

Scoping Carers Centres Funding



- Carers Centre Funding Survey 2023
- The impact of increased National Insurance contributions – March 2025
- Scoping Local Authority Funding, 2025 to 2026

“With no increase in funding or reduced expectation in what we need to deliver within our contract it means we are, yet again, being squeezed, which has a huge impact on our staff and our ability to deliver the service we all aspire to.”

Carers Centre Funding Survey 2023



- Referrals to local carer organisations increased by an average of 41% with more complex issues and carers in crisis.
- 42% of local carer organisations reported being on one year funding cycle.

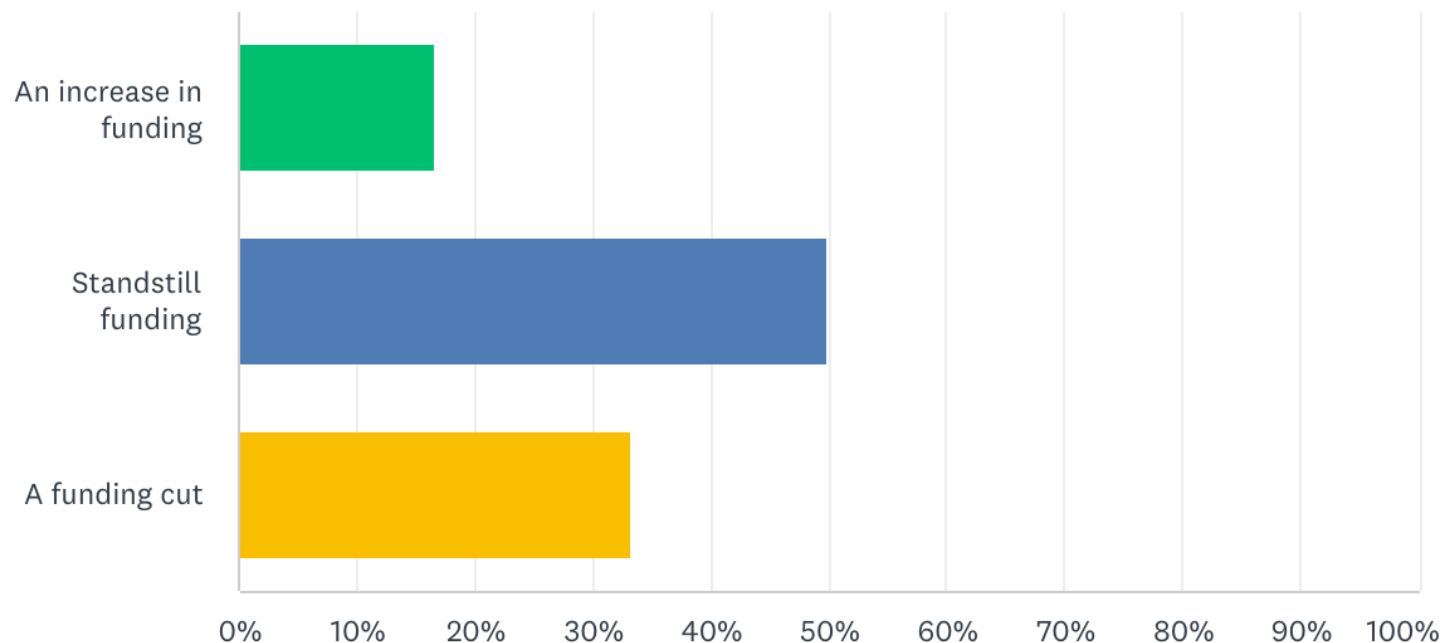
“Whilst the number of new referrals has gone up, we are also still supporting carers registered in previous years. We will have contact with around half of these during the year”

Increased National Insurance Contributions

- Anticipated cost to carers centres
 - almost £400k in year one.
- Variation of £1172 up to almost £100k 64% organisations are planning to use their reserves in year one.
- 96% of respondents said reported an impact on sustainability, with 36% reporting a substantial risk.

“This will have a crippling effect on our plans for the service at a time when demand is rapidly increasing.”

Local Authority Funding 25/26



- 1 in 3 carers centres received a cut to their funding
- 17% received an increase in funding.
- 50% received standstill funding
- The range of cuts was 2% to 20%

Impact on Services

We will have to reduce staff numbers	32%
We will have to support fewer carers	28%
We will have to withdraw specialist services	20%
We will have to reduce the volume of core services	28%

“Carers will need to wait longer to receive support as we are unable to recruit for lost Carer Support Worker hours.”

“We're balancing on the edge of a cliff. Each IJB meeting we attend we're informed of the worsening financial position faced.”

Wider Cuts to Social Care



Edinburgh City Council Cuts of £29M

- Clawing back unspent Direct Payments
- Cuts to day services for older people
- Cuts to Learning disability and mental health services

Glasgow City Council – Savings of £42.5M

- Cuts to supported living and counselling

Public Health Scotland figures

- 10,000 people waiting for care at home

False Economy

“We are stopping Young Carer Time Out groups and closing our phones on a Friday afternoon as we don't have capacity to cover.

Frankly we are at breaking point.

We support around 1400 carers each year. Carers save an average of £22,000. If just 3 carers stop caring, it will wipe the savings the local authority have made”

Actions

- Challenging cuts to individuals using policy and legislation
- Gathering evidence
- Political Influence and campaigning
 - Meeting MSPs / Parliamentary Committees
 - Manifesto Campaign
- Collective Action
 - Joint Collective Groups
 - Participate in campaigns
 - Contact Councillors and MSPs