on information provided by ten local authorities,² we have calculated an average cost per client attendance and also a cost per client hour. We have then used this information to calculate the cost of a client session lasting 3.5 hours, which is a typical standard unit of day care for most local authorities responding to our information request.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
Capital costs (A&B)		
A. Buildings and oncosts	£5.60 per client attendance	Based on the new-build and land requirements for local authority day care facilities (which do not distinguish client group). Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent. ³
B. Land	£1.40 per client attendance	Land costs have been based on research carried out by the Valuation Office Agency. ⁴ The cost of land has been annuitised at 3.5 per cent over 60 years.
C. Other capital		
Revenue costs		
D. Salary and other revenue costs	£79 per client attendance	The median cost per client week has been taken from PSS EX1 2013/14 ¹ and updated using the PSS pay & prices index. Assuming people with learning disabilities attend on average 2.7 times per week (4.8 hours in duration), ² the median cost per day care attendance is £79 and the mean cost per attendance is £78. Capital charges relating to buildings have been deducted. Councils reporting costs of over £2,000 per client week have not been included in this estimate.
E. Agency overheads		Social services management and support services (SSMSS) costs are included in PSS EX1 expenditure figures so no additional overheads have been added.
Use of facility by client		Assumes clients attend 2.7 times per week. ²
Occupancy		No current information is available.
London multiplier	1.58 x A&B 1.30 x D	Relative London costs are drawn from the same source as the base data for each cost element. ^{1,3,4}
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£86 per client attendance (includes A to D); £18 per client hour; £62 client per session lasting 4.8 hours.		

¹ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) *PSS EX1 2013/14*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

² Based on research carried out by PSSRU in 2014.

³ Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

⁴ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

5.4 Home care

The mean (median) gross weekly expenditure on home care per adult aged under 65 with a physical disability is £200 (£193). Assuming home care is provided 7 days a week, the median and mean weekly expenditure is £29.

See schema 11.6 and 11.7 for more information on home care.

6. Services for children and their families

- 6.1 NHS reference costs for children's health services
- 6.2 Care home for children—local authority
- 6.3 Voluntary and private sector care homes for children
- 6.4 Local authority foster care for children
- 6.5 Key worker services for disabled children and their families
- 6.6 End-of-life care at home for children
- 6.7 Multi-systemic therapy (MST)
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- 6.12 Costs of reunification
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- 6.14 Local safeguarding children's boards
- 6.15 Parenting programmes for the prevention of persistent conduct disorder
- 6.16 Parent training interventions for parents of disabled children with sleep problems
- 6.17 Independent reviewing officer (IRO)
- 6.18 Early Years Teacher Classroom Management programme

6.1 NHS reference costs for children's health services

We have drawn on the *NHS Trust and Primary Care Trusts combined* dataset to report the costs of selected children's health services.¹ All costs have been updated to 2014/2015 levels using the HCHS pay & prices inflator.

Each reported unit cost includes:

- (a) direct costs – which can be easily identified with a particular activity (e.g. consultants and nurses)
- (b) indirect costs – which cannot be directly attributed to an activity but can usually be shared among a number of activities (e.g. laundry and lighting)
- (c) overheads – which relate to the overall running of the organisation (e.g. finance and human resources).

For information on the method used to allocate drugs to services, see *NHS reference costs guidance* for 2013-14.¹

	National average	Lower quartile	Upper quartile
COMMUNITY SERVICES, average cost per one-to-one session (group)			
Therapy services			
Physiotherapy	£80 (£90)	£62 (£69)	£93 (£91)
Occupational therapy	£124 (£146)	£91 (£90)	£152 (£172)
Speech therapy services	£91 (£96)	£73 (£72)	£108 (£108)
Community health services – nursing, average cost per care contact/group session			
School-based children's health core (other) services – group multi professional	£96 (£134)	£73 (£119)	£83 (£158)
School-based children's health core (other) services – group single professional	£50 (£74)	£32 (£44)	£72 (£80)
School-based children's health core (other) services – one to one	£50 (£54)	£33 (£38)	£60 (£61)
Elective inpatient (paediatrics), average cost per stay	£2,812	£1,423	£3,507
OUTPATIENT ATTENDANCES, average cost per attendance			
Paediatrics	£205	£208	£187
Paediatric consultant-led outpatient attendances	£208		
Paediatric non-consultant-led outpatient attendances	£186		
SPECIALIST PALLIATIVE CARE, average cost per bed day			
Inpatient specialist palliative care	£140	£76	£188
CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, average cost per patient contact			
Mental health specialist teams	£230	£206	£257
Day care facilities – regular attendances	£308	£307	£353
Admitted patients (excluding psychiatric intensive care)	£620	£471	£734
Community contacts	£239	£201	£277
Community contacts, crisis resolution	£203	£150	£150
Outpatient attendances	£284	£250	£307

¹ Department of Health (2015) *NHS reference costs 2013-2014*, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-reference-costs-2013-to-2014> [accessed 4 October 2015].

6.2 Care home for children — local authority

This table presents the costs per resident week for a local authority care home for children. Establishment costs are £3,170 per resident week. All costs have been uprated using the PSS pay & prices index. For more information on the market in children's care homes see: *DfE Children's Homes Data Pack 2014*

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childrens-homes-data-pack>) and Department for Education (2015) *Financial Stability, Cost Charge and Value for Money in the Children's Residential Care Market*, Institute for Public Care ([https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/436452/RR451 - Children s residential care report.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/436452/RR451_-_Children_s_residential_care_report.pdf)).

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
Capital costs (A & B)		
A. Buildings	£155 per resident week	Based on the new-build requirements for local authority children's homes. These allow for 59.95 m ² per person. ¹ Capital costs are discounted at 3.5 per cent over 60 years.
B. Land	£21 per resident week	Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency ² and annuitised at 3.5 per cent over 60 years.
C. Total local authority expenditure (minus capital)	£2,994 per resident week	Mean costs for children looked after in own-provision children's homes are based on the underlying data of the DfE Section 251 outturn data for 2013/14. ³ The cost for a child for a week in an own-provision residential care home was £2,994. This was calculated by dividing total current expenditure for local authority (LA) provision children's care homes (£310,653,119) by the number of LA provision care days for children in residential care (residential care homes: R1; children in secure units: K1; children in homes and hostels: K2; residential schools: S1) (690,702) to give a cost of £450 per day or £3,148 per week, and £3,170 when inflated using the PSS pay and prices inflator. ⁴ Capital charges for buildings and land have been excluded to give a cost per resident week of £2,994. Local authorities reporting costs of less than £400 per week (£57 per day) or more than £14,000 per week (£2,000 per day) have been excluded.
D. Agency overheads		No current information available. See previous editions of this volume for sources of information.
E. Other costs	£11.60 per resident week	Using Section 251 data ³ and dividing total expenditure for 'education of looked after children' (£32,065,000) by total children looked after aged 5 and over (53,520), ⁴ a cost per child per year for education was calculated (£599). This cost was uprated using the PSS pay & prices inflator (£603) or £11.60 per resident week. This cost excludes school spending and relates to additional LA services to promote the education of looked after children, for example virtual heads.
Use of facility by client	52.18 weeks	
Occupancy		No current information available. See previous editions of this volume for sources of information.
London multiplier	1.50 x A 1.88 x B 1.23 x C	Relative London costs are drawn from the same source as the base data for each cost element. ^{1,2,3}
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£3,170 establishment costs per resident week (includes A to D); £3,181.60 per resident week (includes A to E).		

¹ Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

² Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

³ Department for Education (2014) *Underlying data of the section 251 data archive: outturn summary 2013-14*, Department for Education, London. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/section-251-outturn-2013-to-2014-data> [accessed 14 October 2015].

⁴ Department for Education (2015) *Children looked after in England including adoption and care leavers, year ending 31 March 2014, SSDA903*. Data provided by DfE. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/359277/SFR36_2014_Text.pdf.

6.3 Voluntary and private sector care homes for children

This table presents the costs per resident week for a non-statutory care home for children. Establishment costs are £2,889 per resident week. See *DfE Children's Homes Data Pack 2014* (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childrens-homes-data-pack>) and Department for Education (2015) *Financial Stability, Cost Charge and Value for Money in the Children's Residential Care Market*, Institute for Public Care ([https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/436452/RR451 - Children s residential care report.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/436452/RR451_-_Children_s_residential_care_report.pdf)).

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
Capital costs (A & B)		
A. Buildings	£155 per resident week	Based on the new-build requirements for local authority children's homes. These allow for 59.95 m ² per person. ¹ Capital costs are discounted at 3.5 per cent over 60 years.
B. Land	£21 per resident week	Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency ² and annuitised at 3.5 per cent over 60 years.
C. Total expenditure (minus capital)	£2,713 per resident week	Mean costs for children looked after in externally provided children's homes (e.g. non local authority (LA) own provision) are based on the underlying data of the DfE Section 251 ³ outturn data for 2013/14. The cost for a child for a week in a non-statutory residential care home for children was £2,706. This was calculated by dividing total expenditure for other provision children's care homes (£663,675,572) by the number of care days in non-LA provision for children in residential care (residential care homes: R1; children in secure units: K1; children in homes and hostels: K2; residential schools: S1) (1,629,228) to give a cost of £407 per day (£2,851 per week, and £2,889 when uprated using the PSS pay and prices inflator). ⁴ Capital charges for buildings and land have been excluded to give a cost per resident week of £2,713. Local authorities reporting costs of less than £400 per week (£57 per day) or more than £14,000 per week (£2,000 per day) have been excluded.
D. Agency overheads		No current information available. See previous editions of this volume for sources of information.
E. Other costs External services	£11.60 per resident week	Using Section 251 data ³ and dividing total expenditure for 'education of looked after children' (£32,065,000) by total children looked after aged 5 and over (53,520), ⁴ a cost per child per year for education was calculated (£599). This cost was uprated using the PSS pay & prices inflator (£603) or £11.60 per resident week. This cost excludes school spending and relates to additional LA services to promote the education of looked after children, for example virtual heads.
Use of facility by client	52.18 weeks	
Occupancy		No current information available. See previous editions of this volume for sources of information.
London multiplier	1.50 x A 1.88 x B 0.90 x C	Relative London costs are drawn from the same source as the base data for each cost element. ^{1,2,3}
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£2,889 establishment costs per resident week (includes A to D); £2,900 per resident week (includes A to E).		

¹ Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

² Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

³ Department for Education (2014) *Underlying data of the section 251 data archive: outturn summary 2013-14*, Department for Education, London. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/section-251-outturn-2013-to-2014-data> [accessed 14 October 2015].

6.4 Foster care for children

This table provides the cost of foster care for children. For information on multidimensional treatment foster care, see table 6.10 of this volume. See Holmes & Soper (2010)¹ and Department for Education (2006)² for more information on the costs of foster care.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/2015 value	Notes
A. Boarding out allowances, administration and the costs of social worker and other support staff who support foster carers	£603 per child per week	<p>Using Section 251 data and dividing total expenditure for all foster care (including children placed with family and friends, own-provision, private, other public and voluntary foster care) of £1,582,142,466³ by the total number of days of care for children in foster placements with a relative or friend (code Q1) and children in foster placements with other foster carers (code Q2) (18,582,501)⁴, the cost per day for all foster care for 2014/15 was £85 (£596 per week and £603 when uprated using the Personal Social Services (PSS) pay & prices inflator). No outliers were reported.</p> <p>Using Section 251 data³ and dividing total expenditure for own-provision foster care (including children placed with family and friends, own provision and other public provision) of £849,625,941 by the total number of days of care for children in foster placements with a relative or friend (code Q1) and children in foster placements with other foster carers (code Q2) (12,487,358)⁴, the cost per day for 2014/15 was £68 (£476 per week and £480 when uprated to 2014/15 prices using the PSS pay & prices inflator). Local authorities reporting an average cost of less than £50 (1 local authority) and more than £1,500 per week (1 local authority) have been excluded.</p>
B. Social services (including cost of social worker and support)		No current information available. See previous editions for the cost of social services support estimated from the Children in Need (CiN) census 2005. ⁵
C. Other services, including education	£11.60 per child per week	Using Section 251 data ³ and dividing total expenditure for 'education of looked after children' (£32,065,000) by total children looked after aged 5 and over (53,520), ⁴ a cost per child per year for education was calculated (£599). This cost was uprated using the PSS pay & prices inflator (£603) or £11.60 per resident week. This cost excludes school spending and relates to additional LA services to promote the education of looked after children, for example virtual heads.
Service use by client	52.18 weeks per year	
London multiplier	1.14 x A	Relative London costs are drawn from the same source as the base data. ³
Unit costs available 2014/2015		
£614.60 per child per week (excluding social services support but including education).		

¹ Holmes, L. & Soper, J. (2010) *Update to the cost of foster care*, Loughborough University, Loughborough.

² Department for Education (2006) *DfES children's services: children's homes and fostering*, PricewaterhouseCoopers, London.
<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/RSG/publicationDetail/Page1/RW74> [accessed 9 October 2013].

³ Department for Education (2014) *Underlying data of the section 251 data archive: outturn summary 2013-14*, Department for Education, London.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/section-251-outturn-2013-to-2014-data> [accessed 14 October 2015].

⁴ Department for Education (2015) *Children looked after in England including adoption and care leavers, year ending 31 March 2014, SSDA903*. Data provided by DfE. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/359277/SFR36_2014_Text.pdf

⁵ Department for Education & Skills (2005) *Children in need in England: results of a survey of activity and expenditure as reported by local authority social services' children and families teams for a survey week in February 2005*, Department for Education & Skills, London.

6.5 Key worker services for disabled children and their families

Key workers provide a single point of contact for disabled children and their families, supporting them and facilitating access to other services. Both key workers and the families supported see the key worker role as providing information and advice, identifying and addressing needs, accessing and co-ordinating services for the family, providing emotional support, and acting as an advocate. Research has shown that key worker services generate good outcomes for families, and provision is encouraged through central government policy.

In 2004/05, research was carried out in seven sites providing key worker services to explore the effectiveness of different models and also to calculate costs.^{1,2} In total, 205 families returned questionnaires of which there were 189 valid responses. Predominantly, key workers included in the study came from four professional backgrounds: health visiting, nursing, teaching and social work. However, parents, paediatricians, dietitians, speech therapists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and early years workers also acted as key workers. The children supported by these seven key worker services had a range of diagnoses, of which autistic spectrum disorders, cerebral palsy and developmental delay were the most common. Most children had more than one condition.

The table below shows that the average cost per working hour for the seven services was £34, ranging from £24 to £43. This has been calculated by dividing the total cost by the total number of hours for which staff members undertook key-working activities. The unit cost is, therefore, weighted for the staff-mix in each service. Over a three-month period, the mean and median costs of contact, taking into account telephone calls and the costs of visits, were £153 and £88 respectively. All costs have been updated to reflect 2014/2015 prices.

Assuming this level of contact to be constant over 12 months, annual average contact costs would be £613. Using information provided by 11 key workers reporting time use, the contact to other activity ratio is 1:1.6 (for each hour spent in contact with the family, one and a half hours are spent on activities such as travel, liaison, meetings etc.). At 2014/2015 prices, the total cost of all participating schemes was £2,282,021 and this total caseload was 1,237, giving an average annual cost per family across the schemes of £1,845.

Use and costs of key worker services in three months prior to survey					
Service	Cost per working hour	Mean number of visits (range)	Mean number of telephone calls (range)	Mean cost of visits and telephone calls	Median cost of visits and telephone calls
A	£26	2.9 (0-8)	6.7 (1-16)	£145	£127
B	£43	2.7 (0-24)	5.0 (0-60)	£188	£91
C	£37	3.6 (0-10)	5.4 (1-80)	£192	£143
D	£39	1.9 (0-12)	2.5 (0-12)	£110	£61
E	£39	2.8 (0-20)	4.6 (0-50)	£187	£116
F	£32	4.4 (0-12)	2.5 (0-12)	£113	£76
G	£24	1.4 (0-6)	2.1 (0-6)	£40	£24
Total/average	£34	2.8 (0-24)	4.4 (0-60)	£153	£88

¹ Greco, V., Sloper, P., Webb, R. & Beecham, J. (2005) *An exploration of different models of multi-agency partnerships in key worker services for disabled children: effectiveness and costs*, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York.

² Beecham, J., Sloper, P., Greco, V. & Webb, R. (2007) The costs of key worker support for disabled children and their families, *Child: Care, Health and Development*, 33, 5, 611-618.

6.6 End-of-life care at home for children

Information for this table has been provided by Rhiannon Edwards and Jane Noyes at Bangor University and was taken from the *My Choices* project report¹ which provided a summary of the proposed *additional costs* associated with providing palliative care at home (assuming care is provided for one week, 24 hours per day).

Costs and unit estimation	2014/15 value	Notes
A. Wages/salary	£288,797 per year	Based on the mean basic salaries for 5.5 community nurses (band 6), 1 specialist palliative care nurse (band 7), 0.2 medical equipment technician (band 6), 0.5 clinical psychologist (band 7) and 15 band 7 nurses, each working 100 hours per year.
B. Salary oncosts	£70,505 per year	Employer's national insurance plus 14 per cent of salary for employer's contribution to superannuation.
C. Overheads Staff costs	£20,475 per year	Includes IT and administrative support, 0.5 WTE band 7 and 0.5 WTE band 5 respectively. <i>Additional overheads</i> are 6% of salary costs.
D. Travel costs	£25,765 per year	Based on information provided by a Rapid Response Service in the 2013 edition, schema 7.5 of this publication.
Working time	24 hours per day, 52.18 weeks	Unit costs based on 168 hours per week and 52.18 weeks per year.
Unit costs available 2014/15		
Cost per week £7,772; cost per hour £46.30 (if working 24/7).		

¹ Noyes, J., Hain, R., Tudor Edwards, R., Spencer, L., Bennett, V., Hobson, L., & Thompson, A. (2010) *My choices project report*, Bangor University, CRC Cymru, Cardiff University School of Medicine, N Warwickshire PCT, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, Public Health Wales NHS Trust, Bath and NE Somerset PCT, <http://public.ukcrn.org.uk/search/StudyDetail.aspx?StudyID=6597> [accessed 9 October 2013].

6.7 Multi-systemic therapy (MST)

Multi-systemic therapy (MST) is an intensive family- and community-based treatment programme that focuses on addressing all environmental systems that impact on chronic and violent juvenile offenders: their homes and families, schools and teachers, neighbourhoods and friends (<http://mstservices.com/>).

This table is based on costs estimated for a randomised controlled trial of interventions for adolescents aged 11-17 years at risk of continuing criminal activity.¹

Costs and unit estimation	Unit cost 2014/15	Notes
A. Salary plus oncosts	£47,045 per year	Based on the salary of a chartered counselling psychologist. ¹ Employer's national insurance is included plus 14 per cent of salary for employer's contribution to superannuation.
B. Overheads		
Management, administration and estates staff.	£11,526 per year	Taken from the 2013/14 financial accounts for 10 community trusts. See Preface for more information. Management and other non-care staff costs are 24.5 per cent of direct care salary costs and include administration and estates staff.
Non-staff	£17,971 per year	Non-staff costs are 38.2 per cent of direct care salary costs. They include costs to the provider for office, travel/transport, publishing, training courses and conferences, supplies and services (clinical and general), and utilities such as water, gas and electricity.
C. Capital overheads	£4,320 per year	Based on the new-build and land requirements of NHS facilities and adjusted to reflect shared used of both treatment and non-treatment space. Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent.
Working time	42.4 weeks per year 37.5 hours per week	Unit costs are based on 1,590 hours per year: 225 working days minus sickness absence and training/study days as reported for NHS staff groups. ²
Face-to-face time	1:1.40	The direct: indirect ratio was based on a survey of the three MST therapists who took part in the trial.
Length of sessions	60 minutes	Therapy sessions lasted 60 minutes.
Unit costs available 2014/15		
£51 per hour; £122 per therapy session.		

¹ Cary, M., Butler, S., Baruch, G., Hickey, N. & Byford, S. (2013) Economic evaluation of multisystemic therapy for young people at risk for continuing criminal activity in the UK, *PLoS One*, 8(4), e61070, doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0061070. <http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0061070> [accessed 11 November 2014].

² Contracted hours are taken from NHS Careers (2015) *Pay and benefits, National Health Service*, London, <http://www.nhscareers.nhs.uk/working-in-the-nhs/pay-and-benefits/> [accessed 9 October 2015]. Working days and sickness absence rates as reported in Health & Social Care Information Centre (2015) *Sickness absence rates in the NHS: April 2009 – April 2015*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

6.8 Cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT)

This table is based on costs estimated for a randomised controlled trial of interventions for adolescents with depression. The setting was two Child and Mental Health Services (CAMHS) teams in secondary care where CBT was delivered.¹ Barrett and Petkova summarise CBT costs over 21 studies in a short article in the 2013 edition of this publication.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/15 value	Notes
A. Wages/salary	£42,996 per year	Based on the full-time equivalent basic salary of the July-June 2015 NHS Staff Earnings estimates ² for a specialty doctor (midpoint), clinical psychologist (band 8 median) and mental health nurse (band 6 median). An average has been taken of these salaries.
B. Oncosts	£5,556 per year	Employer's national insurance is included plus 14 per cent of salary for employer's contribution to superannuation.
C. Qualifications		No information available.
D. Overheads		Taken from the 2013/14 financial accounts for 10 community trusts. See Preface for more information.
Management, administrative and estates staff	£10,147 per year	Management and other non-care staff costs are 24.5 per cent of direct care salary costs and include administration and estates staff.
Non-staff	£23,742 per year	Non-staff costs are 38.2 per cent of direct care salary costs. They include costs to the provider for office, travel/transport, publishing, training courses and conferences, supplies and services (clinical and general), and utilities such as water, gas and electricity.
E. Ongoing training		Information not available for all care staff.
F. Capital overheads	£4,245 per year	Based on the new-build and land requirements of an NHS office and shared facilities, capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent. ^{3,4} Based on the assumption that there is one office per team.
Working time	43.4 weeks per year, 37.5 hours per week	Unit costs are based on 1,627 hours per year: 225 working days minus sickness absence and training/study days as reported for all NHS staff groups. ⁵
Ratio of direct to indirect time on face-to-face contact	1:1	Fifty per cent of time is spent on face-to-face contact and 50 per cent on other activities.
Length of contact	55 minutes	Average duration of CBT session.
Unit costs available 2014/15		
£98 cost per CBT session.		

¹ Goodyer, I., Harrington, R., Breen, S., Dubicka, B., Leech, A., Rothwell, J., White, L., Ford, C., Kelvin, R., Wilkinson, P., Barrett, B., Byford, S. & Roberts, C. (2007) A randomised controlled trial of SSRIs with and without cognitive behavioural therapy in adolescents with major depression, *British Medical Journal*, doi:10.1136/bmj.39224.494340.55.

