What a new data collection on Carers might look like

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Carers Data Collection

- Why do we need new data on Carers?
- What is currently collected on Carers?
- What is currently collected locally on Carers?
- What do we want to collect in future?
- How do we take this forward?

Why do we need new data on Carers?

- to understand whether the Act is having the desired effect
- understand current and forecast demand and associated resources
- build an evidence base to support policy development and practice
- inform business and resource planning
- For benchmarking purposes

- Data used by SG, Local partnerships, National Carers Organisations, researchers, others

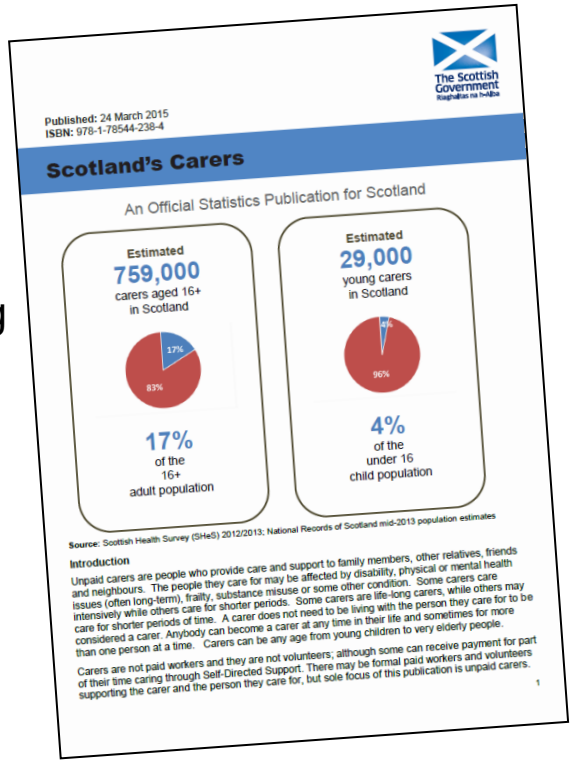
What is currently collected on Carers?

Scotland's Carers

Published 24th March 2015
Brings together statistical analysis and research on caring

Chapters:

1) Who provides care in Scotland?
2) Carers' Health and Wellbeing
3) Carers' Employment, Health and Finance
4) Support for Carers
5) Where do carers live?
6) Conclusions



The Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

Published: 24 March 2015
ISBN: 978-1-78544-238-4

Scotland's Carers

An Official Statistics Publication for Scotland

Estimated **759,000** carers aged 16+ in Scotland

17%

83%

17% of the 16+ adult population

Estimated **29,000** young carers in Scotland

4%

96%

4% of the under 16 child population

Source: Scottish Health Survey (SHeS) 2012/2013; National Records of Scotland mid-2013 population estimates

Introduction

Unpaid carers are people who provide care and support to family members, other relatives, friends and neighbours. The people they care for may be affected by disability, physical or mental health issues (often long-term), frailty, substance misuse or some other condition. Some carers care intensively while others care for shorter periods. Some carers are life-long carers, while others may care for shorter periods of time. A carer does not need to be living with the person they care for to be considered a carer. Anybody can become a carer at any time in their life and sometimes for more than one person at a time. Carers can be any age from young children to very elderly people.

Carers are not paid workers and they are not volunteers; although some can receive payment for part of their time caring through Self-Directed Support. There may be formal paid workers and volunteers supporting the carer and the person they care for, but sole focus of this publication is unpaid carers.

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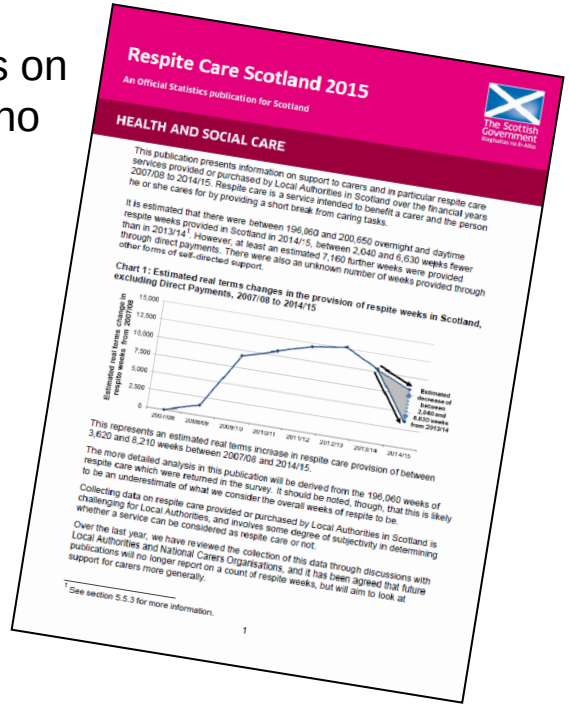
Respite Care, Scotland

Published 15th December 2015

Official Statistics on Respite Care – no longer being collected.



