RESOURCES
FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The Welsh Local Government Association estimates that local government in Wales is facing a cumulative shortfall of £750 million in social services funding by 2019-20.

Budget pressures in social care are rising as social care services are heavily concentrated on the most elderly and the population with learning disabilities.

Growing pressures on social services includes increasing demand for complex services linked to demographic change and the National Living Wages.

It is estimated that by 2035 the number of people aged over 65 living in Wales will increase by 35%.

The largest increase will be in the number aged 85 and older which is forecast to rise by 113% by 2035.

Latest figures reveal that dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease has overtaken heart disease as the leading cause of death in England and Wales.

In the WLGA submission to the Finance Committee’s inquiry on the Welsh Government’s draft budget proposals, it was estimated that inflation for the whole of Local Authority services is running at close to 6% over the period to 2019-20.

CSSiW’s domiciliary care review in Wales, published October 2016, highlighted the fragility of the social care market and concluded that current approaches are unsustainable.
Health Foundation (2016) stated that the sustainability challenge for the NHS is driven by:

- The ageing population.
- The increase in chronic conditions (especially coronary heart disease (CHD) or heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or asthma, and cancer.
- Availability of social care.
- The cost of pay.
- And, a mismatch of funding to meet the costs of these services.

Spending pressures on NHS Wales to 2030/31 shows a projected deficit of £3.9billion, equating to a 3.2% rise in costs per annum.

Projected spending pressures in Wales to 2030/31
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

► Our rapidly ageing population means that the number of older people is estimated to outstrip the number of working age family members as early as 2017

► More people born with disabilities are surviving into adulthood and later life

► Many more people are surviving serious illness such as cancer or stroke and those of us living with long term conditions increases demands for health and care services

► Across the UK, there are 1.87 million people employed in the care sector and 70% of people have personal or immediate family experience of using care services

► Public and private expenditure on care services is worth more than £30 billion per annum across the UK

► The sector employs one in ten of all females in employment

► The sector is diverse, with over 62,400 individual organisations providing care services

► Many are small and medium sized businesses with almost half of the social care workforce employed by private/commercial organisations and 93% of businesses employing less than 50 workers. 29% of workers are employed in the public sector

► There is a higher than average % of the social care workforce working part-time, with a disability or from an ethnic minority group
There is a continued reduction in employment within the public sector across the UK although across Western Bay the public sector is a major employer

More care workers are becoming employed by service users as the use of direct payments becomes more prevalent

There are rising costs for employers at a time budgets are shrinking, requiring more efficiencies and greater productivity

New technologies are changing the way in which some care is delivered – eg telecare

New service delivery models requires a greater degree of multi-disciplinary working with an emphasis on independent living skills

There are significant shortages in key staff groups, particularly professional groups, which mean that services will need to be delivered in a different way going forward, with more reliance on the third and independent sectors

Qualifications and attendant training remains an ongoing challenge across the social care sector which is increasingly regulated

Leadership, management and commissioning skills require attention to ensure organisations are equipped to deal with the challenges that face them