² Health & Social Care Information Centre (2015) NHS staff earnings estimates to June 2015 (not publicly available), Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

³ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

⁴ Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

⁵ Contracted hours are taken from NHS Careers (2015) *Pay and benefits*, National Health Service, London, <http://www.nhscareers.nhs.uk/working-in-the-nhs/pay-and-benefits/> [accessed 9 October 2015]. Working days and sickness absence rates as reported in Health & Social Care Information Centre (2015) *Sickness absence rates in the NHS: April 2009 – April 2015*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

6.9 Adoption

In 2013, an overview of the adoption research initiative was published.¹ This draws on studies commissioned by the Department for Education (DfE) as part of the Adoption Research Initiative (ARI) to explore issues relating to the implementation of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 in England and Wales. This table draws mainly on information contained in this overview, providing the costs of various stages of the adoption process, from the fees to post-adoption support for families. It also includes information from a routine source: Section 251 of the Department of Education's financial data collection. All costs have been updated using appropriate inflators.

Local authority expenditure – Section 251

Based on the Section 251 outturn account for 2013/14, the total expenditure on Adoption Services was £339,527,628.² This comprises staff and overhead costs associated with adoption including the costs of social workers recruiting and assessing prospective adopters, supporting existing prospective adopters, and costs related to post-adoption support services. Support services can include: financial support; services to enable discussion groups for adoptive children/parents and birth parents or guardians; contact and mediation assistance; therapeutic services; counselling, advice and information. Provision of adoption support is based on assessed needs. Financial payments are made depending on the needs of the child and are means-tested. Expenditure on care placements for children with a placement order and waiting to be adopted is excluded, as are any direct social work costs for adopted children.³

At 31 March 2014, 9,260 children had a placement order and a further 60 were freed for adoption; 3,580 children had been placed for adoption.⁴ There were 5,050 looked after children adopted during the year ending 31 March 2014.⁵ A Placement Order is dispensed by the court and authorises the local authority to find, match and place a child with prospective adopters, and is revoked once the Adoption Order is made.⁶ Placement Orders replaced Freeing Orders on 30 December 2005.

Inter-agency fees

Local authorities (LAs) and voluntary adoption agencies (VAAs) arrange adoptions in England. LAs place children for adoption with their own approved prospective adopters (an 'internal placement') or with approved prospective adopters provided by another local authority or by a VAA (an 'external placement'). VAAs also place a very small number of children relinquished into their care for adoption. Where an external placement is made, an inter-agency fee is charged. This fee enables an agency that has recruited and approved the prospective adopters to recoup their costs. Current fees (2015) are shown in table 1 below (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/inter-agency-adoption-fee-grant-for-local-authorities>).

Table 1 Inter-agency fees

Local authorities	Costs for 2014/15
Fees for one child	£27,000
Fees for two children	150 per cent of the above fee
Fees for three or more children	200 per cent of the above fee
Voluntary adoption agencies	
Fees for one child	£27,000 comprising £18,000 on placement, and £9,000 when the adoption order is made or 12 months from start of placement, whichever is sooner
Ongoing support	£750 per month

¹ Thomas, C. (2013) *Adoption for looked after children: messages from research*, British Association for Adoption & Fostering (BAAF).

² Department for Education (2014) *Underlying data of the section 251 data archive: outturn summary 2013-14*, Department for Education, London. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/section-251-outturn-2013-to-2014-data> [accessed 14 October 2015].

³ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/412156/S251_budget_guide_2015_to_2016.pdf.

⁴ Department for Education (2015) *Children looked after in England including adoption*, tables A2 and A3, year ending 31 March 2014, Data provided by DfE, see <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/children-looked-after-in-england-including-adoption--2> [accessed 14 October 2015].

⁵ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/359277/SFR36_2014_Text.pdf.

⁶ http://trixresources.proceduresonline.com/nat_key/keywords/placement_order.html

As part of the Adoption Research Initiative, the DfE funded a study to establish whether the inter-agency fee was a good reflection of the expenditure incurred by LAs and VAAs in placing a child or sibling group (Selwyn et al., 2009, 2011).¹ Financial accounts for 2007-08 from ten LAs and 17 VAAs were analysed, and the average cost per adoptive placement was estimated as £37,200 for a VAA and £35,000 for LAs, when expenditure on inter-agency fees had been excluded. The inter-agency fee in 2009 was £24,080 for a VAA, or around three-quarters of the estimated cost per placement in a typical VAA: a shortfall of around £10,000 per placement. 'Accounts submitted to the Charity Commission 2007-08 suggest VAAs contribute about £3.5 million to adoption services from income received from donations, legacies and investments' (Selwyn, 2011, p.427).

Family-finding

Linking and matching in adoption is the process of identifying an adoptive family which might best be able to meet the needs of a specific child who is waiting for an adoptive placement. More specifically, linking refers to the process of investigating the suitability of one or more prospective adoptive families who might meet the needs of a certain child or sibling group, based on their prospective adopter reports. Matching refers to the process whereby a local authority decides which prospective adoptive family is the most suitable to adopt a particular child. This family will be identified as a 'match' for the child or sibling group at the Adoption Panel, but the large variation in the way adoption panels are implemented means these costs are difficult to estimate.

Information has been drawn from a survey of adoption agencies (Dance et al., 2008),² and table 2 shows how much social worker time was spent on the relevant activities required to produce the assessment form for a prospective adoptive family. The number of hours spent on each activity was broadly in line with other research (Selwyn et al., 2006).³ Many other activities are undertaken as part of the adoption process, including completing the various legal procedures, writing reports for adoption panel meetings, and preparing and introducing children and adoptive families. Each of these activities will involve considerable amounts of social work time and input from other professions, thereby adding to the costs shown here.⁴ The average cost to the adoption agency of these four sub-processes amounts to £6,600. Costs for participating teams were estimated during the study and have been updated from 2007/08 prices using the PSS pay & prices inflator.

Table 2 Cost estimation of adoption activities

		Costs 2014/15
Child assessment	55 social work hours (over four months)	£2,729
Adopter's assessment	64 social work hours (over six months)	£2,401
Preparing child's profile	6 social work hours	£160
Family-finding process – talking to children, families and professionals as part of the linking process	16 social work hours	£1,310
Total	141 social work hours	£6,600

Helping birth families

A study undertaken by Neil & colleagues (2010)⁵ and commissioned by the DfE aimed to estimate the cost of providing support services to birth relatives over 12 months. Seventy-three birth relatives were interviewed, and 57 (78%) were re-interviewed approximately 15 months later. Case workers completed diaries to record time spent on each of the various services provided to birth relatives, and other agencies provided information about the number and type of services provided for each person in the interview sample over one year. For each type of support, a unit cost was taken from the

¹ Selwyn, J., Sempik, J., Thurston, P. & Wijedasa, D. (2009) *Adoption and the inter-agency fee*, Centre for Child and Family Research, <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/sps/research/projects/current/rk6582a/rk6582afinalreport.pdf> [accessed 9 October 2013]. See also Selwyn, J. & Sempik, J. (2011) Recruiting adoptive families: the costs of family finding and the failure of the inter-agency fee, *British Journal of Social Work*, 41, 415-431.

² Dance, C., Ouwejan, D., Beecham, J. & Farmer, E. (2008) *Adoption agency linking and matching practice in adoption in England and Wales, Survey Findings*, Department for Education, Research Brief DCSF-RBX-16-08. <https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/publicationDetail/Page1/DCSF-RBX-16-08/> [accessed 9 October 2013].

³ Selwyn, J., Sturgess, W., Quinton, D. & Baxter, C. (2006) *Costs and outcomes of non-infant adoptions*, BAAF, London.

⁴ Dance, C., Ouwejan, D., Beecham, J. & Farmer, E. (2010) *Linking and matching: a survey of adoption agency practice in England and Wales*, BAAF, London.

⁵ Neil, E., Cossar, J., Lorgelly, P. & Young, J. (2010) *Helping birth families: a study of service provision, costs and outcomes*.

<http://www.adoptionresearchinitiative.org.uk/study5.html> [accessed 9 October 2013]. See also consultation on the review of contact arrangements for children in care and adopted children and on the placement of sibling groups for adoption, <http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/families/adoption/a00212027/> [accessed 9 October 2013].

2007 volume of the *Unit Costs of Health and Social Care*. The unit costs were combined with each person's use of support services to calculate the total costs of support. Costs have been uprated using the PSS pay & prices inflator.

Birth relatives were reported to have used 8.35 support services (range 0 to 70) over the 12-month study period at an average cost of £570 (range £0 to £5,093). Services included a telephone line for out-of-hours support, drop-in sessions, duty sessions, following referrals by telephone, providing venues for meetings, and liaison with other service providers. All other services were excluded from the cost estimates. The research was completed before the current consultation on the review of contact arrangements <http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/families/adoption/a00212027/>.

Supporting direct contact after adoption

A study undertaken by Neil & colleagues (2010)¹ explored services provided to support post-adoption contact in 'complex' cases, i.e. direct contact where agencies had an ongoing role in the contact. They reported that the average adoptive family was estimated to have used contact support services 12 times over a 12-month period at a mean total cost of £1,115 (range £0-£4,523). The average birth relative used contact support services 8.9 times over a 12-month period, at a mean total cost of £833 (range £0-£2,214).

Post-adoption support for adoptive parents

A legal framework for the provision of adoption support is set out in the Adoption and Children Act 2002 and the Adoption Support Services Regulations 2005 (Department of Health, 2005; Bonin et al. 2013).^{1,2} Families have a right to an assessment of their support needs and may be entitled to (means-tested) financial support, access to support groups, support for contact with birth relatives, and therapeutic services that support the relationship between children and their adoptive parents, including training to meet the child's needs, respite care and assistance in cases of disruption.

Bonin et al. (2013)¹ provide the costs of post-adoption services used over a six-month period through data collected from 19 adoptive parents six months after a child (average age 23 months) had been placed with them. Table 3 shows that the total mean public sector cost for support services was £3,953 (uprated from 2007/08 prices), rising to £7,078 if financial support is included.

Table 3 Services received by adoptive parents

Service or support	Mean costs (sd)	Range (lower)	Range (upper)
Adoption support & social care	£2,415	£854	£6,502
Health care	£524	£0	£2,022
Education support	£11	£0	£119
Specialist services	£115	£0	£1,333
Total cost of services	£3,065	£1,057	£6,762
Financial support	£4,282	£0	£22,953
Total cost (services and financial support)	£7,347	£1,424	£24,010

Financial support includes Adoption Allowances (n=6 families), settling-in grants (n=7), reimbursed expenses over the introductory period (n=8), and benefits and tax credits. In a more recent study, 61 adoptive parents caring for 94 children were interviewed: 88 per cent were reimbursed for expenses during introductions, 70 per cent had received a settling-in grant, and 26 per cent received an Adoption Allowance (Selwyn et al., 2009).²

Another study funded through the Adoption Research Initiative reported costs of £3,348 (uprated from 2006/07 prices using the PSS pay & prices inflator) for adopters of children with severe behavioural difficulties, estimated over an average of 12 months of the placement (Sharac et al., 2011).³ Social work was at the heart of adoption support, accounting for nearly half (44%) of costs. Use of education support (20% of total costs), health care (13%) and other services such as day care and home help (23%) were also recorded.

¹Neil, E., Cossar, J., Jones, C., Lorgelly, P. & Young, J. (2010) *Helping birth relatives and supporting contact after adoption*, Adoption Research Initiative, http://www.adoptionresearchinitiative.org.uk/summaries/ARi_summary_8.pdf [accessed 23 October 2013].

²Selwyn, J., Sempik, J., Thurston, P. & Wijedasa, D. (2009) *Adoption and the inter-agency fee*, University of Bristol, Bristol.

³Sharac, J., McCrone, P., Rushton, A. & Monck, E. (2011) *Enhancing adoptive parenting: a cost-effectiveness analysis*, Child and Adolescent Mental Health, 16, 2, 110-115. See also <http://www.adoptionresearchinitiative.org.uk/study6.html> [accessed 9 October 2013].

6.10 Multidimensional treatment foster care (MTFC)

Multidimensional treatment foster care (MTFC) is a programme of intervention designed for young people who display emotional and behavioural difficulties. It is based on social learning and attachment theories, and provides intensive support in a family setting. A multidisciplinary team of professionals works with foster carers to change behaviour through the promotion of positive role models. Placements are intensive and tailored to the child's specific needs, with 24-hour support to carers. The specialised team of professionals is responsible for the planning and delivery of the programme, and each practitioner has a clearly-defined role. The core team consists of a programme supervisor, individual therapist, birth family therapist, skills worker, administrator, foster carer recruiter and education worker; additional staff may be appointed in some local authorities (see table 6.4 for information on local authority foster care for children).

Research to calculate the costs of multidimensional treatment foster care^{1,2} built on a previous study that calculated unit costs for eight social care processes.³ The process costs shown below align with those in the tables for children in care (8.4.1-8.4.4): in particular the high-cost children. Costs per hour have been calculated using Curtis (2007)⁴ and include overheads and capital costs. For each process, the salary and overhead costs have been multiplied by the time spent by the practitioners involved. The costs tabulated below for providing and maintaining the placement account for over 90 per cent of the costs of a care episode, but exclude the set-up costs. Costs have been updated from 2006/2007 to 2014/2015 prices using the PSS pay & prices inflators.

Table 1 Costs of eight social care processes for MTFC

Process number	MTFC cost per child (2014/15 prices)
Process one: decision to place and finding first MTFC placement	£9,944
Process two: care planning	£255
Process three: maintaining the placement (per month)	£7,520
Process four: leaving care/accommodation	£495
Process five: finding subsequent MTFC placement	£9,241
Process six: review	£702
Process seven: legal process	£4,976
Process eight: transition to leaving care services	£2,204

Table 2 Process costs for other types of provision for young people

Process number	LA foster care in LA area (2014/15 prices)	Agency/foster care in LA area (2014/15 prices)	Agency residential in LA area (2014/15 prices)
Process one	£1,244	£1,766	£1,568
Process two	£255	£255	£255
Process three	£3,897	£5,636	£10,806
Process four	£495	£495	£495
Process five	£558	£1,112	£1,134
Process six	£845	£845	£845
Process seven	£4,976	£4,976	£4,976
Process eight	£2,204	£2,204	£2,204

¹ Holmes, L., Westlake, D. & Ward, H. (2008) *Calculating and comparing the costs of multidimensional treatment foster care*, Report to the Department for Children, Schools & Families, Loughborough Centre for Child and Family Research, Loughborough University.

² Holmes, L., Ward, H. & McDermid, S. (2012) *Calculating and comparing the costs of multidimensional treatment foster care in English local authorities*, *Children and Youth Services Review*, 34, 2141-2146.

³ Ward, H., Holmes, L. & Soper, J. (2008) *Costs and Consequences of Placing Children in Care*, Jessica Kingsley, London.

⁴ Curtis, L. (2007) *Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2007*, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

6.11 Decision-making panels

A number of studies carried out by the Centre for Child and Family Research at Loughborough University have explored the costs of decision-making panels for the Common Assessment Framework (CAF),¹ short-break services for disabled children and their families,² and joint commissioning for children with additional needs.³ The joint commissioning panels were held to discuss both looked-after children and children in need cases. Information was gathered from practitioners, managers and administrative staff on the time taken to complete activities prior to, during and after panel meetings. The costs of the Common Assessment Framework and short-breaks panels are based on data provided by two local authorities. The joint commissioning panel is based on information gathered in one local authority. The activity times for each personnel type involved in the three panels are shown in the table below.

Table 1 Activity times for CAF, short breaks for disabled children and their families and joint commissioning for children with additional needs panels by personnel type

Panel	Activity times				
	Panel member	Social worker	Principal manager	Administrator	Lead professional
CAF panel	1 hour 10 minutes	N/A	N/A		5 hours
Short-breaks panel	3 hours 20 minutes	1 hour 45 minutes	N/A	4 hours 40 minutes	N/A
Joint commissioning panel	1 hour 45 minutes	2 hours	1 hour 45 minutes	3 hours 20 minutes	N/A

Unit costs are calculated by multiplying the number of hours carried out for each process by each type of personnel, by the relevant unit costs per hour. Unit costs per hour are based on average salaries for each staff type using national salary scales including salary oncosts (national insurance and superannuation). Direct, indirect and capital overheads are applied as outlined in the *Unit Costs of Health and Social Care* (2011).

Personnel type	Unit cost per hour
Panel member (senior manager)	£49
Family support worker	£30
Social worker	£42
Team manager	£49
Administration	£29

The cost of the CAF panel is based on 12 panel members, discussing eight cases per meeting. The cost of the short breaks panel is based on five panel members discussing four cases per meeting. The cost of the joint commissioning panel is based on four panel members discussing eight cases per meeting.

Table 2 Cost per case for CAF, short breaks and joint commissioning panels

Panel	Costs per case considered £					Total cost per case
	Panel member	Social worker	Principal manager	Administrator	Lead professional	
CAF panel	£85				£142	£227
Short-breaks panel	£116	£65		£137		£318
Joint commissioning panel	£43	£73	£86	£98		£299

¹ Holmes, L., McDermid, S., Padley, M. & Soper, J. (2012) *Exploration of the costs and impact of the Common Assessment Framework*, Department for Education, London.

² Holmes, L., McDermid, S. & Sempik, J. (2010) *The costs of short break provision*, Department for Children, Schools & Families, London.

³ Holmes, L., and McDermid, S. (2012) *Understanding Costs and Outcomes in Child Welfare Services: A Comprehensive Costing Approach to Managing Your Resources*. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

6.12 Costs of reunification

The Centre for Child and Family Research (CCFR) was commissioned by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) to estimate the costs to the public purse of providing services¹ to support successful reunification to all children and families following a care episode (Holmes, 2014).² This table provides the weighted average cost per case, based on estimates that 53 per cent of the children returning home (5,342) will require a high level of support, 16 per cent (1,613) will have medium levels of need, and 31 per cent (3,125) will have low levels of need. The cost for a high, medium and low need case are also included. Two types of costs have been provided here: the cost of providing additional support services for children and families following reunification, and the cost of Children in Need support to children and families when the child returns home. At 2014/15 prices, the weighted average cost was £5,736 per case.

The assumptions about the proportion of families with high, medium and low needs are adapted from the Farmer et al. (2011)³ study which concluded that 28 per cent of returns were good quality, 14 per cent borderline, 49 per cent poor quality and 9 per cent were not clear. It is assumed that the poor quality returns represent high need, the borderline medium need, and the good quality returns low need. The 9 per cent where the quality of returns is unclear has been apportioned equally across the three categories. Hence, it has been assumed that 53 per cent of reunification cases have high support needs, 16 per cent have medium support needs and 31 per cent have low support needs.

The costs include the provision of parenting support, adult mental health, drug and alcohol and CAMHS services for those with medium and high needs. The proportion of families in each category receiving specific interventions, and the intensity of the interventions, are based on the research evidence (Wade et al., 2011⁴; Farmer et al., 2011³; Meltzer et al., 2003⁵). The cost estimations are based on national data. There will be variations between authorities in terms of the needs and costs of the families they are supporting.

The report acknowledges its limitations: for example, the exclusion of the costs incurred by other agencies to support vulnerable children and their families on reunification. It is also acknowledged that some of the assumptions and categorisations will mask some of the complexities of individual cases and the costs associated with supporting these families.

Services	2014/15 Cost per case	Notes
High needs Adult mental health (60%; fortnightly); Drug and alcohol services (50%, fortnightly); Parenting support (80%; weekly); CAMHS (45%, fortnightly).	£9,462	Based on Farmer et al. (2011) ³ and Meltzer et al. (2003) ⁵ . Based on Farmer et al. (2011) ³ and Meltzer et al. (2003) ⁵ Based on Farmer et al. (2011) ³ and costs for a family support worker (see table 11.8). Based on Farmer et al. (2011) ³ and Meltzer et al. (2003). ⁵
Medium needs Parenting support CAMHS	£1,636	80 per cent of parents receive parenting support, fortnightly, for one year (Farmer et al., 2011). ³ Forty five per cent of children receive CAMHS services, monthly, for one year (Meltzer et al., 2003). ⁵
Low needs		It has been assumed that any services to meet the needs of the families would have been provided prior to the child returning home and as part of routine service provision.
Social care support		
High needs	£3,856	Comprises 6 months at a high level (8 hours 15 minutes social worker time plus 50 minutes team manager per month); 3 months at medium level (5 hours and 45 minutes social worker time plus 50 minutes team manager per month) and 3 months at a low level (2 hours and 35 minutes social worker time plus 50 minutes team manager per month). ⁶
Medium needs	£2,418	Comprises ongoing support for the family as an open Child in Need case for 9 months; 6 months at medium level followed by 3 months at a low level.
Low needs	£1,204	Comprises ongoing support as an open Child in Need case for 6 months at a low level.
Unit costs available 2014/15		
£5,736 average weighted cost per case.		

¹ Research indicates that much of this support is **not** currently provided. In cases where it is provided by local authorities, it will not represent additional spend. There are significant variations between authorities in terms of types and levels of social care support and services, so the degree of overestimation of the additional cost of these services will vary accordingly.

² Holmes, L. (2014) *Supporting children and families returning home from care*, Centre for Child and Family Research, Loughborough University.

³ Farmer, E., Sturgess, W., O'Neill, T. & Wijedasa, D. (2011) *Achieving successful returns from care: what makes reunification work?* British Association for Adoption and Fostering, London.

⁴ Wade, J., Biehal, N., Farrelly, N. & Sinclair, I. (2011) *Caring for abused and neglected children: making the right decisions for reunification or long-term care*, Jessica Kingsley Publishers, London.

⁵ Meltzer, H., Gatward, R., Corbin, T., Goodman, R. & Ford, T. (2003) *The mental health of young people looked after by local authorities in England*, The Stationery Office, London.

⁶ Holmes, L. & McDermaid, S. (2012) *Understanding costs and outcomes in child welfare services*, Jessica Kingsley Publishers, London.

6.13 Short-break provision for disabled children and their families

The Centre for Child and Family Research was commissioned by the Department for Education to calculate the costs incurred by children's services departments to provide short-break services.¹ The average cost of different types of short-break services was estimated, along with the costs of the routes by which families access provision, and the ongoing activity undertaken to support the child and family once in receipt of short-break services.¹ See Holmes & McDermid in Curtis (2010) for detailed information on methods.²

The services

Short breaks can be delivered in the form of overnight stays, day, evening and weekend activities, and can take place in the child's own home, the home of an approved carer, or a residential or community setting.³ A range of services were identified in this study.