Respite Care Scotland 2015

An Official Statistics publication for Scotland

The Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

This publication presents information on support to carers and in particular respite care services provided or purchased by Local Authorities in Scotland over the financial years 2007/08 to 2014/15. Respite care is a service intended to benefit a carer and the person he or she cares for by providing a short break from caring tasks.

It is estimated that there were between 196,060 and 200,650 overnight and daytime respite weeks provided in Scotland in 2014/15, between 2,040 and 6,630 weeks fewer than in 2013/14[1]. However, at least an estimated 7,160 further weeks were provided through direct payments. There were also an unknown number of weeks provided through other forms of self-directed support.

Chart 1: Estimated real terms changes in the provision of respite weeks in Scotland, excluding Direct Payments, 2007/08 to 2014/15

This represents an estimated real terms increase in respite care provision of between 3,620 and 8,210 weeks between 2007/08 and 2014/15.

The more detailed analysis in this publication will be derived from the 196,060 weeks of respite care which were returned in the survey. It should be noted, though, that this is likely to be an underestimate of what we consider the overall weeks of respite to be.

Collecting data on respite care provided or purchased by Local Authorities in Scotland is challenging for Local Authorities, and involves some degree of subjectivity in determining whether a service can be considered as respite care or not.

Over the last year, we have reviewed the collection of this data through discussions with Local Authorities and National Carers Organisations, and it has been agreed that future publications will no longer report on a count of respite weeks, but will aim to look at support for carers more generally.

[1] See section S.5.3 for more information.

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Scotland's Census
Shaping our future

What is currently collected locally on Carers?

18 LAs responded to questionnaire on carers assessments in **December 2014**:

- **17** held information on Carer's Assessments within their local Management Information System
- **16** had information on **age** of carer
- **15** had information on **gender** of carer
- **13** had information of **ethnicity** of carer
- **7** had information on whether carer had a **disability**

Carers Assessments

- **13** had information on number of carers assessments **offered**
- **17** had information on number of carers assessments **completed**
- **11** had information on number of carers assessments **declined**
- **5** had information on the **reason why a carers assessment was declined**

13 regularly reported on the number of carers assessments being undertaken

16 said information was held in a way which allow easy reporting of number of carers assessments carried out each quarter

What do we want to collect in future?

- Equalities data
- Adult Carers Support Plan / Young Carers Statement
- Support provided to carers

Equalities / Carer characteristics

- Age
- Sex
- Ethnicity
- Disability
- Sexual Orientation
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Religion

- Hours spent caring each week

Equalities are important to consider in the baseline data collection . These are the nine protected characteristics under The Equality Act 2010.

- Which of these do you routinely collect for carers?

- Which of these should be reported nationally for carers?

Adult Carers Support Plan / Young Carers Statement

- ACSP / YCS offered or requested
  - Number Accepted
  - Number Declined
  - Number completed

It will be important to monitor the number of people coming forward for assessment and the services and support they receive?

- Do you already hold this type of information ?
- Do you carry out assessments in the council or use the 3rd sector?
- If assessments carried out by local carers centre does it make more sense for them to submit data directly.

Support provided to carers

- Is Carer eligible for support (Y/N)

Social Care Survey

already collects data on carers:

SDS options
SDS package value
SDS start / end dates
Contributors to SDS package
Assessed needs
Support purchased
Demographics
Client group

- Will there be carers who get a support package without a ACSP / YCS? How do we capture these carers?

- Some people will be carer and receive service because of disability. How do you currently deal with this?

Discussion

Equalities
Adult Support Care Plan
Carers
YCS
Respite
Data

How do we take this forward?

1) Develop more detailed specification and guidance. Probably need a short life working group (2-3 meetings) to take this forward – any volunteers? – Summer 2016

2) Consult with all Local Authorities on the guidance – Autumn 2016

3) Speak to software providers about new data proposals

4) Begin with a quarterly data collection to assess how easy to complete and to consider data quality – 1st quarter Jan-March 2017

5) Refine guidance, publish data and continue with quarterly collection

6) Once data quality is good, consider moving to less frequent (annual) collection

7) Continue to collect data on Carers for 2016/17 Social Care Survey