Table 1 Short break service costs

Service type	Unit	Average cost 2014/15 value		Range 2014/15 value
		Mean cost	Median cost	
Residential	Per child per night (24-hour period)	£280	£307	£74-£431
Family-based overnight	Per child per night (24-hour period)	£182	£157	£149-£240
Day care	Per child per session (8 hours)	£139	£129	£105-£218
Home support	Per family per hour	£23	£23	£19-£27
Home sitting	Per family per hour	£20	£20	£11-£28
General groups	Per session	£354	£404	£103-£653
Afterschool clubs	Per session	£297	£289	£255-£352
Weekend clubs	Per session	£331	£332	£315-£344
Activity holidays	Per child per break	£1,364	£881	£120 ^a -£3,934 ^b

^a Short break of two days

^b Short break of seven days

The social care processes

The study also calculated the costs of social care activity associated with providing short-break services to disabled children and their families. This included the routes by which families were able to access short-break provision, and any ongoing activity undertaken to support the child and family once in receipt of short-break services.

Table 2 Social care process costs

Process	Out of London cost 2014/15 value	London cost 2014/15 value
Referral and assessment processes		
Local Core Offer eligibility models ⁴	Not available	£13
Common Assessment Framework	£198	Not available
Initial assessment	£357	£327
Core assessment	£536	£754
Resource panels for short-break services ⁵	£101	£55
Ongoing support		
Ongoing support	£81	£105
Reviews	£206	£278

¹ Holmes, L., McDermid, S. & Sempik, J. (2009) *The costs of short break provision: report to the Department for Children, Schools & Families*, Centre for Child and Family Research, Loughborough University.

² Holmes, L. & McDermid, S. (2010) The costs of short break provision, in L. Curtis (ed.) *Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2011*, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

³ Department for Children, Schools & Families (2008) *Aiming high for disabled children: short breaks implementation guidance*, Department for Children, Schools & Families, London.

⁴ 'Local core offer eligibility model' refers to an access route whereby a local authority offers the provision of a standardised package of short-break services to a specific population of disabled children and young people who meet an identified set of eligibility criteria.

⁵ Two of the three participating authorities used panels to decide how resources might be most usefully deployed to support families. The out of London authority held panels once a fortnight and the London authority held their panel monthly.

6.14 Local safeguarding children's boards

Research carried out by the Centre for Child and Family Research examined the cost of local safeguarding children's boards (LSCBs) as part of a wider study commissioned by the Department for Children, Schools & Families to explore the effectiveness of the boards in meeting their objectives.¹

To understand the costs of the LSCB meetings, information was gathered from practitioners, managers and administrative staff on the time taken to complete activities before, during and after LSCB meetings. Board members were asked to complete a time use event record to indicate the time they spent on different LSCB activities in the month preceding the LSCB meeting. Activities included: travel to and from meetings, preparation for meetings and provision of feedback to their agency. Data were collected in relation to the main LSCB meetings and subgroup meetings. The activity times are outlined in the table below.

Table 1 Average time spent by board members before and after LSCB meetings

Activity	Average time spent per meeting ^a
Travel	0.89 hours
Preparation for meetings	3.07 hours
Feedback to own agency	1.33 hours
Total	5.29 hours

^a Figures do not include the time spent in the meeting.

Unit costs are calculated by multiplying the number of hours carried out for each activity by each type of personnel by the relevant unit costs per hour. Unit costs per hour are based on average salaries for each staff type using national salary scales and applying oncosts and overheads as presented in this volume.

Six local authority areas contributed to the study. The structure and activities of the LSCBs in these six areas varied considerably. The costs in each area and the overall average cost are shown below, uprated to 2014/15 using the appropriate inflators. The least expensive area (area 2) had the lowest number of members and seniority was mixed. In area 3 (the most costly area), the LSCB met on a monthly basis, whereas the other Boards met less regularly.

Table 2 The costs of local safeguarding children's boards

LSCB	Infrastructure (staffing, including Chair) per year	Estimated costs of board member attendance at LSCB meetings		Cost of subgroups
		Estimated cost per meeting	Estimated cost per year	
Area one	£137,239	£11,779	£70,672	£68,473
Area two	£106,968	£7,363	£44,176	£22,448
Area three	£309,279	£17,842	£214,109	£150,349
Area four	£99,279*	£16,434	£65,735	£81,743
Area five	£116,388	£9,780	£58,680	Data not available
Area six	£201,513	£17,079	£68,318	Data not available
Average cost	£161,777	£13,380	£86,949	£80,753

*Figure does not include the time spent in the meeting.

¹ France, A., Munro, E. & Waring, A. (2010) *The evaluation of arrangements for effective operation of the new local safeguarding children boards in England*, Final Report, Department for Education, London.

6.15 Parenting programmes for the prevention of persistent conduct disorder

The most successful parenting programmes targeted at parents of children with or at risk of developing conduct disorder are designed to improve parenting styles and parent-child relationships, in turn having positive effects on child behaviour. This table draws information from a study by Bonin & colleagues (2011)¹ which identified the average costs for group-based interventions and one-to-one delivery-based interventions. In turn these estimates drew on data collected between 2007 and 2009 by researchers at the National Academy for Parenting Research. Data on parenting programmes can be found at <http://www.education.gov.uk/commissioning-toolkit>. While there are many different parenting programmes, administered in a variety of formats, often they are group-based lasting between 1.5 and 2.0 hours per week over 8-12 weeks.

Tables 1 and 2 show the cost of delivering three parenting programmes for which there is evidence of effectiveness. According to NICE (2007),² about 80 per cent of parenting programmes can be delivered in a group format, and this figure is used to weight the median costs. The expected intervention cost based on 80 per cent group and 20 per cent individual provision used for the model is therefore £1,228 per participant. All costs have been updated to 2014/2015 using the appropriate inflators.

6.15.1 Group delivery (Triple P and Strengthening Families-Strengthening Communities)

	Median	Mean	Low	High
Total practitioner cost (includes time in session, preparation and supervision time)	£6,437	£6,273	£1,207	£11,008
Venue hire	£995	£942	£569	£1,209
Food and refreshment	£519	£492	£297	£631
Childcare	£590	£524	£202	£716
Translation services	£660	£587	£226	£802
Materials	£155	£147	£116	£162
Total cost per programme for training, supervision and materials	£9,356	£8,965	£2,617	£14,528
Total per person assuming 10 per group	£937	£896	£262	£1,453
Total costs of practitioners' training time and fees	£2,028	£2,338	£1,429	£3,869
Training/100 people (assuming 10 participants per group and 10 sessions delivered)	£20	£23	£14	£39
Per person estimate including a component for training	£956	£920	£276	£1,491
Hours of supervision needed x hourly cost of minimum recommended level of supervisor	£491	£491	£268	£713
Per person supervision estimate assuming: 10 per group; cost does not depend on number of practitioners; nor the number of programmes run at once	£49	£49	£27	£71
Per person per programme estimate including a component for training and supervisor cost	£1,005	£969	£303	£1,563

¹ Bonin, E., Stevens, M., Beecham, J., Byford, S. & Parsonage, M. (2011) Costs and longer-term savings of parenting programmes for the prevention of persistent conduct disorder: a modelling study, *BMC Public Health*, 11, 803, doi:10.1186/1471-2458-11-803.

² National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (2007) *Parent-training/education programmes in the management of children with conduct disorders*, National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence, London.

6.15.2 One-to-one delivery (Triple P, Strengthening Families-Strengthening Communities and Helping the Noncompliant Child)

	Median	Mean	Low	High
Total staff cost (includes session, preparation and supervision time) for one lead practitioner	£1,904	£2,710	£758	£5,504
Total food	£52	£40	£0	£63
Childcare	£59	£42	£0	£71
Translation	£66	£47	£0	£81
Materials	£15	£12	£1	£16
Total costs (including preparation, supervision, materials etc.)	£2,095	£2,851	£759	£5,735
Training costs (lead practitioner)	£691	£677	£494	£865
Training fees	£645	£873	£144	£2,140
Total costs of lead practitioner's training time and fees	£1,337	£1,550	£638	£3,005
Per person training component (assuming 50 deliveries per training)	£27	£31	£13	£60
Total including training component	£2,122	£2,882	£772	£5,795
Hours of supervision needed x hourly cost of minimum recommended level of supervisor	384 hrs	452 hrs	256 hrs	680 hrs
Per person supervision estimate assuming: 10 one-to-one programmes delivered per supervisor term; cost does not depend on the number of practitioners	£38	£45	£26	£68
Per person per programme estimates including training and supervisor cost	£2,160	£2,927	£797	£5,863

6.16 Parent training interventions for parents of disabled children with sleep or behavioural problems

This table draws on work carried out by Beresford and colleagues (2012)¹ and provides the costs of five different parent training interventions for parents of disabled children with sleep or behavioural problems. Costs have been updated using current salaries and overhead information. The cost for each programme is an average cost.

Description of programme	Staff (Agenda for Change band/local authority band if provided) FTE unless otherwise noted	Staff sessions and hours (including preparation, delivery, debrief)	Average cost per programme (including programme and staff)
The Ascend Programme is a group-delivered parent-training programme for parents of children with Autistic Spectrum Conditions (ASC). Up to 20 participants per programme.	Clinical psychologist (7), learning disability nurse (7), S&L therapist (5), consultant clinical psychologist (8D), consultant psychiatrist (8DD), learning disability nurse (6), CAMHS therapist (6), social worker assistant, learning disability nurse (7), clinical psychologist (6)	Delivered in 10 weekly sessions of 2-2.5 hours plus final follow up session. In total 46.5 hours were delivered by staff across 4 programmes.	Staff cost £7,872 Programme cost £171 Total £8,042
The Cygnnet programme is a group-delivered parent-training programme for parents of children with Autistic Spectrum Conditions, age 7 to 18.	Cygnnet co-ordinator, Bradford and District Autistic Support Group (BADASG) co-ordinator, child psychologist (8B), consultant clinical psychologist (8D), clinical psychologist (7), social worker, teacher, administrator (level 3), senior CAMHS practitioner (7), 3 STARS workers and a student nurse.	Delivered in CAMHS and voluntary sector community facilities in 6-weekly 2.5 hour sessions. There is a reunion session at three months. In total 51.5 hours were delivered by staff across 6 programmes.	Staff cost £3,963 Programme cost £171 Total £4,134
The Confident Parenting Programme is a 6-week, group-delivered parent-training programme for parents of disabled children (aged 7 to 18 years). A maximum of 12 participants is recommended.	Consultant clinical psychologist (8C), 2 clinical psychologists (7 and 5), head teacher, assistant psychologist (6) and teacher. There are typically 3 members of staff at each session.	The programme has 6-weekly sessions of 2 hours (+1 optional follow-up). In total 69 sessions (15 hours) were delivered by staff across 4 programmes. An additional 40 hours was required to set up the groups.	Staff cost £4,114 Programme cost £227 Total cost £4,341
Riding the Rapids is a group-delivered parent-training programme for parents of children with Autistic Spectrum Conditions and other disabilities (aged 4-10).	Clinical psychologist (8b), teaching assistant (TA4), S&L therapist, clinical psychologist, senior nurse, deputy head, community nurse (7), parent facilitator, 2 clinical psychologists, assistant psychologist and a community nurse.	The programme is delivered in 10-weekly sessions of 2 hours. In total 33.5 hours were delivered across 7 programmes.	Staff cost £3,210 Programme cost £255 Total cost £3,465
The Promoting Better Sleep Programme is a group-delivered intervention for parents of children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder and/or learning and/or sensory disabilities.	C & A learning disabilities team co-ordinator (7), community learning disability nurse (6), consultant clinical psychologist (8D), autistic spectrum link nurse (4). (Typically 2 members of staff at each session)	A manual-based programme in 4-weekly sessions of 3 hours over 5-6 weeks. In total 32 sessions (16.5 hours) were delivered across 4 programmes.	Staff cost £1,822 Programme cost £111 Total cost £1,932

¹ Beresford, B., Stuttard, L., Clarke, S., Maddison, J. & Beecham, J. (2012) *Managing behaviour and sleep problems in disabled children: an investigation into the effectiveness and costs of parent-training interventions*, Research Report DFE-RR204a, Department for Education, London.

6.17 Independent reviewing officer (IRO)

An independent reviewing officer (IRO) ensures that the care plan for a looked-after child clearly sets out the help, care and support that they need, and takes full account of their wishes and feelings. Local authorities are required by law to appoint an IRO for each looked-after child. Since 2011, IROs are responsible for chairing statutory reviews and also for monitoring children's care plans on an ongoing basis (Ofsted, 2013). The analysis of resources needed for the IRO service was conducted as part of the cost analysis carried out by the Centre for Child and Family Research (CCFR), Loughborough University (Jelicic et al., 2014).¹ Caseloads and time inputs have been based on suggested best practice and statutory guidance.²

Costs and unit estimation	2014/15 value	Notes
A. Salary	£39,220 per year	In line with IRO Guidance (Department for Children Schools & Families, 2010) ² IROs are paid at the same level as a team manager. The average salary for a team manager was £35,410 for 2007/08. ³ As no new salary estimates are available, this has been inflated to reflect the pay increments for social workers reported in the Local Government Earnings Surveys 2009 to 2015. ⁴
B. Salary oncosts	£12,158 per year	Employer's national insurance is included plus 20 per cent of salary for employer's contribution to superannuation. ⁵
C. Qualifications	£26,143 per year	IROs are required to be registered social workers. Qualification costs have been calculated using the method described in Netten et al. (1998). ⁶ Current cost information is drawn from research by Curtis et al. (2011). ⁷
D. Ongoing training		IROs should have training to develop their observational skills for work with children under the age of four, communicate with disabled children and develop links with and awareness of support and services for disabled children. IROs have regular monthly or six-weekly supervision, and regular access to their managers for ad hoc consultation. ²
E. Direct overheads	£14,890 per year	Direct overheads were 29 per cent of direct care salary costs. They include costs to the provider for administration and management, as well as for office, training and utilities such as water, gas and electricity.
Indirect overheads	£8,220 per year	Indirect overheads were 16 per cent of direct care salary costs. They include general management and support services such as finance and human resource departments. ⁸
F. Capital overheads	£2,566 per year	Based on the new-build and land requirements for a local authority office and shared facilities for waiting, interviews and clerical support. ^{9,10} Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent.
G. Travel		No information available on average mileage covered per review. For information see <i>Green Book: National Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Service</i> . ¹¹
Working time	41 weeks per year 37 hours per week	Includes 29 days annual leave and 8 statutory leave days. Ten days for study/training and 8.2 days sickness leave have been assumed based on the median average sickness absence level in England for all authorities. ^{9,12} Unit costs are based on 1,516 hours per year.
Review	8.5 hours	Based on recommendations for a properly resourced IRO service, a standard case should take a total of between 7.5 and 9.5 hours. This includes preparation time (up to 1 hr) consultation with the child/young person, social worker, parents and foster carer/ keyworker/family or friends' carer, the review meeting (between 1.5 to 2 hrs) plus travel time, and up to two hrs for writing up the report. This work takes the midpoint (8.5 hours).
Ongoing monitoring	1 hour	Up to 1 hour is allocated between review meetings for standard cases. Up to 2 additional hours should be allocated if there are issues that need to be resolved, delays, poor practice or if the child is unhappy in their placement.
Case load	60	It is estimated that a caseload of 50-70 looked-after children for a full time equivalent IRO would represent good practice in the delivery of a quality service. ² The midpoint has been taken. Results of a national survey show that overall the (mean) average caseload for a full-time equivalent IRO was 78 looked-after children.
London multiplier	1.10 x A 1.49 x F	Allows for higher costs associated with London compared to the national average cost. ^{3,9,10}
Unit costs available 2014/15 (costs including qualifications given in brackets)		
£51 (£68) per hour; £432 (£579) per review; £483 (£647) (including ongoing monitoring).		

¹ Jelicic, H., La Valle, I. & Hart, D. with Holmes, L. (2014) *The role of Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs) in England*, National Children's Bureau, London.

² Department for Children, Schools & Families (2010) *IRO Handbook, Statutory guidance for independent reviewing officers and local authorities on their functions in relation to case management and review for looked after children*, Department for Children, Schools & Families. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/273995/iro_statutory_guidance_iros_and_las_march_2010_tagged.pdf (accessed 8 July 2014).

³ Local Government Association Analysis and Research (2008) *Local government earnings survey 2007*, Local Government Analysis and Research, London.

⁴ Local Government Association (2014) *Local government pay and workforce research*, <http://www.local.gov.uk/research-pay-and-workforce/> [accessed 16 October 2015].

⁵ Thurley, D. (2011) *Local government pension scheme, 2010 onwards*, House of Commons, London.

⁶ Netten, A., Knight, J., Dennett, J., Cooley, R. & Slight, A. (1998) *Development of a ready reckoner for staff costs in the NHS, Vols 1 & 2*, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

⁷ Curtis, L. Moriarty, J. & Netten, A. (2012) The costs of qualifying a social worker, *British Journal of Social Work*, 42, 4, 706-724.

⁸ Based on information taken from Selwyn, J. et al. (2009) *Adoption and the inter-agency fee*, University of Bristol, Bristol; and Glendinning, C. et al. (2010) *Home care re-ablement services: investigating the longer-term impacts*, Final Report, University of York, PSSRU Kent, Department of Health, London.

⁹ Building Cost Information Service (2015) *Surveys of tender prices*, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

¹⁰ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

¹¹ Local Government Employers (2012) *Green Book: national agreement on pay and conditions of service*, Local Government Association, London. http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/workforce/-/journal_content/56/10180/3510601/ARTICLE/ [accessed 9 October 2013].

¹² Local Government Association (2012) *Local government workforce survey 2011/12*, http://www.local.gov.uk/local-government-intelligence/-/journal_content/56/10180/3328402/ARTICLE/ [accessed 9 October 2013].

6.18 Early Years Teacher Classroom Management Programme

The *Teacher Classroom Management programme* is a prevention programme to strengthen teacher classroom management strategies, and promote children's prosocial behaviour and school readiness (reading skills). The programme is intended for group leaders who plan to work with groups of teachers to promote these skills. It is divided into 6 full-day workshops, with enough time between each workshop for teachers to practise the new skills they are learning. *The Teacher Classroom Management Programme* is useful for teachers, teacher aides, school psychologists and school counsellors <http://incredibleyears.com/programs/teacher/classroom-mgt-curriculum/>. See also Ford et al. (2012) for details on the cost-effectiveness of the programme.¹

The following table provides the costs for two group leaders to deliver a 6 day workshop to 10 teachers. Excluded from this table are the costs of ongoing consultation by telephone or in person for new group leaders. The consultation fee is £120 per hour. Although not obligatory, group leaders are encouraged to apply for certification/accreditation (£270). Where costs on the Incredible Years website have been provided in dollars, they have been converted at a rate of \$1=£0.60 (2 June 2014). Based on 2013/14 costs and updated using the appropriate inflators.

Costs and unit estimation	2014/15 value	Notes
Start-up costs		
Group leader training	£1,443 per year	Based on the cost of £241 per person per day for a three-day training course. Training delivered by an Incredible Years certified trainer or mentor. (Costs exclude airfare from the USA and accommodation, which will vary and might be shared with other programmes).
Materials	£1,495 per year	This includes Incredible Years materials such as manuals, assorted books, tool box, wheel of fortune, puppets etc. Also, video cameras should be included if sessions are to be filmed
Group leaders		
Course planning	£13,232 per year	Based on the cost of £551 per day (includes salaries and overheads) for two group leaders for six days.
Teachers attending programme		
Supply cover	£9,623 per year	Supply cover provided for the 10 teachers attending the course at £160 per day for 6 days.
Incredible Years professional		
Supervision	£1,564 per year	Supervision provided by an Incredible Years professional for the 6 sessions. Based on a cost of £260.50 per session
Venue		Cost for venue is not known.
Course materials	£351 per year	Books and handouts at £35 per teacher for 10 teachers
Miscellaneous costs	£50 per annum £372 per annum	Incentives and materials Lunch and refreshments are based on a cost of £60 per session.
Certification/accreditation	£270 per annum	This promotes fidelity to the programme
Unit Costs for 2014/15		
Start-up costs £2,938 (excluding airfare and accommodation for Incredible Years trainer).		
Cost per programme for 10 teachers excluding start-up costs £25,461.		
Cost per teacher excluding start-up costs £2,546.		

¹ Ford, T., Edwards, V. Sharkey, S., Ukoumunne, O., Byford, S. Norwich, B. & Logan, S. (2012) Supporting teachers and children in schools: the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of the incredible years teacher classroom management programme in primary school children: a cluster randomised controlled trial, with parallel economic and process evaluations, *BMC Public Health*, 12, 719, doi:10.1186/1471-2458-12-719.

7. Hospital and related services

7.1 NHS reference costs for hospital services

7.2 NHS wheelchairs

7.3 Equipment and adaptations

7.4 Public health interventions

7.5 Hospice rapid response service

7.6 Specialist neuro-rehabilitation service

7.1 NHS reference costs for hospital services

We have drawn on the *NHS Trust and Primary Care Trusts combined* dataset to report the costs of selected adult health services.¹ All costs have been updated to 2014/15 levels using the HCHS pay & prices inflator.

Each reported unit cost includes:

- (a) direct costs – which can be easily identified with a particular activity (e.g. consultants and nurses)
- (b) indirect costs – which cannot be directly attributed to an activity but can usually be shared among a number of activities (e.g. laundry and lighting)
- (c) overheads – which relate to the overall running of the organisation (e.g. finance and human resources).

For information on the method used to allocate drugs to services, see reference cost guidance for 2012-2013.¹

	National average	Lower quartile	Upper quartile
Elective/non elective Health Care Resource Group (HRG) data, average cost per episode			
Elective inpatient stays	£3,405	£2,440	£4,035
Elective inpatient stays (inc. carbon impact 708 kgCO ₂ e) ²	£3,435		
Non-elective inpatient stays (long stays)	£2,863	£2,084	£3,360
Non-elective inpatient stays (long stays) (inc. carbon 595 kgCO ₂ e)	£2,888		
Non-elective inpatient stays (short stays)	£608	£412	£710
Non-elective inpatient stays (short stays) (inc. carbon 126 kgCO ₂ e)	£615		
Day cases HRG data (finished consultant episodes)			
Weighted average of all stays	£704	£483	£844
Weighted average of all stays (inc. carbon 146 kgCO ₂ e)	£710		
Outpatient attendances			
Weighted average of all outpatient attendances	£112		
Consultant led	£118		
Non-consultant led	£91		
Weighted average of all outpatient attendances (inc. carbon 23 kgCO₂e)	£113		
PALLIATIVE CARE			
Inpatient – specialist palliative care (adults only), average cost per bed day	£371	£252	£500
Inpatient – hospital specialist palliative care support (adults and children)	£119	£40	£111
Outpatient – medical specialist palliative care attendance (adults and children)	£153	£1043	£151
Outpatient – non-medical specialist palliative care attendance (adults and children)	£96	£56	£160
AMBULANCE SERVICES (Weighted average of attendances)			
Calls	£7	£6	£8
Hear and treat and refer	£44	£37	£44
See and treat and refer	£180	£155	£188
See and treat and convey	£231	£206	£254
All Ambulance Services	£99	£87	£107

¹ Department of Health (2015) *NHS reference costs 2013-2014*, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-reference-costs-2013-to-2014> [accessed 4 October 2015].

² Costs of carbon emissions provided by Imogen Tennison, Sustainable Development Unit. Contact Imogen.tennison@nhs.net for more information. See Preface.

7.2 NHS wheelchairs

Information about wheelchair costs is based on the results of a study of six sites supplying wheelchairs to adults and older people.¹ The study information was supplemented with national data not available from the sites. Three main types are identified: those propelled by an attendant or self-propelled; a lighter type of chair especially designed for active users; and powered wheelchairs. (Active users are difficult to define, but generally refer to individuals who are permanently restricted to a wheelchair but are otherwise well and have high mobility needs.) The cost of modifications is included in the estimated capital value, but this is a very approximate mid-range figure so specific information should be used wherever possible. All costs have been updated using the retail price index.

Although no further studies have been carried out on wheelchairs, current price information suggests that powered wheelchairs range from £700-£3,000 and self- or attendant-propelled wheelchairs range from £100-£650.

Type of chair	Total value 2014/15	Annual cost 2014/15	Notes
Capital costs			
Self- or attendant-propelled	£287	£64	Capital value has been annuitised over five years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent to allow for the expected life of a new chair. In practice, 50 per cent of wheelchairs supplied have been reconditioned, not having been worn out by the time their first users ceased to need them.
Active user	£716	£159	
Powered	£1,432	£317	
Revenue costs			
Maintenance			Revenue costs exclude therapists' time but include the staff costs of maintenance. The costs include all costs for pressure relief. The cost of reconditioning has not been included in the cost of maintenance.
- non-powered		£30	
- powered		£118	
Agency overheads			No estimate of management overhead costs is available. They are likely to be minimal.
Unit costs available 2014/15			
£94 per self or attendant propelled chair per year; £189 per active user per chair per year; £436 per powered chair per year.			

¹ Personal communication with Richard Murray, National Health Service Management Executive, 1995.

7.3 Equipment and adaptations

Community equipment refers to any items of equipment prescribed by occupational therapists, physiotherapists and other health staff, designed to help vulnerable or older people and those with disabilities or long-term health conditions to manage everyday tasks independently at home. For this schema, we have drawn from a study commissioned by PSSRU and undertaken by Astral/Foundations (<http://www.foundations.uk.com/about-home-improvement-agencies/>), one aim of which was to identify the process and resources used to supply equipment and adaptations. Information was received from 17 organisations (85% response rate) to support the research: ten local authorities, six Home Improvement Agencies (HIAs) and the British Association of Occupational Therapists. The research differentiated between the time taken to supply and install minor adaptations (generally those under £1,000) and also provided time inputs of the staff involved in administering the process and assessing clients. (See the Preface for forthcoming information.)

In tables 1-2, we have provided information on equipment and installation costs for major and minor adaptations, and in tables 3-4 staff preparation and assessment time are provided. Further work will be carried out for next year's volume to monetise the staff preparation and assessment time for both major and minor adaptations. Excluded from the research brief were items of equipment and systems commonly regarded as telecare or telehealth, as these types of equipment have been the focus of previous work (see Henderson & colleagues article in the 2013 edition of this report).

The period over which adaptations to housing should be annuitised is open to debate. Ideally they should be annuitised over the useful life of the aid or adaptation. In many cases this is linked to the length of time the person using the appliance is expected to remain at home. Where it is expected that the house would be occupied by someone else who would also make use of the equipment, a longer period would be appropriate. Clearly, this is difficult to do in practice. Following government guidelines on the discount rate, the items in the table below have been annuitised over 10 years at 3.5 per cent.¹ The costs have been uprated from 2013/14 using the Retail Prices Index.

Table 1 Major adaptations, including installation costs

	Sample size	Lowest cost	Highest cost	Mean (median) cost	Mean (median) annual equipment cost (3.5% discount)
Level access shower	21	£2,581	£12,390	£4,802 (£4,116)	£577 (£495)
Stair lift (straight)	21	£1,084	£2,920	£1,935 (£1,987)	£233 (£239)
Stair lift (more complex)	7	£2,375	£6,828	£4,712 (£4,749)	£566 (£571)
Convert room for downstairs WC /washroom	7	£2,891	£22,715	£10,176 (£10,192)	£1,223 (£1,225)
Build downstairs extension for WC/washroom	5	£12,390	£30,975	£23,296 (£25,812)	£2,800 (£3,103)
Build downstairs extension for bedroom	5	£12,390	£46,462	£26,582 (£26,582)	£3,315 (£3,195)
Build downstairs extension for bedroom and en suite facilities	6	£23,747	£46,462	£34,732 (£33,109)	£4,175 (£3,979)
Total	52				

¹ See http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+www.dh.gov.uk/en/Aboutus/Procurementandproposals/Publicprivatepartnership/Privatefinanceinitiative/Changestotreasurygreenbook/DH_4016196.

Table 2 Minor adaptations, including installation costs

	Sample size	Lowest cost	Highest cost	Mean (median) cost	Mean (median) annual equipment cost (3.5% discount)
Fit handrail – external	8	£17	£102	£42 (28)	£5 (£3.40)
Fit handrail – internal	10	£10	£67	£28 (20)	£3.50 (£2.40)
Fit handrail to bath	8	£9	£29	£18 (20)	£2.20 (£2.40)
Fit over bath shower	6	£322	£1859	£108 (£1200)	£13 (£144)
Create step to front/back door	8	£21	£1549	£481 (£90)	£59 (£10.90)
Create ramp to front/back door	5	£122	£700	£316 (120)	£39 (£14)
Lay new path, per metre cost	3	£101	£124	114 (£120)	£14 (£14.40)
Widen doorway for wheelchair access	6	£301	£683	£536 (£660)	£66 (£79.30)
Install lighting to outside steps/path	5	£26	£620	£256 (£140)	£31 (£16.80)
Move bed to downstairs room	3	£31	£46	£40 (£45)	£5 (£5.40)
Raise electrical sockets/lower light switches	6	£41	£1520	£80 (£75)	£10 (£9.00)

Table 3 Mean average time inputs for staff involved in the process of providing minor adaptations

	Average time in minutes			
	Initial enquiry	OT	HIA administrator	Total time
Fit handrail – external	9.8	84	30	123.8 (2.06 hours)
Fit handrail – internal	9.8	72	30	111.8 (1.7 hours)
Fit handrail to bath	9.8	42	24	75.8 (1.1 hours)
Fit (handrail) over bath shower	9.8	84	42	135.8 (2.1 hours)
Create step to front/back door	9.8	132	30	171.8 (2.7 hours)
Create ramp to front/back door	9.8	360	30	399.8 (6.5 hours)
Lay new path, per metre cost	9.8	192	48	249.8 (4 hours)
Widen doorway for wheelchair access	9.8	456	42	507.8 (8.3 hours)
Install lighting to outside steps/path	9.8	318	12	339.8 (5.5 hours)
Move bed to downstairs room	9.8	78	42	129.8 (2 hours)
Raise electrical sockets/lower light switches	9.8	156	36	201.8 (3.2 hours)

Table 4 Mean average time inputs for staff involved in providing major adaptations

	Initial enquiry	Average minutes					Total time
		OT	LA grants officer	HIA technical officer	HIA caseworker	HIA administrator	
Level access shower	9.8	210	462	420	287	168	1,557 (26 hours)
Stairlift (straight)	9.8	72	186	120	474	120	982 (16.4 hours)
Stairlift (more complex)	9.8	156	756	306	96	120	1,444 (24.1 hours)
Convert room for downstairs WC/washroom	9.8	498	792	672	276	312	2,560 (42.7 hours)
Build downstairs extension for WC washroom	9.8	816	1,188	1,578	144	174	3,910 (65.2 hours)
Build downstairs extension for bedroom and en-suite facilities	9.8	1,068	1,356	1,272	372	234	4,312 (71.9 hours)

7.4 Public health interventions

These costs are drawn from two reports: *Prioritising investments in public health* (Matrix Evidence and Bazian, 2008),¹ commissioned by the Department of Health, and *A review of the cost-effectiveness of individual level behaviour change interventions* commissioned by the Health and Well-Being Alliance group (North West Public Health Observatory, 2011).² Here we present the costs of interventions for which the economic evidence originated in the UK. Further information can be found on Public Health Interventions in the Cost Effectiveness Database (PHICED) <http://www.yhpho.org.uk/PHICED/>. All costs have been taken directly from the reports and updated to 2014/2015 prices using the appropriate inflators. Further information on the specific research studies can be found in the reports named above.

Reducing long-term absence in the workplace

The NICE public health guidance on *Management of long-term sickness and incapacity for work*³ provides cost information for three types of intervention: physical activity and education (10 sessions of physiotherapy or physical activity and 10 sessions of cognitive behaviour therapy); workplace intervention (usual care, workplace assessment and work modifications and communication between occupational physician and GP to reach a consensus on return to work); and physical activity and education along with a workplace visit (sessions as before plus half a day of line manager's time).

Table 1 Workplace interventions

Intervention	Workplace intervention	Physiotherapy/ physical activity	Cognitive behaviour therapy	Workplace visit	Total
Physical activity and education		£179	£681		£860
Workplace intervention	£579				£579
Physical activity education and workplace visit		£179	£681	£51	£911

Alcohol intervention

Intervention: Brief interventions have proven to be effective and have become increasingly valuable for the management of individuals with increasing and high-risk drinking, filling the gap between primary prevention efforts and more intensive treatment for persons with serious alcohol use disorders. The cost of delivering ten minutes' brief advice for alcohol ranges from £8 for a practice nurse to £38 for a GP (see tables 10.6 and 10.8c of this publication).

Reducing the incidence of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and teenage pregnancy

Intervention: Individual risk counselling, defined here as a one-to-one intervention, is delivered by a counsellor to at-risk groups with the aim of reducing incidence of STIs or risky behaviour. Individual risk counselling can be delivered through clinics (genitourinary medicine, abortion, or drug and alcohol misuse clinics), community health services, GPs and other community and non-health care settings. The review suggested that counselling interventions cost between £85 and £187 per person.

Reducing smoking and the harms from smoking

Intervention: The review suggests that there is strong evidence that **mass media campaigns** for both young and adult populations cost between £0.30 and £2.02 per person. Estimates of cost are higher when the unit receiving the intervention is defined as those potentially exposed to the campaign (£26-£49).

Intervention: Drug therapies for smoking cessation can include nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) (such as nicotine patches and gum), nicotine receptor partial antagonists (such as varenicline), opioid antagonists (such as naltrexone), clonidine, lobeline, or antidepressants (such as bupropion). There is evidence that drug therapy (bupropion, nicotine replacement therapy and varenicline) has a moderate effect on smoking cessation, particularly in people motivated to quit.

¹ Matrix Evidence & Bazian (2008) *Prioritising investments in public health*, Department of Health, London.

² North West Public Health Observatory (2011) *A review of the cost-effectiveness of individual level behaviour change interventions*, Health and Wellbeing Alliance, Manchester. <https://www.ewin.nhs.uk/news/item/2011/changes-in-the-nhs> [accessed 9 October 2013].

³ <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ph19>

There is economic evidence from the UK on the cost of NRT (£47-£162 per person), bupropion (£89-£95 per person), and combinations of NRT and bupropion (£178-£184 per person).

Intervention: A ten-minute opportunistic brief advice session for smoking costs £36 for a GP and £7 for a practice nurse (see tables 10.6 and 10.8c of this publication).

Well man services

Information has been drawn from the Liverpool Public Health Observatory Series¹ and provides the costs of 18 well man pilots in Scotland funded between June 2004 and March 2006, aimed to:

- Promote healthier lifestyles and attitudes among men;
- Provide men with an opportunity to undertake a health assessment and to obtain advice and support on health and lifestyle issues;
- Effectively engage all men and, in particular, those who were hardest to reach as a consequence of social exclusion or discrimination. They were also intended to identify what worked in promoting and sustaining health awareness and improvement in men.

Staff variation was the main factor in different session costs, and attendance rate was the main factor in cost per health assessment, particularly at drop-in services in community venues, where attendance was unpredictable. The costs did not include those incurred by patients.

Table 2 Cost comparison of delivery modes – well man service pilots

Location	Cost per session		Cost per assessment	
	Number	Range	Number	Range
Health clinics	9	£207-£914	9	£47-£311
Workplaces	2	£227-£241	3	£30-£113
Community venues (inc. pharmacies)	6	£110-£468	4	£69-£1,222

Health action area – community programme

Within the Wirral health action area, specialist lifestyle advisory staff are co-located with health trainers and community health development staff. These teams work with individuals and groups and provide (or commission) a community programme of lifestyle activities including mental wellbeing. They work closely with employability programmes such as the Condition Management Programme and Wirral Working 4 Health. The teams are based in a variety of community venues including a children's centre, and they also work closely with a wide network of other partner agencies, particularly where there is a common interest, e.g. in accessing particular groups such as men aged over 50 or homeless people. This is a model of wellness which takes a network approach within a particular neighbourhood potentially involving all aspects of the wellbeing of an individual or family through joint working rather than a discrete wellness service.

An evaluation of the community programme showed the average cost per client is £36.

¹ Winters, L., Armitage, M., Stansfield, J. Scott-Samuel & Farrar, A. (2010) *Wellness services – evidence based review and examples of good practice*, Final Report, Liverpool Public Health Observatory.

7.5 Hospice Rapid Response Service

This table is based on a Rapid Response Service (RRS) introduced by Pilgrims Hospices in East Kent in 2010. RRSs provide intense care over relatively short periods when crises arise, and work alongside regular domiciliary services that offer longer-term support, to help avoid admission to hospice or hospital.¹ This team services three areas and has access to a service co-ordinator, medical advice and equipment that can be carried by car. The team responds rapidly 24/7 to crises in patients' own homes (including care homes); undertakes a robust assessment which takes account of patient and carer/family preferences, patient needs, and patient prognosis; provides hands-on care; and works in co-ordination with other community services. See *Setting up a new hospice at home service*² for further information. See also *National Survey of Patient Activity Data* for more information on specialist palliative care services.³

Costs and unit Estimation	2014/15 value	Notes
A. Wages/salary	£282,423 per year	Based on mean Agenda for Change (AfC) salaries for 18 band 3 health care assistants (HCAs) ⁴ who spend 85 per cent of their time on duties related to the RRS.
B. Salary oncosts	£61,715 per year	Employer's national insurance is included plus 14 per cent of salary for employer's contribution to superannuation.
C. Qualifications		HCAs required NVQ 2/3 or equivalent and community end-of-life care experience.
D. Training		The HCAs were provided with an initial orientation training programme covering introduction to the hospice and clinical work on wards and in the community. They also attended a 5-day hospice palliative care course costing approximately £750. Staff have continued to access in-house development training, statutory and mandatory annual training.
E. Overheads		Taken from NHS Foundation Trusts: Consolidated Accounts 2013/14. ⁵ Hospice overheads are broadly similar to those applied to NHS staff.
Service co-ordinator and day to day co-ordinator	£70,650 per year	Supervision (40% of WTE) provided by Agenda for Change band 8 plus a day to day coordinator (80% of WTE) provided by Agenda for Change band 3.
Management, administration and estates staff	£22,069 per year	Includes estates and indirect care staff which are assumed to be approximately 5 per cent of direct care salary costs.
Non-staff	£131,461 per year	Non-staff costs were 38.2 per cent of direct care salary costs. They include costs to the provider for office, travel/transport and telephone, education and training, supplies and services (clinical and general), as well as utilities such as water, gas and electricity.
F. Capital overheads	£3,718 per year	Based on the new-build and land requirements of NHS facilities. ^{6,7} It is assumed that each HCA uses one-sixth of an office. Six HCAs are on duty at any one time. Capital costs have been annuitised over 60 years at a discount rate of 3.5 per cent.
H. Travel	£122,606 per year	£12.10 per visit. Based on the average number of visits per patient in 2012 (16.6).
Caseload	610 per year	Number of patients
Hours and length of service		The service is available 24/7.
Ratio of indirect time to direct time		No estimates available for percentage of service time spent with patients. Travel time is high given the area covered by the service (approx 20% of total time).
Number of rapid response visits	16.6 per patient	Based on the average number of visits per patient in 2012 (610). Episodes vary according to need. The average number of referrals was 670 (multiple referrals for some people).
Unit costs available 2014/15		
Total annual costs £694,641; cost per hour of service £79; average cost per patient £1,139.		

¹ Butler, C., Holdsworth, L. Coulton, S. & Gage, H. (2012) Evaluation of a hospice rapid response community service: a controlled evaluation, *BMC Palliative Care*, 11, 11, doi:10.1186/1472-684X-11-11.

² Butler, C. & Holdsworth, L. (2013) Setting up a new evidence-based hospice-at-home service in England, *International Journal of Palliative Nursing*, 19(7), 355-359.

³ National Survey of Patient Activity Data for Specialist Palliative Care Services (2014) National Survey of Patient Activity Data for Specialist Palliative Care Services, MDS Full Report for the year 2012-2013, Public Health England.

⁴ Health & Social Care Information Centre (2014) NHS staff earnings estimates 2015 (not publicly available), Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds.

⁵ NHS Foundation Trusts: *Consolidated Accounts 2013/14*. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-foundation-trusts-consolidated-accounts-201314> [accessed 19 October 2015].

⁶ Building Cost Information Service (2015) Surveys of tender prices, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, London.

⁷ Land costs researched for PSSRU by the Valuation Office Agency in 2013.

7.6 Specialist neuro-rehabilitation services¹

Specialist rehabilitation services play a vital role in management of patients admitted to hospital by ensuring that their immediate medical needs have been met, and supporting safe transition back to the community.² They are consultant-led and supported by a multi-professional team who have undergone recognised specialist training in rehabilitation.^{3,4}

The following table provides the costs of two service models: tertiary 'specialised' rehabilitation services (level 1) and local (district) specialist rehabilitation services (level2). Also a new hyper acute specialist rehabilitation service has been introduced as a result of the development of the Major Trauma Networks.⁵ To be designated and commissioned as a specialist rehabilitation service, all Level 1 and 2 services must be registered with UK Rehabilitation Outcomes Collaborative (UKROC).⁶ Two costs are provided for each service: the mean cost per occupied bed day, calculated by taking the total annual costs and dividing by the number of patient bed days, and the mean cost per weighted occupied bed day which takes into account the number of days patients spend at five identified sub-levels of complexity. See <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/lsm/research/divisions/cicelysaunders/research/studies/ukroc/Commissioning-Tools.aspx> for more information on how the weighted costs have been calculated.

2014/15 mean costs per occupied bed day and weighted occupied bed day for each service level from participating UKROC Services

Service level	Mean cost (ranges) per occupied bed day (excluding MFF)	Mean cost (ranges) per weighted occupied bed day (excluding MFF)
Level 1 - Tertiary 'specialised' rehabilitation services: high cost / low volume services for patients with highly complex rehabilitation needs that are beyond the scope of their local and district specialist services. These are normally provided in co-ordinated service networks planned over a regional population of 1-5 million through specialised commissioning arrangements.		
Level 1a - for patients with high physical dependency	£534 (£464 - £613)	£400 (£344 - £440)
Level 1b - mixed dependency	£476 (£429 - £514)	£356 (£305 - £389)
Level 1c - mainly physically stable patients with cognitive/behavioural disabilities. ^a	£636 (£579 - £713)	£479 (£433 - £533)
Level 2 – Local (district) specialist services: typically planned over a district-level population of 350-500,000 providing advice and support for local general rehabilitation teams. As tertiary specialised rehabilitation services are thinly spread, in some areas of the UK where access is poor, local specialist rehabilitation services have extended to support a supra-district catchment of 750K -1m, and take a higher proportion (at least 50%) of patients with very complex needs.		
Level 2a - supra-district specialist rehabilitation services	£432 (£317 - £513)	£345 (£226 - £436)
Level 2b - local specialist rehabilitation services	£407 (£309 - £500)	£340 (£290 - £415)
Hyper-acute: These units are sited within acute care settings. They take patients at a very early stage in the rehabilitation pathway when they still have medical and surgical needs requiring continued active support from the trauma, neuroscience or acute medical services.		
	£655 (£623 - £686)	£409 (£386 - £432)

a. Based on only two services

¹ For more information contact: UKROC - UK Rehabilitation Outcomes Collaborative, St Marks Hospital, London North West Healthcare NHS Trust, Watford Road, Harrow HA1 3UJ. Email: lnwh-tr.ukroc@nhs.net.

² Department of Health (2005) *National service framework: long term conditions*, Department of Health, London. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/quality-standards-for-supporting-people-with-long-term-conditions> [accessed 10 November 2015]

³ British Society of Rehabilitation Medicine (2015) *Specialised Neurorehabilitation Service Standards*, BSRM London.

⁴ <http://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/spec-services/npc-crg/group-d/d02/>

⁵ British Society of Rehabilitation Medicine (2013) *Core standards and major trauma*, London: <http://www.bsrm.co.uk/Publications.html#BSRMstandards> [accessed 10 November 2015]

⁶ Clinical Reference Group Specialist Services Specification (2012) *Specialist rehabilitation for patients with highly complex needs*, London <http://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/spec-services/npc-crg/group-d/d02/> [accessed 10 November 2015]

8. Care packages

- 8.1 Social care support for older people, people with intellectual disabilities, people with mental health problems and people with physical disabilities
- 8.2 Health care support received by people with mental health problems, older people (over 75) and other service users
- 8.3 Support for children and adults with autism
- 8.4 Services for children in care
- 8.5 Services for children in need
- 8.6 Common Assessment Framework
- 8.7 Services for children returning home from care
- 8.8 Support care for children
- 8.9 Young adults with acquired brain injury in the UK
- 8.10 Palliative care for children and young people
- 8.11 Residential parenting assessments
- 8.12 Acute medical units
- 8.13 End-of-life care

8.1 Social care support for older people, people with learning disabilities, people with mental health problems and people with physical disabilities

The care packages described in the following tables (8.1.1-8.1.4) are drawn from the National Evaluation of the Individual Budgets Pilot Projects (IBSEN).¹ This study collected information on the social care service use of 1001 people across four client groups: older people, people with learning disabilities, people with mental health problems, and people with physical disabilities. For the study, the service users' needs were categorised as critical, substantial or moderate, and information was collected on a pre-specified set of services: the type of accommodation in which they usually lived, the number of hours of home care and day care received each week, and the social security benefits they received. The services were costed using information contained in this volume where possible (see details below); otherwise they have been taken from the Personal Social Services Expenditure return (PSS EX1, 2013/2014)² and uprated using the PSS pay & prices inflator. As no information was available on whether the services had been provided by the local authority or private organisations, we have used the weighted average price.

Home care: The cost per hour for a home care worker is £24, (face-to-face, see table 11.6). As the PSS EX1 return does not distinguish between client groups for home care, the cost of home care for adults and older people has been used for all client groups. This cost is likely to be an under-estimate for certain client groups.

Day care: To arrive at a cost per day care attendance, assumptions have to be made about the number of times service users attend per week. New research suggests that older people attend on average 2.49 times per week, people with mental health problems attend on average 2.88 times per week, people with physical disabilities attend on average 2.65 times per week, and that people with learning disabilities attend four times per week. Based on these assumptions, the mean cost per client attendance for older people is £60 per week, and for people with mental health problems (local authority and independent provision) is £30.² For people with learning disabilities the mean cost is £81 per session² and for people with physical disabilities the mean cost of a day care session is £71.²

Benefit receipt: All benefit receipt was costed using information taken from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)³ and summed to provide a total for each service user. Benefits included long-term incapacity benefit (£104.10 per week), severe disability (single) benefit (£61.10 per week), disability care allowance (£54.45 per week), attendance allowance (lower/higher rate, £54.45/£81.30 per week) and carer's allowance (£61.35 per week).

Accommodation: Information was available on whether the service user lived in a registered care home, sheltered accommodation, supported living, flats, private accommodation or rented accommodation; whether the service user lived alone or in shared accommodation; and the number of bedrooms in the accommodation. No information is available on whether the service user lived in accommodation provided by the local authority or private organisations. We have taken the lower-cost assumption that the accommodation was provided by a private sector organisation. For each client group, the appropriate cost was taken from this volume or other national sources such as Rentright (<http://rentright.co.uk/>) a website which provides the average rental costs for England for each month, or the Halifax Price Index which provides average prices for privately-owned accommodation in England. Sometimes judgements were made about the type of accommodation according to the level of need of the service user. For example, for people with physical disabilities, where a care home was specified, it was assumed that this was a high dependency care home (see table 5.1 of the 2013 volume). Similarly, when a 'flat' was specified and the level of need was 'critical' or 'substantial', the cost of special needs flats were applied (see table 5.3 of the 2012 volume). When the accommodation type was 'supported living', where the level of need was 'critical', it was assumed that this also was a care home; otherwise the cost of 'extra care housing' was used. Costs for residential care and supported living for all client groups were taken from the relevant sections of this volume.

¹ Glendinning, C., Challis, D., Fernández, J., Jacobs, S., Jones, K., Knapp, M., Manthorpe, J., Moran, N., Netten, A., Stevens, M. & Wilberforce, M. (2008) *Evaluation of the individual budgets pilot programme: Final Report*, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

² Health & Social Care Information Centre (2015) *PSS EX1 2013/14*, Health & Social Care Information Centre, Leeds

³ See: <http://www.payingforcare.org/types-of-state-and-local-authority-support> [accessed 10 October 2015].

8.1.1 Social care support for older people

In the IBSEN study, 281 people were aged over 65 (28% of the whole sample): 39 had critical needs, 171 had substantial needs and 71 moderate needs. The average total cost for the whole sample was £284 per week, with 10 per cent incurring costs of less than £126 and 10 per cent more than £565.

Service/need group	Average weekly costs 2014/15	Number of users	Description
Home care			
Critical	£300	18 users	Forty-two per cent of the sample of older people reported the use of home care. The average weekly cost for critical needs users was £300 compared to £158 for those with moderate needs. The average weekly cost for all 118 service users was £178 (9 hours per week).
Substantial	£155	74 users	
Moderate	£158	26 users	
Average/total	£178	118 users	
Day care			
Critical	£153	4 users	Twelve per cent of the older participants reported the use of day care. The average weekly cost for all 35 users was £72.
Substantial	£97	24 users	
Moderate	£79	7 users	
Average/total	£72	35 users	
Benefits			
Critical	£126	15 users	Thirty-seven per cent reported receiving benefits. In total, the cost of benefits received by critical service users was £126 compared to £98 for moderate service users. The total average weekly cost for all 105 users was £93. ¹
Substantial	£87	66 users	
Moderate	£98	24 users	
Average/total	£96	105 users	
Accommodation			
Critical	£188	39 users	The cost of accommodation for those with moderate needs was 6 per cent higher than those with critical needs. The average weekly cost for accommodation was £167.
Substantial	£155	171 users	
Moderate	£199	71 users	
Average/total	£167	281 users	
Total costs			
Critical	£411	39 users	The average weekly cost for all service users was £284. Support costs for critical service users were 33 per cent higher than costs for moderate service users.
Substantial	£283	171 users	
Moderate	£307	71 users	
Average/total	£284	281 users	

8.1.2 Social care support for people with learning disabilities

In the IBSEN study, 260 people had learning disabilities (26% of the whole sample): 76 had critical needs, 159 had substantial needs and 25 moderate needs. The average cost for this sample was £324 per week, with 10 per cent incurring costs of less than £198 and 10 per cent more than £515.

Service/need group	Average weekly costs 2014/15	Number of users	Description
Home care			
Critical	£398	28 users	Forty-six per cent of the sample of people with learning disabilities reported the use of home care. Of those, the average weekly cost for critical users was £398 compared to £277 for those with moderate needs. The average weekly cost for all 77 service users was £391.
Substantial	£391	47 users	
Moderate	£277	2 users	
Average/total	£391	77 users	
Day care			
Critical	£369	18 users	Twenty-eight per cent of the whole sample of people with learning disabilities reported the use of day care. The average weekly cost was £60 across the 72 users.
Substantial	£54	51 users	
Moderate	£39	3 users	
Average/total	£60	72 users	
Benefits			
Critical	£144	68 users	Seventy-seven per cent reported receiving benefits. In total, the value of benefits received by critical service users was £144 compared to £150 for moderate service users. The total average weekly cost for all 199 users was £143.
Substantial	£142	119 users	
Moderate	£150	12 users	
Average/total	£143	199 users	
Accommodation			
Critical	£188	76 users	The cost of accommodation for those with critical needs was £188 compared to the cost of those with moderate needs of £68. The average weekly cost for the whole sample of people with learning disabilities was £162.
Substantial	£163	159 users	
Moderate	£68	25 users	
Average/total	£162	260 users	
Total costs			
Critical	£410	76 users	The average weekly cost for all service users was £324.
Substantial	£312	159 users	
Moderate	£171	25 users	
Average/total	£324	260 users	

8.1.3 Social care support for people with mental health problems

In the IBSEN study, 143 people had mental health problems (14% of the whole sample): 22 had critical needs, 96 had substantial needs and 25 moderate needs. The average cost for these 143 people was £468 per week, with 10 per cent incurring costs of less than £201 and 10 per cent incurring costs of more than £512 per week.

Service/need group	Average weekly costs 2014/15	Number of users	Description
Home care			
Critical	£104	4 users	Seven per cent of people with mental health problems were receiving home care. The average weekly cost for critical users was £104 compared to £79 for moderate users. The average weekly cost for all 10 service users was £178.
Substantial	£255	5 users	
Moderate	£79	1 user	
Average/total	£178	10 users	
Day care			
Critical	£73	5 users	Fourteen per cent of people with mental health problems were receiving day care. The average weekly cost was £76 across all users of day care.
Substantial	£77	13 users	
Moderate	£70	2 users	
Average/total	£76	20 users	
Benefits			
Critical	£148	17 users	Seventy-seven per cent service users were receiving benefits. In total, the value of benefits received by critical service users was £148 compared to £114 for moderate service users. The total average weekly cost for all 110 users was £149.
Substantial	£160	73 users	
Moderate	£114	20 users	
Average/total	£149	110 users	
Accommodation			
Critical	£204	22 users	The cost of accommodation for those with critical needs was £205 compared to the cost of those with moderate needs of £176. The average weekly cost across all users was £205.
Substantial	£218	96 users	
Moderate	£176	25 users	
Average/total	£205	143 users	
Total costs			
Critical	£335	22 users	The average weekly cost for all service users was £468. Support costs for critical users were 22 per cent higher than costs for moderate service users.
Substantial	£547	96 users	
Moderate	£274	25 users	
Average/total	£468	143 users	

8.1.4 Social care support for people with physical disabilities

In the IBSEN study, 317 people had physical disabilities (32% of the whole sample): 52 had critical needs, 245 had substantial needs and 20 moderate needs. The average cost for this group was £707 per week, with 10 per cent of service users incurring costs of less than £272 and 10 per cent more than £1,093.

Service/need group	Average weekly costs 2014/15	Number of users	Description
Home care			
Critical	£382	31 users	Fifty-six per cent of the total sample of people with physical disabilities received home care. The average weekly cost for users with critical needs was £379 compared to £126 for those with moderate needs. The average weekly cost for all users of home care (176 people) was £291.
Substantial	£283	136 users	
Moderate	£126	9 users	
Average/total	£291	176 users	
Day care			
Critical	£171	8 users	Twelve per cent of the people with physical disabilities were receiving day care. The value of day care received by moderate users was 56 per cent higher than critical users. The average weekly cost was £182 for all 37 users of day care.
Substantial	£180	27 users	
Moderate	£265	2 users	
Average/total	£182	37 users	
Benefits			
Critical	£132	72 users	Ninety-four per cent of service users were receiving benefits. In total, the cost of benefits received by critical service users was £132 per week compared to £180 for moderate service users. The total average weekly cost for all 297 service users was £181. ¹
Substantial	£180	230 users	
Moderate	£169	17 users	
Average/total	£181	297 users	
Accommodation			
Critical	£784	52 users	The average weekly cost of accommodation for those with critical needs was £784 compared to £247 for those with moderate needs. The average weekly cost was £335.
Substantial	£247	245 users	
Moderate	£247	20 users	
Average/total	£335	317 users	
Total costs			
Critical	£1,260	52 users	The average weekly care package cost for all service users was £707 per week. Support costs for critical users were 26 per cent higher than costs for moderate service users.
Substantial	£603	245 users	
Moderate	£488	20 users	
Average/total	£707	317 users	

8.2 Health care support received by people with mental health problems, older people (over 75) and other service users

Information for this table has been drawn from the *Evaluation of the Personal Health Budget Pilot Programme*¹ and provides information on the health service use of participants in the year before the study started. The information provided in the table below shows the total mean annual cost of health care received by all service users, which includes people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, diabetes, long-term neurological conditions, mental health, stroke and patients eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare. It also provides this information separately for people with mental health problems and people over 75 with one of the above health conditions.

The information was collected in 2009 and has been updated using the appropriate inflators.

Health services received	Total mean annual cost	Number of patients	Range of costs
All service users			
Nursing and therapy	£219	1,278	£0-£14,216
Primary care	£865	2,028	£0-£10,716
Inpatient care	£4,119	1,771	£0-£108,401
Outpatient and A&E	£978	1,772	£0-£12,132
People with mental health problems			
Nursing and therapy	£157	180	£0-£3,895
Primary care	£554	344	£0-£2,427
Inpatient care	£4,380	358	£0-£108,401
Outpatient and A&E	£835	358	£0-£6,690
People over 75			
Nursing and therapy	£187	226	£0-£4,050
Primary care	£1,106	345	£0-£13,627
Inpatient care	£6,025	275	£0-£77,788
Outpatient and A&E	£1,050	275	£0-£6,990

¹ Forder, J., Jones, K., Glendinning, C., Caiels, J., Welch, E., Baxter, K., Davidson, J., Windle, K., Irvine, A., King, D. & Dolan, P. (2012) *Evaluation of the personal health budget pilot programme*, Department of Health, London.

8.3 Support for children and adults with autism

There is growing evidence on the economic burden of autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Autism has life-time consequences, with a range of impacts on the health, economic well-being, social integration and quality of life of individuals with the disorder, their families, and potentially the rest of society. Many of those impacts can be expressed as economic costs.

Interventions and services currently used to treat or support children and adults with ASD include those provided by medical practitioners, nurses, dietitians, psychologists, speech and language therapists, teachers and various providers of complementary and alternative medicine, such as music therapy, aromatherapy, homeopathic remedies, naturopathic remedies, manipulative body therapies and spiritual healing. These treatments, services and supports impose costs to the state, the voluntary sector or to the families of people with ASD who have to pay for them from their own pockets.

Here we present cost information taken from two research studies. The first focuses on pre-school children and provides the service and wider societal costs in the UK.¹ It looked at the services received by 152 pre-school children with autism, reported family out-of-pocket expenses and productivity losses, and explored the relationship between family characteristics and costs.

Service use data were collected using a modified version of the Child and Adolescent Service Use Schedule (CA-SUS) asking about the use of specialist accommodation such as foster and respite care, education or day care facilities attended, all medication prescribed for the individual child, all hospital contacts, and all community health, education and social care services, including non-statutory provision. School-based services were not recorded separately to avoid double-counting costs already included in the overall cost of the education facility, and because parents may not always be aware of their use. In addition, parents were asked to report details of time off work due to their child's illness, and expenditure on any specialist equipment or other extraordinary costs, such as home adaptations, conference or training attendance, and overseas travel that were a direct result of their child's autism. Information from this study is found in 8.3.1.

The second study provides the annual costs for children and adults with low-functioning and high-functioning ASD (i.e. with and without an intellectual disability). The research^{2,3} estimated the full costs of autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) in the United Kingdom drawing on previous research, national surveys, expert advice and supplemented with service use data on 146 children and 91 adults. In the sample of children with autism, ages ranged from 3 to 17, with a mean of 10.28 years (standard deviation 3.17) and a median age of 10. The purpose of the study was to examine the service, family and other economic consequences of autism in the UK for children and adults with ASD. See tables 8.3.2 to 8.3.4 for costs from this study.

¹ Barrett, B., Byford, S., Sharac, J., Hudry, K., Leadbitter, K., Temple, K., Aldred, C., Slonims, V., Green, J. & the PACT Consortium (2012) Service and wider societal costs of very young children with autism, *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 42, 5, 797-804.

² Knapp, M., Romeo, R. & Beecham, J. (2007) *The economic consequences of autism in the UK*, Report to the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities, London.

³ Knapp, M., Romeo, R. & Beecham, J. (2009) Economic cost of autism in the UK, *Autism*, 13, 3, May, 317-336.

8.3.1 Children with autism (pre-school)

Information for this table has been taken from Barrett et al. (2012).¹ All costs were originally estimated at 2006/2007 prices and have therefore been updated to 2014/2015 using the appropriate inflators.

This table reports the service and wider societal costs for the six months prior to interview for pre-school children with autism. The mean total service costs were £2,937, equivalent to £490 per month and over £5,875 per year. Almost half the costs (44%) were for education and childcare, 41 per cent were for community health and social services, and 12 per cent for hospital services. Total costs varied substantially between the children in the study (range £359 to £7,583 over six months). Box 1 below presents case studies of low- and high-cost cases.

On average, families spent an additional £302 as a result of their child's illness over the six months prior to interview (range £0 to £4,459). Fifty-one per cent of families reported taking some time off work due to their child's illness over the six months, associated with productivity losses of £311 per family. Total costs including all services, family costs and productivity losses were estimated at over £3,550 over six months, equivalent to over £592 per month.

Total costs per child for the six months prior to interview (£, n=152)

	Mean	SD	Total service cost %	Total cost %
Accommodation	£19	£240	0.65	0.54
Hospital-based health services	£353	£517	12.03	9.95
Community health and social services	£1,207	£1,011	41.09	33.99
Medication	£19	£97	0.66	0.54
Voluntary sector services	£34	£93	1.16	0.96
Education and child care	£1,304	£933	44.41	36.74
Total service costs	£2,937	£1,412	100.00	82.72
Out-of-pocket expenses	£302	£640		8.51
Productivity losses	£311	£680		8.77
Total costs	£3,550	£1,891		100.00

Box 1 Case studies of high and low cost cases

High cost — £7,583 over six months

Child H attends a mainstream nursery part-time and a specialist playgroup one day a week. He spent three nights in hospital following a grommet operation, and had two outpatient appointments with the ear, nose and throat specialist before and after the operation. Child H had monthly visits to his GP, regular contact with the practice nurse and his health visitor, and weekly contacts with a speech and language therapist at the local health centre. In addition, he had contact with a community paediatrician and a portage worker.

Low cost — £359 over six months

Child I does not attend any formal education or childcare, spending all his time at home with his mother. He had one visit to a paediatrician at the local hospital, but did not have any other hospital contacts or use any services in the community.

¹ Barrett, B., Byford, S., Sharac, J., Hudry, K., Leadbitter, K., Temple, K., Aldred, C., Slonims, V., Green, J. & the PACT consortium (2012) Service and wider societal costs of very young children with autism, *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 42, 5, 797-804.

8.3.2 Children with low-functioning autism (ages 0-17)

The research carried out by Knapp et al. (2007, 2009)^{1,2} estimated the full costs of autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) in the United Kingdom. Costs estimated for children used a combination of routinely collected and research data and a pooled dataset of 146 children.

The table below summarises the average cost per child with low-functioning ASD, whether living with their families or living in a residential or foster care placement. Costs are organised under a number of different service and support headings. Family expenses were also included and, where appropriate, costs were imputed for the lost employment of parents. The table distinguishes children in three different age groups. For the two older age groups, the largest contributors to these totals are the care placements themselves, and special education. The authors noted that, given the availability of data, residential special school costs may have been under estimated.

Average annual cost per child with low-functioning ASD

	Living in residential or foster care placement			Living in private households with family		
	Ages 0-3	Ages 4-11	Ages 12-17	Ages 0-3	Ages 4-11	Ages 12-17
Residential/foster care placement	£18,088	£26,047	£37,020	-	-	-
Hospital services	-	£999	£1,840	-	£999	£1,840
Other health and social services	£678	£8,010	£464	£678	£8,010	£464
Respite care	-	-	-	-	£3,277	£4,272
Special education	-	£10,600	£32,012	-	£10,600	£32,012
Education support	-	£1,373	£1,156	-	£1,373	£1,156
Treatments	-	£21	£17	-	£21	£17
Help from voluntary organisations	-	-	-	-	£977	£111
Benefits	-	-	-	£4,356	£4,638	£4,638
Lost employment (parents)	-	-	-	-	£2,419	£2,419
Total annual cost (excluding benefits)	£18,766	£47,050	£72,510	£678	£27,676	£41,291
Total annual cost (including benefits)	£18,766	£47,050	£72,510	£5,035	£32,314	£46,929

Note: Expenditure on social security/welfare benefits could partly double-count the costs of lost employment for parents, which is why two totals are provided above.

¹ Knapp, M., Romeo, R. & Beecham, J. (2007) *The economic consequences of autism in the UK*, Report to the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities, London.

² Knapp, M., Romeo, R. & Beecham, J. (2009) Economic cost of autism in the UK, *Autism*, 13, 3, May, 317-336.

8.3.3 Children with high-functioning autism (ages 0-17)

The research carried out by Knapp et al. (2007, 2009)^{1,2} estimated the full costs of autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) in the United Kingdom.

As in table 8.3.2, the table below distinguishes costs under a number of different service and support headings. The study assumed that all children with high-functioning ASD live with their parents.

Average annual cost per child with high functioning ASD

	Living in private household with family		
	Ages 0-3	Ages 4-11	Ages 12-17
Hospital services	-	£901	£901
Other health and social services	£1,408	£1,408	£1,408
Respite care	-	£7,548	£7,548
Special education	-	£13,543	£13,543
Education support	-	£632	£632
Treatments	-	£172	£172
Help from voluntary organisations	-	-	-
Benefits	£544	£544	£544
Lost employment (parents)	-	£250	£250
Total annual cost (excluding benefits)	£1,408	£24,454	£24,454
Total annual cost (including benefits)	£1,951	£24,997	£24,997

Notes

The costs for children aged 4-11 and aged 12-17 are the same.

Expenditure on social security/welfare benefits could partly double-count the costs of lost employment for parents, which is why two totals are provided above.

¹ Knapp, M., Romeo, R. & Beecham, J. (2007) *The economic consequences of autism in the UK*, Report to the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities, London.

² Knapp, M., Romeo, R. & Beecham, J. (2009) Economic cost of autism in the UK, *Autism*, 13, 3, May, 317-336.

8.3.4 Adults with autism

The research carried out by Knapp et al. (2007, 2009)^{1,2} estimated the full costs of autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) in the United Kingdom. The estimated annual costs for adults with high-and low-functioning ASD are presented below and were calculated from routinely-collected and research data and a pooled dataset of 185 individuals. Imputed costs for lost employment are included for both the individuals with ASD and for parents, where these are appropriate. Costs are arranged by place of residence.

A sizeable part (59%) of costs for an adult with high-functioning ASD living in a private household (with or without family) is the imputed cost of lost employment (and hence also lost productivity to the economy). Part of that (not separately identified here) would be lost tax revenue to the Exchequer. Costs for high-functioning adults in supported living settings or care homes are much higher (£98,939 and £102,084 per year respectively) and the proportion attributable to lost employment is lower. The largest cost element in each case is for accommodation, and includes the costs of staff employed in those settings or supporting the residents.

Average annual cost per adult with ASD

	Adults with high-functioning ASD			Adults with low-functioning ASD			
	Private household	Supporting people	Residential care	Private household	Supporting people	Residential care	Hospital
Accommodation	£1,725	£68,435	£71,580	-	£68,435	£71,580	-
Hospital services	£901	£901	£901	£101	£174	£39	£87,518
Other health and social services	£564	£564	£564	£820	£543	£671	-
Respite care	-	-	-	£1,781	-	-	-
Day services	£2,581	£2,581	£2,581	£4,350	£4,201	£961	-
Adult education	£3,346	£3,346	£3,346	£1,664	£987	£3,845	-
Employment support	-	-	-	£584	£1,267	-	-
Treatments	£172	£172	£172	£72	£72	£72	-
Family expenses	£2,193	-	-	£2,524	-	-	-
Lost employment (parents)	£4,272	-	-	£4,272	-	-	-
Sub-total	£15,753	£75,999	£79,143	£16,168	£75,679	£77,169	£87,518
Lost employment (person with ASD)	£22,941	£22,941	£22,941	£25,953	£25,953	£25,953	£25,953
Total (excluding benefits)	£38,693	£98,939	£102,084	£42,121	£101,632	£103,122	£113,471
Benefits	-	-	-	£7,772	£5,009	£5,009	£1,073
Total (including benefits)	£38,693	£98,939	£102,084	£48,893	£106,641	£108,131	£114,544

¹ Knapp, M., Romeo, R. & Beecham, J. (2007) *The economic consequences of autism in the UK*, Report to the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities, London.

² Knapp, M., Romeo, R. & Beecham, J. (2009) Economic cost of autism in the UK, *Autism*, 13, 3, May, 317-336.

8.4 Services for children in care

The following tables present illustrative costs of children in care, reflecting a range of circumstances. Information from practitioners and managers, gathered in the course of developing unit costs for social work processes, indicated that some needs — or combinations of them — are likely to have an impact on the cost of placements: disabilities; emotional or behavioural difficulties; and offending behaviour.¹ Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children comprise a further group whose circumstances, rather than their attributes, engender a different pattern of costs. In any population of looked-after children, there will be some children who have none of these additional support needs. Authorities with a higher proportion of children without additional needs will incur lower average costs per looked-after child. However, in reality their overall expenditure on children's services may be greater, for such authorities may place a higher proportion of their whole population of children in need away from home than do those with better-developed family support services.

The study by Ward and colleagues identified different combinations of additional support needs. There were five 'simple' groups of children who display none or one of the attributes expected to affect costs, and six complex groups of children who display two or more additional support needs. In the sample of 478 children, 129 (27%) showed no evidence of additional support needs; 215 (45%) displayed one; 124 (26%) children displayed combinations of two; and a very small group of children (2%) displayed combinations of three or more.

The care package costs for children described in tables 8.4.1-8.4.4 illustrate an example of the support received by children in some of these groups, taken from the study sample. Costs relate to time periods stated in each table.

¹ Ward, H., Holmes, L. & Soper, J. (2008) *Costs and consequences of placing children in care*, Jessica Kingsley, London.

8.4.1 Children in care: low-cost — with no evidence of additional support needs

Child A is a boy aged 14 with no evidence of additional support needs. The table shows the total cost incurred by social services and other agencies from February 2005 to October 2006, uprated using the PSS pay & prices inflator. Child A became looked after at the age of six, as the result of neglect. A care order was obtained in 2002. Since then he has been placed with the same local authority foster carers, a placement that had lasted eight years by the start of the study. In June 2006, his case was transferred to the leaving care team. Reviews were held at six-monthly intervals and his care plan was updated every six months. He attended six-monthly dental appointments and an annual looked-after child medical. During the time period shown above, this young person attended weekly, hour-long physiotherapy sessions as a result of a neck injury. He completed his statutory schooling in summer 2008 and obtained seven GCSEs. He then progressed to further education to start an A level course.

Child A had a relatively inexpensive placement with local authority foster carers. He incurred some educational costs, in that he attended school, and some health care costs, but there was no exceptional expenditure. Please note that these figures have been rounded. Where appropriate, the original information has been adjusted to take account of Agenda for Change salaries.

Process	Cost to LA	Total	Cost to others	Total
Care planning	£251 x 3	£753	£179 x 3	£538
Maintaining the placement	£836 x 87 weeks minus £10,144 ¹	£62,589	£57 x 3	£172
Review	£647 x 3 + £20 ²	£1,962		
Legal	£8 ³ x 87 weeks	£686	£13 ⁴ x 87 weeks	£1,116
Transition to leaving care	£1,930	£1,930		
Cost of services				
Mainstream schooling			£29 ⁵ per day	£8,159
FE college			£28 ⁵ per day	£850
Looked-after child medical			£37 ⁶	£37
Physiotherapy (home visit)			£81 x 87 weeks ⁷	£7,110
Dentist			£18.80 (Band 1 charge, see 10.12)	£18.80
Total cost over 9 months		£67,920		£18,000.80

¹ Cost includes payment made for the placement and all activity to support the placement. There is a reduction in cost as a result of reduced activity once the placement has lasted for more than one year.

² An additional cost is incurred for the first 16+ review.

³ The cost of obtaining a care order has been divided over the total number of weeks between admission and the child's eighteenth birthday.

⁴ Selwyn, J., Sturgess, W., Quinton, D. & Baxter, C. (2003) *Costs and outcomes of non-infant adoptions*, report to the Department of Health, Hadley Centre for Adoption and Foster Care Studies, University of Bristol.

⁵ Based on the cost of a secondary school place. Calculated by dividing total secondary school expenditure by the total number of pupils on the roll, and by the total number of days of pupil contact (190). Department for Education (2011) *Section 251 data archive: Outturn data-detailed level 2008-09 onwards, outturn summary 2011-12*, Department for Education, London and table 1A 'All Schools: pupils with statements of special educational needs'.

⁶ Based on the unit cost of a surgery consultation with a general practitioner (see table 10.8b).

⁷ Department of Health (2015) *NHS reference costs 2013-2014*, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-reference-costs-2013-to-2014> [accessed 4 October 2015].

8.4.2 Children in care: median cost — child with emotional or behavioural difficulties

Between February 2005 and April 2006, Child B was placed with local authority foster carers (within the area of the authority). She then moved to another placement with local authority foster carers within the area of the authority. A care order was obtained for this young person when she first became looked after. During the time-frame, three review meetings were held and her care plan was also updated on three occasions. Child B attended mainstream school from December 2005 until June 2006 where she received support from a personal teaching assistant for four hours a week. This young person attended six-monthly dental appointments and also her annual looked-after child medical. Child B also received speech therapy until July 2006. Following a self-harm incident she was taken to the accident and emergency department and was referred to a clinical psychologist and began weekly sessions in April 2005.

Costs to social services are relatively low, largely because she was placed with local authority foster carers within the authority area throughout the study period, and not considered difficult to place. There were relatively high costs to other agencies, designed to meet both her health and educational needs. Please note that these figures have been rounded. Where appropriate, the original information has been adjusted to take account of Agenda for Change salaries.

Process	Cost to LA		Cost to others	
	Unit costs	Total	Unit costs	Total
Care planning	£251 x 3	£753	£179 x 3	£538
Maintaining the placement	£732 x 59 weeks minus £6,147 ¹	£37,040	£57 x 3	£172
Finding subsequent placement	£325	£325		
Review	£647 x 3	£1,942		
Legal	£9.60 ² x 59 weeks	£568	£12.80 ³ x 59	£757
Cost of services				
Mainstream schooling			£29 ⁴ per day (190 days)	£5,439
Looked-after child medical			£37 ⁵	£37
Speech therapy			£89 x 60 weeks	£5,340
Clinical psychologist			£139 x 52 weeks	£7,228
Hospital accident and emergency visit (admitted)			£233	£233
Personal teaching assistant			£22 (4 hours per week for 25 weeks) ⁶	£2,200
Dentist			£18.80 (Band 1 charge, see 10.12)	£18.80
Total cost over 14 months		£40,628		£21,962.80

¹ Cost includes payment made for the placement and all activity to support the placement. There is a reduction in cost as a result of reduced activity once the placement has lasted for more than one year.

² The cost of obtaining a care order has been divided over the total number of weeks between admission and the child's eighteenth birthday.

³ Selwyn, J., Sturgess, W., Quinton, D. & Baxter, C. (2003) *Costs and outcomes of non-infant adoptions*, report to the Department of Health, Hadley Centre for Adoption and Foster Care Studies, University of Bristol.

⁴ Based on the cost of a secondary school place. Calculated by dividing total secondary school expenditure by the total number of pupils on the roll, and by the total number of days of pupil contact (190). Department for Education (2012) *Section 251 data archive: Outturn data-detailed level 2008-09 onwards, outturn summary 2011-12*, Department for Education, London and table 1A 'All Schools: pupils with statements of special educational needs'.

⁵ Based on the unit cost of a surgery consultation with a general practitioner (see table 10.8b).

⁶ Based on the average salary of a teaching assistant, <http://www.tes.co.uk/article.aspx?storyCode=6168765/> [accessed 22 October 2013].

8.4.3 Children in care: high cost — children with emotional or behavioural difficulties and offending behaviour

Child C was aged 15 at the start of the study. He first became looked after at the age of 11, when his parents needed respite. Prior to the start of the study he was placed in secure accommodation on five separate occasions. He had also been placed in various residential homes, schools and foster placements, many of which had broken down. As a consequence, he had been classified as 'difficult to place'. During the study period (74 weeks), Child C experienced ten different placements. He also refused all statutory medical and dental appointments; furthermore, he refused any mental health support. Child C did not complete his statutory schooling as a result of numerous exclusions and non-attendance. Prior to the start of the study he had a history of offending: this continued throughout the study, with him committing ten further offences. He ceased being looked after in summer 2007 when he refused to return to any placement provided by the local authority.

The costs to social services were relatively high, both because of a number of out-of-authority, residential placements provided by independent sector agencies and due to nine changes of placement. There were substantial costs to other agencies (Youth Offending Team and the Police) as a result of his offending behaviour. No additional health care costs were incurred for this young man because of his refusal to engage in the services offered to him. Please note that these figures have been rounded. Where appropriate, the original information has been adjusted to take account of Agenda for Change salaries.

Process	Cost to LA	Total	Cost to others	Total
Care planning	£251 x 2	£502	£179 x 2	£358
Maintaining the placement	£371,612 ¹	£371,612	£57 x 74 weeks ²	£4,218
Ceased being looked after	£434	£434		
Find subsequent placements	£10,689 ³	£10,689		
Review	£1,942	£1,942	£208 x 2	£415
Cost of services⁴				
YOT involvement/criminal costs			£1,110 ⁵ x 74 weeks	£82,140
Total cost over 18.5 months		£385,179		£87,131

¹ This cost includes the payment made for the placement and all activity to support the placements. There is an increase in cost in the first three months of a placement due to increased social worker activity.

² Child C ceased being looked after in July 2011, therefore the time period being costed is 74 weeks.

³ Child C experienced nine changes of placement during the timeframe of the study.

⁴ There are no additional education costs because these are included in the costs of the placements in process three.

⁵ Liddle, M. (1998) *Wasted lives: counting the cost of juvenile offending*, National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (NACRO), London.

8.4.4 Children in care: very high cost — children with disabilities, emotional or behavioural difficulties plus offending behaviour

Child D experienced nine different placements from February 2006 to October 2007. Initially he was placed in an independent sector residential unit with education facilities. In March 2006, he was placed with independent sector foster carers, again out of area. He then experienced three further placements, all out of the local authority area and all provided by independent sector organisations: another residential unit, then another foster placement, then a third residential placement. In September 2006 he was placed overnight in a secure unit within the authority. He then had three independent sector placements: foster carers, a residential unit, and a specialised one-bedded residential unit in December 2006. This placement was also out of the area of the authority. Review meetings were held six-monthly and his care plan was also updated every six months. This young person attended the education provision in two different residential units until summer 2006, when he was permanently excluded. He then started sessions with a home tutor in October 2006. Over the 20 months he attended six-monthly dental appointments and his looked-after child medical. He also attended weekly sessions with a clinical psychologist from October 2006 onwards. In September 2006 he was accused of a criminal offence; the police were involved, but he was not convicted.

These costs are markedly higher than for the majority of other children in the sample. Child D had become difficult to place; and increasing amounts of social work time had to be spent on finding the rare placements that were prepared to accept him. The costs of changing placements were calculated at over £1,000 per move. Please note that these figures have been rounded. Where appropriate, the original information has been adjusted to take account of Agenda for Change salaries.

Process	Cost to LA	Total	Cost to others	Total
Care planning	£152 x 3	£456	£179 x 3	£537
Maintaining the placement	£710,458 plus £1,823 ¹	£712,281		
Finding subsequent placements	£21,052	£21,052	£98 x 8	£784
Review	£1,029 x 3	£3,087	£399 x 3	£1,197
Legal	£5.40 ² x 87 weeks	£470	£6.20 ³ x 87 weeks	£539
Transition to leaving care	£1,930	£1,930		
Cost of services				
Home tuition			No current costs	
Permanent exclusion			No current costs ⁴	
Looked-after child medical			£37 ⁵	£37
Clinical psychologist			£139 per hour for 52 weeks	£7,228
Police costs for criminal offence (police statement and interview)			£330 ⁶	£330
Dentist			£18.80 (Band 1 charge, see 10.12)	£18.80
Total cost over 20 months		£739,276		£10,670.80

¹ The cost includes the payment made for the placements and all activity to support the placements. There is an increase in cost in the first three months of a placement due to increased social worker activity.

² The cost of obtaining a care order has been divided over the total number of weeks between admission and the child's eighteenth birthday.

³ Selwyn, J., Sturgess, W., Quinton, D. & Baxter, C. (2003) *Costs and outcomes of non-infant adoptions*, report to the Department of Health, Hadley Centre for Adoption and Foster Care Studies, University of Bristol.

⁴ See Prince's Trust (2007) *The cost of exclusion*, Prince's Trust, London. <http://www.princes-trust.org.uk/PDF/Princes%20Trust%20Research%20Cost%20of%20Exclusion%20Apr07.pdf> [accessed 9 October 2013].

⁵ Based on the unit cost of a surgery consultation with a general practitioner (see table 10.8b).

⁶ Bedfordshire Police (2012) *2012/13 Fees and charges handbook*, http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk/PDF/bedfordshire_fees_and_charges.pdf [accessed 9 October 2013].

8.5 Services for children in need

The care package costs for children described in the tables (8.5.1-8.5.4) illustrate examples of the support received by children in need reflecting a range of circumstances. These costs have been drawn from a study undertaken by the Centre for Child and Family Research (CCFR) at Loughborough University in which the costs of key social care processes for children in need have been calculated in four local authorities, including initial and core assessments, children in need reviews, along with ongoing social care activity to support families.¹ The study used a bottom-up costing methodology,² which uses social care activity time data as the basis for building up unit costs. The unit costs per hour are based on average salaries for each staff type using national salary scales and applying oncosts and overheads as presented in this volume.

The costs provided were for 2008/09 and have been updated using the appropriate inflators.

8.5.1 Child A – no additional needs

Child A – No additional needs: out of London costs.

Child A, a boy aged 11 at the start of the study, was referred to social care in August 2007. Support was offered to his family, who had been assessed as being in need due to ‘family dysfunction’. Child A lived with his mother and had no siblings.

Concerns had been raised about the relationship between Child A and his mother, in particular the ability of his mother to deal with his tantrums and use appropriate levels of discipline.

In addition to the ongoing case management provided by the allocated social worker, a family support worker from the social care team had been allocated to the case to undertake some work around discipline and behaviour. A weekly visit was made by the family support worker. This work ceased in December 2008, three months into the data collection period. One Child in Need review was carried out during the study time period.

Total costs for Child A during the six-month data collection period^a

Social care activity costs (out of London costs)			
Process	Frequency	Unit cost	Sub-total
CiN 3 – ongoing support	6 months	£114	£684
CiN 6 – planning and review		£238	£238
Cost of social care case management activity			£922
Additional services costs (out of London costs)			
Family support	Once a week for 10 weeks ^a	£36	£360
Cost of services			£360
Total cost incurred by children’s social care for Child A during the 6-month period			£1,282

^a There was no evidence of additional support services being provided by other agencies during the study timeframe.

¹ Holmes, L. & McDermid, S. (2012) *Understanding costs and outcomes in child welfare services*, Jessica Kingsley, London.

² Beecham, J. (2000) *Unit costs – not exactly child’s play: a guide to estimating unit costs for children’s social care*, Department of Health, Dartington Social Research Unit and the Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent; Ward, H., Holmes, L. & Soper, J. (2008) *Costs and consequences of placing children in care*, Jessica Kingsley, London.

8.5.2 Child B – no additional needs, aged six and under

Child B – No additional needs, aged six and under: London costs.

Child B was referred to social care in June 2008, aged 14 months, due to concerns about her mother's mental health. Although both parents lived at home, Child B's mother was struggling to fulfil her caring duties because of her anxiety and depression. These difficulties were also putting a strain on the parents' relationship. Consequently, Child B was assessed as being in need under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989. The primary need code was recorded as 'family in acute distress' and no additional needs were identified.

During the study time period, the family was in receipt of a number of additional support services. Weekly one-to-one home visits were provided by a mental health social worker from multi-agency early intervention service. A mental health support worker was funded by the Primary Care Trust to support Child B's mother. Additional one-to-one support was offered to Child B's mother for an hour each week by the local authority family support team. The family also attended weekly group sessions at the local children's centre. There were two Child in Need reviews during the data-collection period.

Total costs for child B during the six-month data collection period^a

Social care activity costs (London costs)			
Process	Frequency	Unit cost	Sub-total
CiN 3 – ongoing support	6 months	£247	£1,482
CiN 6 – planning and review	2	£268	£536
Cost of social care case management activity			£2,018
Additional services costs (London costs)			
Social care services			
Family support ¹	Once a week for 21 weeks	£46 ¹	£966
Cost of service care provision			£966
Services from other agencies			
Children's centre stay and play group provided by local authority, not social care ²	Once a week for 21 weeks	£15 ²	£315
One-to-one support from mental health social worker provided by the PCT ³	Once a week for 21 weeks	£125 ³	£2,625
Cost of service provision from other providers			£2,940
Total cost incurred by children's social care for Child B during the 6-month period			£2,984
Total cost incurred for Child B during the 6-month period			£5,924

^a There was no evidence of additional support services being provided by social care during the study timeframe.

¹ Unit cost based on a one-hour visit and 40 minutes travel time.

² Tidmarsh, J. & Schneider, J. (2005) Typical costs of sure start local programmes, in L. Curtis (ed.) *Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2005*, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

³ Curtis, L. (2011) *Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2011*, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury. (Costs have been uprated to 2013 values.)

8.5.3 Child C – emotional or behavioural difficulties

Child C – Boy with emotional or behavioural difficulties: Out of London costs.

Child C was aged 14 at the time of the data collection and had been receiving support as a Child in Need since September 2008, as his family was 'in acute distress'.

Child C's mother had been subject to domestic abuse by her partner and, although he no longer lived in the family home, their relationship had continued to be chaotic. The family had been receiving family therapy, provided by a voluntary agency, twice a month, to help another sibling with obsessive compulsive disorder.

The family's circumstances were reviewed at a Child in Need Review in November 2008. At this review meeting Child C's teacher noted that he had also exhibited symptoms of low self-esteem. His school attendance had been low and his teacher was concerned that this might be a result of his anxieties around socialising with his peers.

The review meeting concluded that the family's situation had not improved and, because of the additional concerns raised by the teacher and social worker, a Core Assessment was recommended. This was carried out in December 2008.

Subsequently, Child C was referred to CAMHS for weekly sessions and his mother was offered women's aid support.

Total costs for Child C during the six-month data collection period^a

Social care activity costs (out of London costs)			
Process	Frequency	Unit cost	Sub-total
CiN 3 – ongoing support	6 months	£214	£1,284
CiN 6 – planning and review		£238	£238
CiN 5 – core assessment		£628	£628
Cost of social care case management activity			£2,150
Additional services from other agencies (out of London costs)			
Family therapy provided by voluntary agency	Twice a month for 6 months	£107 ¹	£1,128
Women's aid provided by voluntary agency	Weekly for 3 months	£67 ²	£707
CAMHS provided by Primary Care Trust	Weekly for 3 months	£68 ³	£811
Cost of service provision from other providers			£2,646
Total cost incurred by children's social care for Child B during the 6-month period			£2,150
Total cost incurred for Child B during the 6-month period			£4,796

^a There was no evidence of additional support services being provided by social care during the study timeframe.

¹ Barlow, J., Davis, H., McIntosh, E., Jarrett, P., Mockford, C. & Stewart-Brown, S. (2006) Role of home visiting in improving parenting and health in families at risk of abuse and neglect: results of a multicentre randomised controlled trial and economic evaluation, *Archives of Disease in Childhood*, 92, 3, 229-233.

² McIntosh, E. & Barlow, J. (2006) The costs of an intensive home visiting intervention for vulnerable families, in A. Netten & L. Curtis (eds) *Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2006*, PSSRU, University of Kent, Canterbury.

³ Curtis, L. (2013) *Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2013*, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury

8.5.4 Child D – became looked after during the data collection

Child D was first referred to social care in August 2007 and had been receiving support as part of a Child Protection Plan. Her parents were identified as regular drug users and this was felt to be impacting on their ability to care appropriately for her needs. In particular, her mother's chaotic lifestyle and regular drug use meant that she frequently failed to get Child D ready for school. The home environment was felt to be unsuitable for young children. Child D was five and a half at the start of the data collection. Child D lived with her mother, and had regular contact with her father who also misused drugs. Both parents were reluctant to engage with additional services, although Child D's father would occasionally attend a stay-and-play group at the local Sure Start children's centre with his daughter.

In early December 2008 the social worker was contacted by a child care worker at the children's centre who reported that Child D presented with bruises, allegedly caused by her mother's new partner. Along with concerns regarding the lack of improvements since the implementation of a Child Protection Plan, further investigation was instigated and the decision was taken for Child D to be placed in local authority foster care. A review was held 28 days after the child was placed and the Care Plan updated following that review. Child D remained on a Child Protection Plan whilst being looked after.

Total costs for Child D during the six-month data collection period^a

Social care activity costs (London costs)			
Process	Frequency	Unit cost	Sub-total
Child in Need processes			
CiN 3 – ongoing support	Two and a half months	£247	£618
Looked-after children processes ¹			
LAC1 – Decide child needs to be looked after		£1,142	£1,142
LAC3 – Maintaining the placement ²	Three and a half months		
LAC2 – Care planning		£224	£224
LAC6 – Review			£702
Cost of social care case management activity			£2,686
Additional services from other agencies (London costs)			
Sure Start stay and play group provided by Local authority (not social care)	Twice during the data collection period	£15 ³	£30
Cost of service provision from other providers			£30
Total cost incurred by children's social care for Child D during the 6-month period			£2,686
Total cost incurred for Child B during the 6-month period			£2,716

^a There was no evidence of additional support services being provided by social care during the study timeframe.

¹ Ward, H., Holmes, L. & Soper, J. (2008) *Costs and consequences of placing children in care*, Jessica Kingsley, London.

² The costs of maintaining the placement also include the weekly fees and allowance of the child's placement.

³ Tidmarsh, J. & Schneider, J. (2005) Typical costs of sure start local programmes in L. Curtis (ed.) *Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2005*, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

8.6 Common Assessment Framework (CAF)

The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is a standardised approach for assessing children and their families, to facilitate the early identification of additional needs and to promote a co-ordinated service response. CAF is underpinned by an integrated approach to support and has been designed for use by all professionals working with children and families with additional needs who do not meet the threshold for more intensive interventions such as those associated with children's social care or safeguarding.¹ Information for tables 8.6.1-8.6.3 has been provided by researchers from the Centre for Child and Family Research, Loughborough.¹

The study used a bottom-up costing methodology,² which uses social care activity time data as the basis for building up unit unit costs. The unit costs per hour are based on average salaries for each staff type using national salary scales and applying oncosts and overheads as presented in this publication.

8.6.1 Family A: support from a lead professional (LP)

Family A live in London and consists of Jennifer, who has two sons, Ryan and Jack, aged 8 and 4 respectively. Jennifer and the boys' father had recently separated. Jennifer contacted CAMHS after discovering that Ryan had been self-harming.

CAHMS informed Jennifer that they had a six-month waiting list for assessments but referred their case onto 'Family Help', a voluntary organisation that supports vulnerable children and families. The service manager completed a CAF, although a pre-CAF checklist was not completed. A family support worker from Family Help was allocated to support their case and was identified as the lead professional for the child and family.

Following the completion of the CAF assessment, the support worker visited the child and family on a fortnightly basis. Team Around the Child (TAC) meetings were not held, and the support worker continued to support the child and family until a CAHMS assessment was offered. The child and family were not in receipt of other additional services at this time. Jennifer reported that the support they had received from Family Help had been extremely useful and that Ryan's self-harming behaviour had reduced. Jennifer reported that she thought that the CAF had helped her family.

Total costs for family A during a six-month period

Social care activity costs (London costs)			
Process	Frequency	Unit cost	Sub-total
Process 2: CAF assessment completed by service manager		£347	£347
Process 4: ongoing support from the family support worker	Fortnightly visits for 6 months ³	£52	£636
Total cost of CAF support for Family A during the 6-month period			£983

¹ Holmes, L., McDermid, S., Padley, M. & Soper, J. (2012) *Exploration of the costs and impact of the Common Assessment Framework* (Research Report DFE-RR210), Department for Education, London.

² Beecham, J. (2000) *Unit costs – not exactly child's play: a guide to estimating unit costs for children's social care*, Department of Health, Dartington Social Research Unit and the Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent; Ward, H., Holmes, L. & Soper, J. (2008) *Costs and consequences of placing children in care*, Jessica Kingsley, London.

³ Holmes, L. & McDermid, S. (2012) *Understanding costs and outcomes in child welfare services: a comprehensive costing approach to managing your resources*, Jessica Kingsley, London. (This suggests that the average time for a home visit is 1 hour 40 minutes, including travel time.)

8.6.2 Family B: support from a range of services

Mother, Michelle, lives with her daughter Sophie, aged 13. Michelle suffers with anxiety and depression and finds it very difficult to leave the house. Concerns were raised by Sophie's school about her behaviour and a reduction in attendance; subsequently they referred the child and family to a voluntary organisation, 'Family Help', after completing a pre-CAF checklist. A worker from Family Help completed a CAF assessment and decided that Michelle and her daughter would benefit from additional support, both to improve Sophie's behaviour and to support Michelle with her mental health difficulties and parenting. A family support worker was identified as the lead professional (LP). One Team Around the Child (TAC) meeting was held, which Michelle attended, along with the support worker and the school education welfare officer.

Michelle received one-to-one parenting support, once a week for 8 weeks, and then attended a parenting course over 8 weeks. Sophie received one-to-one support in school from a learning mentor. The LP continued to co-ordinate the support and provided a 12-week focused piece of family support, visiting Michelle and Sophie on a weekly basis.

Michelle said that the LP had been extremely supportive and thought that the other services provided as a result of the CAF had helped her and Sophie: she would have liked more of the intensive parenting support offered by the LP, and reported that Sophie's behaviour in school had improved.

Total costs for family B during the six-month period

Social care activity costs (out of London costs)			
Process	Frequency	Unit cost	Sub-total
Process 1: pre-CAF checklist completed by education welfare officer	Once	£18	£18
Process 2: completion of the CAF assessment by family support worker	Once	£177	£177
Process 3: TAC meeting attended by family support worker	Once	£206	£206
Process 3: TAC meeting attended by education welfare officer	Once	£27	
Process 4: ongoing support of lead professional by family support worker	Over five and a half months	£168	£925
Cost of case management activity			£1,326
Additional services (out of London costs)			
Parenting course	Once a week for 8 weeks	£50 ¹	£343
One-to-one parenting support	Once a week for 8 weeks	£53	£425
Focused family support	Once a week for 12 weeks	£50	£604
Total cost of additional support			£1,372
Total cost of CAF support incurred for Family B during the 6-month period			£2,698

¹ Tidmarsh, J. & Schneider, J. (2005) Typical costs of sure start local programmes, in L. Curtis (ed.) *Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2005*, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

8.6.3 Family C: CAF as a step up to social care

Kyle, aged 13, lives with his mother, Louise, and four year old brother, Robert. A CAF was initiated in January 2011 by the school due to concerns about Kyle's deteriorating behaviour at home and school. Kyle has long-standing mental health difficulties, anxieties about new situations and had difficulties making friends. Louise also had mental health difficulties and there were concerns about her capacity to maintain the children's food and drink intake. There were also some concerns about Louise's offending behaviour.

The CAF was undertaken by the school learning mentor, and a Team Around the Child (TAC) meeting was convened. The TAC was attended by the learning mentor, an educational psychologist, and a family support worker from Children's Services. Prior to the initial TAC meeting, Kyle had been permanently excluded from school after his behaviour became untenable and was placed at another school at the end of March 2011. A referral was also made to the children's social care emergency duty team by a hospital doctor following concerns about Louise's mental health. The social care team were aware that a CAF was in process and therefore no further action was taken.

A number of services were initiated to support the child and family; ADHD support was provided to both Kyle and Louise. They saw the ADHD nurse on a monthly basis. A family support worker was also identified to address some of Kyle's behavioural difficulties. The family support worker visited the family once a week for 8 weeks. Despite some improvements, the family suffered a number of setbacks and was referred to children's social care in July 2011. The CAF case was closed, and a child protection plan was initiated.

Total costs for family C during the six-month period

Social care activity costs (out of London costs): CAF			
Process	Frequency	Unit cost	Sub-total
Process 1: Pre-CAF checklist completed by learning mentor	Once	£14	£14
Process 2: Completion of the CAF assessment by learning mentor	Once	£167	£167
Process 3: TAC meeting attended by learning mentor	Once	£284	£284
Educational psychologist		£41	
Family support worker		£26	
Process 4: Ongoing support of lead professional by learning mentor	Five months	£159	£796
Process 5: Case closure			£92
Cost of case management activity for CAF			£1,353
Social care activity costs (out of London): social care			
CiN process 1: initial contact and referral with no further action			£225
CiN process 1: initial contact and referral			£202
CiN process 7: Section 47 enquiry			£555
Total cost of care management activity for social care			£982
Additional services (out of London costs)			
ADHD nurse	Once a month for 6 months	£47	£280
Family support worker	Once a week for 8 weeks	£43 ¹	£346
Total cost of additional services			£626
Total cost of CAF support incurred for Family C during the 6-month period			£2,335
Total cost of support for Family C during the 6-month period			£2,961

¹ Curtis, L. (2014) *Unit Costs of Health and Social Care*, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

8.7 Services for children returning home from care

A child is recorded as returning home from an episode of care if he or she ceases to be looked after by returning to live with parents or another person who has parental responsibility. This includes a child who returns to live with their adoptive parents but does not include a child who becomes the subject of an adoption order for the first time, nor a child who becomes the subject of a residence or special guardianship order.¹

In light of the research findings about the lack of support leading to breakdown of reunification in some circumstances, the Department for Education has worked with Loughborough University to draw up a number of scenarios reflecting the costs of returning children home based on a range of ages, circumstances and placement types.

Information for tables 8.7.1 to 8.7.4 has been drawn from a study commissioned by the Childhood Wellbeing Research Centre and undertaken by the Centre for Child and Family Research (CCFR) at Loughborough University.¹ They make use of existing unit costs that have been estimated in previous research studies carried out by the CCFR.^{2,3,4} The aim of this work was to provide a series of estimated unit cost trajectories for children returning home from care. The care illustrates examples of the support received by children between January 2012 and January 2013.

The unit costs used are based on estimates for the 2014/15 financial year. Where costs have been taken from research completed in previous years, they have been inflated to 2014/15. The unit costs of support foster care have been estimated for the Fostering Network, and have been included in these case studies with their permission.⁵

¹ Department for Education (2013) *Data pack: improving permanence for looked after children*, <http://www.education.gov.uk/a00227754/looked-after-children-data-pack/> [accessed 1 October 2013].

² Ward, H., Holmes, L. & Soper, J. (2008) *Costs and consequences of placing children in care*, Jessica Kingsley, London.

³ Holmes, L., McDermid, S., Padley, M. & Soper, J. (2012) *Exploration of the costs and outcomes of the Common Assessment Framework*, Department of Health, London.

⁴ Holmes, L. & McDermid, S. (2012) *Understanding costs and outcomes in child welfare services*, Jessica Kingsley, London.

⁵ The Fostering Network and Holmes, L. (2013) *Unit Costs of Support Care*, The Fostering Network, London.

8.7.1 Child A – low level of Child in Need support on return home from care

Child A became looked after under Section 20 arrangements at the age of five. Child A was placed with grandparents out of the area of the local authority under kinship placement arrangements. The placement lasted for three months and, on return home, formal support was not provided; however, the grandmother provided ongoing informal support to the family. In October 2012 Child A became looked after again and returned to the care of the grandmother.

Social care processes (case management)			
Process	Frequency	Unit cost	Sub-total
LAC 1 – became LAC (looked-after child)	Twice	£1,302	£2,604
LAC 2 – care plan	Once a fortnight	£246	£491
LAC 3 – ongoing placement support	Six months in total	£2,985	£17,910
LAC 4 – return home	Once	£424	£424
LAC 6 – review	Twice	£631	£1,262
Total social care case management costs per year			£22,691

8.7.2 Child B – high level of Child in Need support on return home from care

Child B first became looked after as a baby and was placed with local authority foster carers when an interim care order was obtained. In February 2011, Child B returned home and a high level of (Child in Need) support was provided to the family over the year and Child B's parent was provided with drug and alcohol treatment services.

Social care processes (case management)			
Process	Frequency	Unit cost	Sub-total
CiN 3 – ongoing support	12 months	£204	£2,443
CiN 6 – planning and review	3 times	£234	£703
Cost of social care case management activity			£3,146
Additional services costs (out of London)			
Drug and alcohol treatment services	Once a fortnight	£123	£3,208
Total social care case management costs per year			£6,354

8.7.3 Child C – high level of Child in Need support and support foster care provided on return home from care

Child C was placed in a specialist therapeutic foster care community placement outside the area of the placing authority between September 2011 and October 2012. Prior to this placement, Child C had experienced two other placements and was accommodated under Section 20 arrangements.¹ Child C had emotional and behavioural problems, and was aged 11 at the start of the specialist placement included. On return home in October 2012, Child C was referred to receive support foster care. A support foster care family was identified, and respite care was provided by the carers for one overnight stay per week. The case also remained open as a CiN/support foster care case, and this support continued until March 2013.

Social care processes (case management)			
Process	Frequency	Unit cost	Sub-total
LAC 2 – carer plan	Twice	£245	£489
LAC 3 – ongoing placement support	10 months	£12,189	£121,892
LAC 4 – return home	Once	£424	£424
LAC 6 – review	Twice	£631	£1,263
Support foster care – ongoing	2 months	£707	£1,415
Support foster care – referral	Once	£403	£403
Total social care case management costs per year			£125,886

¹ Department for Education (2012) *Children in care*, <http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/safeguardingchildren/a0068940/children-in-care/> [accessed 10 September 2013].

8.7.4 Child D – ongoing support provided by an independent fostering provider on return home from care

Child D was placed with Intensive Foster Placement (IFP) foster carers in June 2010, aged 16, after a care order was obtained. Child D had emotional and behavioural difficulties and remained in the placement until August 2011. On return home in March 2012. Child D continued to be supported by the IFP, and there was a good working relationship between the foster carers and birth family. The support continued until the end of March 2012. The timeline below shows the CiN support provided during the first three months of 2012.

Social care processes (case management)			
Process	Frequency	Unit cost	Sub-total
CiN 3 – ongoing support	3 months	£1,102	£3,306
CiN 4 – close case	Once	£101	£101
Total social care case management costs per year			£3,407

8.8 Support care for children

Support care is short-term preventative foster care aimed at families in crisis, with a view to avoiding a child being taken into care full-time and long-term. Support carers look after the child on a part-time basis, while at the same time a package of other support services is offered to the family, giving them space, guidance and help to work through their problems.

The information reproduced below has been drawn from the *Unit Costs of Support Care* (2013).¹ The report demonstrates that support care, including the accompanying support services for families, has a far lower unit cost than the foster care it replaces.

As well as helping struggling families stay together, support care also helps family and friends' carers such as grandparents, who report that they struggle when children are first placed with them. It can also help to prevent adoption breakdown, and be a breathing space for some families whose disabled children do not reach the criteria for short breaks but desperately need help.

Using a range of pre-existing process unit costs (for example, referrals, reviews and ongoing support),² the costs of support care, using individual case studies as illustrative examples, are presented in tables 8.8.1 and 8.8.2. Comparative costs if the local authority had been required to place them as looked-after children are also shown. Costs have been updated to current prices using the PSS pay & prices inflator.

The first case study (8.8.1) shows that, for Family A, the costs would have been much higher if the local authority had been required to place them as looked-after children. The cost to look after the three children in local authority foster care for one year is £131,151 which is nearly nine times higher than the estimated social care costs of providing support care for the same duration (£14,643).

The second case study (8.8.2) shows that the total estimated cost to look after Child B in local authority foster care for one year is £47,080 – four times higher than the estimated social care costs of providing support care for the same duration (£11,644).

¹ The Fostering Network and Holmes, L. (2013) *Unit costs of support care*, the Fostering Network, London.

² Taken from: Ward, H., Holmes, L. & Soper, J. (2009) *Costs and consequences of placing children in care*, Jessica Kingsley, London; Holmes, L. & McDermid, S. (2012) *Understanding costs and outcomes in child welfare services: a comprehensive costing approach to managing your resources*, Loughborough University; Holmes, L., McDermid, S., Padley, M. & Soper, J. (2012) *Exploration of the costs and impact of the Common Assessment Framework*, Department for Education, London.

8.8.1 Family A – support care for a sibling group

Family A were referred to support care following social work concerns about their living arrangements and the deterioration in family relationships. The family consisted of 11 children living with their mother and step-father in a small three-bedroom house. In addition to support care, the family were engaged with a housing support service, budgeting advice, parenting classes and ongoing social work support.

Support care was initially offered to three members of the family: Jack aged 15, Samantha aged 8 and Jordan aged 7. Different support carers were identified for each of the children and they were offered one overnight stay with support carers once a fortnight.

Family A: support care and annual social care costs

Process	Process unit cost	Social work cost	Fostering cost
1 Referral	£400	£250	£149
2 Ongoing support	(£231 x 12) and (£111 x 12)	£2,768	£1,330
2 Ongoing support	[(£150/7) x 26] x 3 + [(£432/7) x 26] x 3		£6,486
3 Review	£84 x 8 and £69 x 8	£669	£555
4 Case closure	£283	£249	£35
Total		£3,936	£8,555

Annual costs of other support or services provided alongside support care

Support or service	Frequency/duration	Unit cost	Sub-total
Parenting programme	One course – group	£510	£510
Housing support	Once a fortnight	£32	£821
Budgeting advice	Once a fortnight	£32	£821
Total cost of other support or services			£2,152

Family A: social care costs for looked-after children

These costs include the activity to find the first placement for the three siblings, to review the case (using statutory timeframes of 28 days, three-monthly and six-monthly intervals), update care plans and also support the children in their placements. The costs of these processes are detailed below:

Process	Cost
1: Decide children need to be looked after and find first placement	£984
2: Care plans: Updated three times following reviews for each of the children	£2,184
3: Maintain the placements: Support and placement costs (£804 per child per week)	£126,106
6: Review: Held on three occasions during the year	£1,877

8.8.2 Child B – Support care for a single child

Child B (aged six) was referred for support care as a result of housing and financial concerns. He was living with his father and step-mother, along with five other children, in a two-bedroom property throughout the week, and a further three children stayed at weekends. Space and overcrowding were key concerns, as were the financial pressures.

Child B was offered support care for one overnight stay per week at the weekend. Child B's father also agreed to attend support sessions for parenting and budgeting. Child B continued with weekly visits to his support carers for six months, until his family secured larger accommodation. He then continued to receive support care, on a fortnightly basis for three further months before being reduced to monthly stays. Child B and his family no longer required support care or other support services after 12 months.

Child B: support care and annual social care unit costs

Process	Process unit cost	Social work cost	Fostering cost
1.Referral	£394	£251	£149
2.Ongoing support	(£227 x 12) and (£108 x 12)	£2,765	£1,321
2.Ongoing support	[(£148/7) x 42] and [(£424/7) x 42]		£3,492
3.Review	(£82 x 8) and £68	£669	£561
4.Case closure	£279	£249	£35
Total		£3,934	£5,558

Annual costs of other support or services, provided alongside support care

Support or service	Frequency/duration	Unit cost	Sub-total
Parenting programme	Once course – group	£510	£510
Housing support	Six sessions	£32	£821
Budgeting advice	Once a fortnight	£32	£821
Total cost of other support or services			£2,152

Child B's: social care costs for looked-after children

The costs for child B would also have been much higher if the local authority had been required to place him as a looked-after child. The costs below include the activity to find the first placement for Child B, to review the case (using statutory timeframes of 28 days, three-monthly and six-monthly intervals), update his care plan and also support child B in his placement. The costs of these processes are detailed below:

Process	Cost
1. Decide child needs to be looked-after and find first placement	£984
2. Care plans: Updated three times following reviews	£2,184
3. Maintain the placements: Support and placement costs (£793 per week)	£42,035
6. Review: Held on three occasions during the year (3 x £614)	£1,878
Total	£47,080

8.9 Young adults with acquired brain injury in the UK

Acquired brain injury (ABI) is 'a non-degenerative injury to the brain occurring since birth', including both open and closed head injuries. ABI includes a range of diagnoses or causes, including strokes or tumours. Head injury through trauma is a common cause among young adults. ABI is not thought to affect life expectancy after the initial acute phase, so the prevalence of long-term brain damage is high at 100-150 per 100,000 population, implying a total of 60,000-90,000 people in the UK (<http://www.rhn.org.uk/>).

A study was undertaken by the Personal Social Services Research Unit to identify the health and social care services used by young adults aged 18-25 years with acquired brain injury (ABI) and the associated costs.¹ The study identified the annual incidence of ABI in this age group, and then tracked the young adults' likely progress through four support-related stages: trauma, stabilisation, rehabilitation and return to the community. By identifying the numbers using different treatment locations and services at each stage, a picture of service use and costs could be built up over a notional 12-month period following injury. All costs have been updated to 2014/2015 prices using the HCHS pay & prices Inflation.

Four broad groups of young people with ABI were identified by their location at the community care stage.

Group 1 comprises the largest proportion of those sustaining brain injuries and includes those who attend A&E with ABI or spend short periods in a hospital ward and then return home. A small proportion, perhaps just one in five, will have follow-up appointments arranged at an outpatient clinic or with their GP. This group will generally have had a mild head injury and no longer-term disability, although 20 per cent of this group may continue to have residual symptoms six months after injury.

Group 1: Average cost per person = £306 per year.

People in Group 2 are also likely to have returned to their own homes within a year, but are more seriously disabled and rely on personal care support provided by spouses, parents or other informal carers. This group may include those who are discharged home from longer-term residential rehabilitation (34% of patients discharged), from acute brain injury units (25%) and from neurosurgery units (23%). It is likely that at least 40 per cent of them will require at least part-time support or supervision from informal carers.

Group 2: Average costs per person = £21,888 per year.

The third group of young adults with ABI are those whose pathway towards the end of a year will see them living in supported accommodation with formal (paid) personal carers. Some will have been discharged straight from hospital and some will have stayed in a rehabilitation facility prior to moving to supported living. One in four of these young adults will need overnight supervision, and three in four will need at least part-time supervision during the day. The number of young adults may be quite high, but some will move on to more independent living. Others will need this type of support for many years to come. For cost estimates, it has been assumed this group will live in community-based housing with low staffing levels during the day and 'sleeping-in' staff at night. In addition to personal care, they are also likely to use outpatient clinics and community-based therapists. Personal care costs (estimated at an average of 8 hours overnight 'sleeping-in' and 6 hours during the day) would amount to £548 per week. Use of community-based therapy and health care services would add another £637 by the end of the notional 12-month period.

Group 3: Average cost per person = £41,964 per year.

The fourth group includes young adults who are likely to be among the most severely disabled. Although some will be supported at home, it is estimated that 310 will be resident in nursing homes for young adults, specialist ABI residential units, in longer-stay hospital wards or in mental health units. They are likely to have been the most severely injured. Some of the principal independent providers contacted for this research reported current prices for residential placements of up to £3,188 per week, often jointly funded by health and social services. Nursing homes and 'young disability units' are likely to be less costly. However, nursing home care may not be appropriate for people with severe ABI-related disability as there tend to be few qualified staff and low input from local community-based teams or specialist doctors.

Group 4: Average cost per person = £43,240 per year.

¹ Beecham, J., Perkins, M., Snell, T. & Knapp, M. (2009) Treatment paths and costs for young adults with acquired brain injury in the United Kingdom, *Brain Injury*, 23, 1, 30-38.

8.10 Palliative care for children and young people

The government's manifesto commitment to improve palliative care services in 2006¹ resulted in an independent review of children's palliative care services commissioned by the Secretary of State for Health.² This independent review was based on findings from a wide consultation with stakeholders, including children and young people and their families, commissioners and providers of services, along with commissioned research from Department of Health and the York Health Economics Consortium.

Information for this table has been drawn from the work carried out by the York Health Economics Consortium³ which provides examples of illness trajectories and the resulting costs for children in need of palliative care. All costs have been updated using the appropriate inflators to provide current prices. See Lowson et al. (2007) for more information on the cost benefits of using community care instead of hospital services.

8.10.1 Short illness trajectory: cancer

This generic pathway was developed for a child with cancer from data provided by Sargent Cancer Care for Children and Cancer and Leukaemia in Childhood (CLIC Sargent). It was triangulated with information collected during focus groups which included two parents, both of whose children had died: one from a form of leukaemia, the second from bone cancer.

A child with cancer	Cost per year
Health costs	
During one year:	
Three inpatient stays	£7,485
One ward attendance per month	£706
One day care episode per fortnight	£4,129
One home visit per week, including intensive bereavement support	£8,870
Sub-total	£21,190
It was assumed that the child died at home with intensive community support and that there was no uptake of respite care. It was also assumed that there were no costs accruing to education and social services	
Financial burden on the family	
One family member gives up paid employment	£15,972
Significant financial cost to family	£7,965
Sub-total	£23,937
Total costs (including financial burden on the family)	£45,127

¹ Cochrane, H., Liyanage, S. & Nantambi, R. (2007) *Palliative care statistics for children and young adults*, Department of Health, London. http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsStatistics/DH_074701

² Craft, A. & Killen, S. (2007) *Palliative care services for children and young people in England*, Department of Health, London. http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_074459

³ Lowson, K., Lowson, P. & Duffy, S. (2007) *Independent review of palliative care services for children and young people: economic study*, Final Report, York Health Economics Consortium, Department of Health Independent Review Team, London.

8.10.2 Longer life illness trajectories: cardiac care

This pathway has been developed for a typical child being treated by a community-based team. The information was provided by parents at a focus group.

A child aged 15 months with a cardiac condition	Cost per year
Health costs	
During one year	
Inpatient stay of 5 days in local hospital for respiratory infection	£2,495
Inpatient stay of 4 weeks in paediatric cardiac unit including 1 week in PICU	£50,666
Inpatient stay of 6 days in local hospital for viral infection	£2,495
Inpatient stay of 6 weeks in paediatric cardiac unit including 2 weeks in PICU	£78,901
One outpatient visit per month to local team	£2,117
One home visit per week by community team	£8,870
One telephone contact per week	£367
Sub-total	£145,911
Social care costs	
The child attends a pre-school special needs nursery	£3,788
Uses wheelchair and has home equipment	£6,895
Sub-total	£10,683
Respite care costs	
Assumptions re. respite care (based on focus groups and published evidence)	
15 days per year at hospice	£16,233
6 hours per week at home	£9,136
Sub-total	£36,052
Financial burden on the family	
Family in receipt of carer allowance	£0 ¹
One family member gives up paid employment	£15,972
Significant financial cost to family	£7,965
Sub-total	£23,937
Total costs (including financial burden on the family)	£205,900

¹ Expenditure on social security/welfare benefits could partly double-count the costs of lost employment for parents so have been estimated at £0.

8.10.3 Longer life illness trajectories: cystic fibrosis

This pathway has been developed for a typical child being treated by a community-based team. The information was provided by parents at a focus group.

A child aged 5 years with cystic fibrosis	Cost per year
Health costs	
During one year:	
Two inpatient stays in local hospital for receipt of intravenous antibiotics	£8,390
One outpatient visit per month to local team comprising consultant paediatrician and consultant respiratory paediatrician	£8,470
Four visits per year to speech and language therapist	£1,797
One home visit per fortnight by community team	£414
One telephone contact per week	£4,435
	£367
Sub-total	23,872
Social care costs	
The child attends mainstream school with support	£6,787
Uses wheelchair and has home equipment	£6,895
Sub-total	£13,682
Respite care (based on focus groups and published evidence)	
15 days per year at hospice	£16,233
6 hours per week at home	£9,136
Sub-total	£24,632
Financial burden on family	
One family member gives up paid employment	£15,972
Significant financial cost to family	£7,965
Sub-total	£23,937
Total costs	£86,123

8.10.4 Longer life illness trajectories: child with multiple disabilities

This pathway has been developed for a typical child being treated by a community-based team. The information was provided by parents at a focus group.

An older child with complex and multiple needs. The child has renal problems and seizures, with visual impairment and intellectual difficulties. The child and family are in contact with five specialities: paediatric endocrinology, paediatric gastroenterology, neurosurgery, ophthalmology, child psychiatry.	Cost per year
Health costs In one year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One inpatient stay in tertiary centre for neurosurgery One inpatient stay for dental extraction One outpatient visit per week for blood tests One outpatient visit per month for specialist reviews Two CT scans Two MRI scans Three EEGs Four visits per year to clinical psychologist Four visits per year to speech and language therapist One face-to-face visit per month by community team One home visit per fortnight by community team One telephone contact per fortnight with community team 	£16,331 £1,179 £9,175 £2,117 £303 £790 £349 £1,797 £414 £2,047 £4,094 £184
Sub-total	£38,781
Social care costs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The child attends a school for children with special educational needs Uses wheelchair and has home equipment 	£3,645 £6,895
Sub-total	£10,540
Respite care (based on focus groups and published evidence) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 days per year at hospice 6 hours per week at home 	£16,233 £9,136
Sub-total	£24,898
Financial burden on the family <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family in receipt of carer allowance One family member gives up paid employment Significant financial cost to family 	£0 ¹ £15,972 £7,965
Sub-total	£23,937
Total costs (including financial burden on the family)	£98,246

¹ Expenditure on social security/welfare benefits could partly double-count the costs of lost employment for parents so have been estimated at £0.

8.11 Residential parenting assessments

The following tables illustrate examples of the support given to families who are supported during a residential parenting assessment (RPA) from independent providers. These costs have been drawn from a study carried out by the Institute of Education, London and the Centre for Child and Family Research (CCFR) at Loughborough University, in which the use and costs of RPAs in local authorities was explored.¹ Three local authorities took part in an in-depth case analysis of 10 or 11 cases in which an RPA had been used. The unit costs of social care processes and support are based on previous research carried out by CCFR,² and the weekly cost of the RPA is the rate charged to the local authority by the independent RPA provider.

Three examples are presented in this table. Each illustrates different RPA support package and the outcome for the families over a 12-month period during 2011 and 2012, along with the variation of the costs incurred. We show the costs for relevant social care processes and other services provided.

¹ Munro, E., Hollingworth, K., Meetoo, V., Quay, K., McDermid, S., Trivedi, H. & Holmes, L. (2014) Residential parenting assessments: uses, costs and contributions to effective and timely decision-making in public law cases, Department for Education, London.

² Ward, H., Holmes, L., and Soper, J (2008) *The costs and consequences of placing children in care*. Jessica Kingsley Publishers, London; Holmes, L. & McDermid, S. (2012) *Understanding costs and outcomes of child welfare services: a comprehensive guide to managing your resources*, Jessica Kingsley, London. The costs have been inflated using the appropriate inflators.

Family A

The mother of this family received methadone replacement treatment and had previously had a child removed from her care. A pre-birth assessment was completed in 2010 for the current child and a child protection plan initiated. In Spring 2012 a court directed a residential parenting assessment (RPA). The RPA lasted 20 weeks. As part of the assessment the mother was provided with parenting advice and support. In the final six weeks of the RPA both parents received relationship guidance counselling from the provider. A psychiatric assessment of the mother was completed by an additional agency. It was concluded that the mother was unable to provide consistently good care and meet the baby's needs. At the end of the RPA the baby was placed with foster carers, and a Placement Order was granted in summer 2012 when the baby was two years old.

Social process costs	Frequency/ length	Unit cost	Sub-total
CiN – 3 high level – (CPP) ongoing support (per month)	5 months	£438	£2,190
CiN – 5 core assessment	Once	£624	£624
CiN – 8 legal activity	Once	£2,389	£2,389
Cost of CiN social care case management activity			£5,200
LAC – 1 child becomes looked after	Once	£1,021	£1,021
LAC – 5 find subsequent placement	Once	£323	£323
LAC – 3 ongoing support, in RPA (per day)	143 days	£41 (per day)	£5,863
LAC – 3 ongoing support, first 3 months of placement (per day)	90 days	£8 (per day)	£720
LAC – 3 ongoing support, LA foster care (per day)	99 days	£53 (per day)	£5,247
LAC – 3 fee & allowance foster care in LA (per week)	14 weeks	£166 (per week)	£2,325
LAC – 6 review	Once	£650	£650
LAC – 2 care planning	Once	£252	£252
LAC – 7 legal activity	Once	£4,397	£4,397
Cost of LAC social care case management activity			£20,798
Total cost of all social care case management activity			£26,001
Service provision costs			
RPA, including parenting support and relationship counselling for parent.	12 weeks and 8 weeks	£3,395 (per week for the RPA) £3,395 (per week for the relationship counselling)	£67,911
Drug & rehab programme	20 weeks	£54	£1,074
Parent psychiatric assessment	Once	£136	£136
Total cost of service provision			£69,121
Total costs of support for Family A			£95,122

Family B

In summer 2011 a court-directed RPA was to be initiated for Family B. The parents asked to be assessed as a couple. The parents and two children began the RPA that summer, during which time another baby was born. Due to aggressive incidences between the couple, the parents were separated into different facilities and assessed separately. During the period of the RPA the mother attended an intervention group for perpetrators of domestic abuse, completed a psychiatric assessment, and the children were also given a psychotherapy assessment. The father's individual RPA began with the two older children at the other facility. The mother's RPA with her new baby ended at the end of the summer due to her poor care skills and maltreatment of the baby. The baby was placed with the father and other siblings. A week of intensive parenting support to help him care for the young baby was provided by the RPA provider. The assessment was completed and the father was considered able to provide for the care needs of the children. The family was accommodated and a community assessment completed. The local authority concluded the father should be the primary carer, and in spring 2012 a Residence Order was granted for the three children and a Supervision Order for 12 months.

Family C

Social process costs	Frequency/ length	Unit cost	Sub-total
CiN – 3 ongoing support	5 days	£14.60	£73
CiN – 8 legal activity	Once	£2,389	£2,389
Cost of CiN social care case management activity			£2,462
LAC – 1 child becomes looked after	Once	£631	£631
LAC – 3 ongoing support, in RPA	135 days	£33 (per day)	£4,455
LAC – 3 ongoing support, placed with parent	156 days	£33 (per day)	£5,148
LAC – 3 ongoing support, first 3months of placement	90 days	£7.90 (per day)	£708
LAC – 6 review	Once	£650	£650
LAC – 2 care planning	Once	£252	£252
LAC – 7 legal activity	Once	£4,397	£4,397
LAC – 4 ongoing support	Once	£426	£426
Cost of LAC social care case management activity			£16,667
Total cost of all social care case management activity			£19,129
Service provision costs			
RPA initiated	12 weeks	£1,344 (per week)	£16,126
2nd RPA initiated	17 weeks	£1,344 (per week)	£22,845
Consultant paediatrician	Twice	£174 (per consultation)	£349
LA parenting support	12 weeks	£29 (per week)	£353
Parenting support and visits	6 weeks	£1,306 (per week)	£7,836
Parent psychiatric assessment	Once	£136	£136
Child psychotherapy assessment	Twice	£68 (per visit)	£136
Total cost of service provision			£47,781
Total costs of support for Family B			£66,910

In this family, three children have previously been removed and adopted; when it was apparent the mother wanted to raise the baby, a referral was made to social care. This referral led to an initial assessment in autumn 2011. The mother has a

diagnosis of depression, and both parents have learning difficulties. A core assessment was completed in spring 2012 and an RPA followed. This was to give the parents an opportunity to show they could care for the needs of the baby. The RPA began from birth in late spring 2012. The RPA was planned for 12 weeks, but the parents terminated the assessment early by leaving the unit. The father was asked to leave due his aggressive behaviour with staff and other service users, and then the mother left with him. The RPA lasted 8 weeks, until summer 2012. The baby was placed in local authority foster care and an interim care order was granted in late summer 2012, and a care order and placement order in winter 2012. The baby was placed a year later with adoptive parents who had previously adopted one of the baby's siblings.

Social process costs	Frequency/length	Unit cost	Sub-total
CiN – 3 medium level – ongoing support	5.5 months	£204 (per month)	£1,127
CiN – 5 core assessment	Once	£624	£624
Cost of CiN social care case management activity			£1,751
LAC – 1 child becomes looked after	Once	£1,021	£1,021
LAC – 5 find subsequent placement	Once	£323	£323
LAC – 3 ongoing support, during RPA	62 days	£33 (per day)	£2,045
LAC – 3 ongoing support, LA foster care	157 days	£54 (per day)	£8,425
LAC – 3 ongoing support, first 3 months of placement	90 days	£8 (per day)	£708
LAC – 3 additional support for care order	55 days	£10 (per day)	£577
LAC – 3 fee & allowance foster care in LA	23 weeks	£166 (per week)	£3,821
LAC – 6 review	Twice	£649	£1,300
LAC – 2 care planning	Twice	£252	£505
LAC – 7 legal	Once	£4,397	£4,397
Cost of LAC social care case management activity			£24,873
Total cost of all social care case management activity			£26,624
RPA initiated	8 weeks	£1,344 per week	£10,751
Total cost of service provision			£10,751
Total costs of support for Family C			£37,375

8.12 Acute medical units (patient costs following discharge)

Acute medical units (AMU) are the first point of entry for patients who are admitted for urgent investigation or care by their GP, an outpatient clinic or the Emergency Department. They allow for those who need admission to be correctly identified, and for those who could be managed in ambulatory settings to be discharged. A study (The Acute Medicine Outcome Study - AMOS) carried out by Franklin et al. in 2009/10 found that service evaluations indicated that readmission rates for older people in the year following discharge from AMUs are high.¹ Further work was therefore carried out to identify the resource use of 644 people based in Nottingham and Leicester, aged over 70, who had been discharged from an acute medical unit within 72 hours of admission.

Data were taken from Electronic Administrative Record (EAR) systems on a range of health and social care services potentially used by all patients participating in the study, collected for three months post-AMU discharge (January 2009-February 2011). Resource-use was then combined with national unit costs to derive total patient costs, which have been updated to 2014/15 prices using the HCHS inflation index. The table below provides the secondary care and social care resource use and costs for 456 patients residing in Nottingham, and also for a subset of these patients (250) for which the primary care costs were also available. The mean cost for the 456 patients (excluding primary care) was £1,892 and £2,107 for the 250 patients for which all resource use was available (see Table 1).

Table 1 Summary of patient resource use and costs over three months – costs have been updated using the HCHS inflator

	No of service users, (mean number of events per service user) (a)	Mean (SD) cost (£) for 456 patients	Mean (SD) cost (£) per patient in the complete data subset (n = 250)
Hospital care	360 (4)	£1,660 (£3,311)	£1,584 (£3,068)
Inpatient care (b)	119 (2)	£1,140 (£3,101)	£1,041 (£2,862)
Day case care	71 (1)	£140 (£405)	£149 (£450)
Outpatient care	358 (3)	£372 (£396)	£379 (£356)
Critical care (c)	3 (1)	£8 (£97)	£14 (£131)
Ambulance service	17 (2)	£19 (£114)	£15 (£81)
Intermediate care	5 (Not applicable)	£11 (£162)	£3 (£41)
Mental health care	28 (4)	£40 (£190)	£46 (£187)
Social care	76 (4)	£162 (£753)	£220 (£921)
Total costs (exc. primary care)	377 (5)	£1,892 (£3,523)	£1,869 (£3,369)
Primary care (d)	243 (6)	-	£238 (£250)
Consultations	113 (3)	-	£31 (£45)
Home visits	42 (7)	-	£26 (£105)
Procedures	25 (3)	-	£4 (£21)
Other events (e)	202 (22)	-	£55 (£58)
Medication	232 (21)	-	£112 (£142)
Wound dressings	64 (4)	-	£11 (£34)
Total costs including primary care (g)	248 (7)	-	£2,107 (£3,420)

SD: standard deviation

a) Mean number of events for inpatient care is based on mean number of episodes, and not number of spells. Mean number of events for 'total' does not include primary care events classed as 'other events', 'medication' or 'wound dressing'.

b) Mean length of hospital stay for those patients with an inpatient admission over the trial period was 12 days.

c) Mean length of intensive care stay for those patients with an intensive care admission was 15 days.

d) Mean number of events for primary care service users only includes face-to-face contacts (i.e. consultations, home visits, and procedures)

e) 'Other events' includes all non face-to-face entries on the EAR system that require staff time to execute, i.e. administration, telephone calls etc. Entries that were electronic and external to the practice or created by an electronically automated system (i.e. did not require staff time to execute) were excluded from this analysis.

g) Mean number of events includes only face-to-face contacts across all services apart from mental health care (see also point (d))

¹ Franklin, M., Berdunov, V., Edmans, J., Conroy, S., Gladman, J., Tanajewski, L., Gkountouras, G. & Elliott, R. (2014) Identifying patient-level health and social care costs for older adults discharged from acute medical units in England, *Age and Ageing*, 43, 703-707. Contact Matthew Franklin: Matthew.Franklin@sheffield.ac.uk for more information.

The figures presented in Table 2 are mean costs by service and mean total cost across services for patients described as high-cost patients. A high-cost patient represents the top 25 per cent of most costly patients, based on their overall health and social care cost (including primary care) for whom primary care data were available.

The mean cost for these high cost patients across all services excluding primary care was £6,059, and £6,435 when including primary care. These mean costs for high-cost patients are approximately three times higher than the mean cost estimates for all patient discharged from AMU in the complete data subset as presented in Table 1 (mean total cost excluding primary care: £6,059 versus £1,892; mean total cost including primary care: £6,435 versus £2,107).

Table 2 High-cost patients discharged from AMU (top 25% of most costly patients - costs have been updated using the HCHS inflator)

	No. of high-cost service users, (mean number of events per service user) (n = 63) (a)	Mean (SD) cost per high cost patient in the complete data subset (n = 63)
Hospital care	62 (6)	£5,113 (£4,504)
Inpatient care (b)	52 (3)	£3,972 (£4,594)
Day case care	24 (1)	£473 (£766)
Outpatient care	61 (4)	£611 (£368)
Critical care (c)	3 (1)	£57 (£258)
Ambulance service	5 (2)	£32 (£123)
Intermediate care	2 (not applicable)	£13 (£82)
Mental health care	12 (4)	£130 (£316)
Social care	27 (4)	£771 (£1,706)
Total costs (excl. primary care)	63 (9)	£6,059 (£4,587)
Primary care (d)	27 (11)	£376 (£382)
Consultations	26 (3)	£29 (£46)
Home visits	16 (12)	£64 (£192)
Procedures	4 (1)	£1 (£5)
Other events (e)	53 (28)	£82 (£77)
Medication	57 (32)	£181 (£203)
Wound dressings	22 (5)	£19 (£47)
Total costs including primary care	63 (14)	£6,435 (£4,550)

SD: standard deviation

a) Mean number of events for inpatient care is based on mean number of episodes, and not number of spells. Mean number of events for 'total' does not include primary care events classed as 'other events', 'medication' or 'wound dressing'.

b) Mean length of hospital stay for those patients with an inpatient admission over the trial period was 13 days.

c) Mean length of intensive care stay for those patients with an intensive care admission was 15 days.

d) Mean number of events for primary care service users only includes face-to-face contacts (i.e. consultations, home visits, and procedures)

e) 'Other events' includes all none face-to-face entries on the EAR system that requires staff time to execute, i.e. administration, telephone calls etc. Entries that were electronic and external to the practice or created by an electronically automated system (i.e. did not require staff time to execute) were excluded from this analysis.

g) Mean number of events includes only face-to-face contacts across all services apart from mental health care (see also point (d))

8.13 End-of-life care

Recent research carried out by the Nuffield Trust¹ on behalf of the National End of Life Care Intelligence Network has examined the health and social care service use patterns across seven local authorities for a cohort of 73,243 people who died.

Table 1 provides the total cost of care services received in the last twelve months of life and also the average cost per decedent and per user of each type of service. Estimated social care costs include only the most common types of services provided by local authorities. Hospital care accounted for 66 per cent of total care costs, and social care costs for 34 per cent of total costs.

Emergency hospital admissions were responsible for 71 per cent of all hospital costs in the final year of life and 46 per cent of total costs. Emergency admissions rose sharply in the final year such that, by the final month of death, costs had risen by a factor of 13 compared to 12 months earlier. They accounted for 85 per cent of hospital costs in the final month (£2,006 per decedent). Elective inpatient costs more than tripled in the same period (from £77 per decedent to £263 per decedent).

Table 1: Estimated average cost of care services in the last twelve months of life

	Total cost	Total cost per decedent	% total	No. of users	Total cost per user
Hospital care	£517	£7,055	66%	65,624	£7,874
Inpatient emergency	£367	£5,013	47%	54,577	£6,728
Inpatient non-emergency	£98	£1,337	12%	58,165	£1,684
Outpatient	£42	£575	5%	50,155	£840
A&R	£9	£129	1%	48,000	£197
Social care	£265	£3,615	34%	20,330	£13,024
Residential and nursing care	£212	£2,899	28%	10,896	£19,950
Home care	£41	£560	5%	10,970	£3,742
Other	£11	£156	1%	4,084	£2,798
Total	£781	£10,670	100%	NA	NA

One of the key findings of the research was that there were significant differences in the use of social care between groups of individuals with certain long-term conditions: people with dementia, falls and stroke were more likely to use social care services, while people with cancer were least likely to use social care (even when adjusted for age). Table 2 provides a breakdown of these groups, including prevalence rates and costs. A person may have more than one condition so the groups are not mutually exclusive, and the sum of individual rows exceeds the total. Hospital costs were higher for those with more than one long-term condition (as might be expected), and social care costs decreased with an increasing number of long-term conditions.

¹ Georghiou, T., Davies, S., Davies, A. & Bardsley, M. (2012) *Understanding patterns of health and social care at the end of life*, Nuffield Trust, London.

Table 2 Cost of hospital and social care services by diagnostic group per decedent in the final year of life

Diagnostic group	Average costs, final year, £ per person			
	Number	Hospital care	Social care	Hospital and social care
All people	73,243	£7,037	£3,616	£10,653
No diagnoses	22,118	£3,465	£4,443	£7,908
Any diagnosis	51,125	£8,582	£3,258	£11,840
Hypertension	21,241	£9,605	£2,989	£12,594
Cancer	19,934	£10,061	£1,396	£11,457
Injury	17,540	£10,365	£4,342	£14,707
Atrial fibrillation	13,567	£9,704	£3,540	£13,244
Ischaemic heart disease	13,213	£9,844	£3,016	£12,860
Respiratory infection	11,136	£10,772	£2,401	£13,173
Falls	10,560	£9,523	£5,497	£15,020
Congestive heart failure	10,474	£9,891	£3,425	£13,316
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	9,392	£9,662	£2,699	£12,362
Anaemia	9,210	£11,346	£3,255	£14,600
Diabetes	8,697	£9,875	£3,362	£13,237
Cerebrovascular disease	8,290	£9,724	£4,474	£14,198
Peripheral vascular disease	6,780	£11,204	£2,982	£14,186
Dementia	6,735	£8,111	£9,583	£17,694
Renal failure	6,570	£11,308	£3,441	£14,749
Angina	6,549	£10,574	£3,049	£13,623
Mental disorders, not dementia	4,814	£10,605	£3,874	£14,479
Iatrogenic conditions	4,190	£15,284	£2,716	£18,000
Asthma	3,480	£10,265	£2,662	£12,927
Alcoholism	2,437	£9,361	£1,243	£10,605
Non-rheumatic valve disorder	2,059	£11,525	£2,348	£13,873