

Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Sections 31 and 32 of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 impose duties on Scottish public bodies to publish information on expenditure and certain other matters as soon as is reasonably practicable after the end of each financial year.

For the financial year ended 31 March 2021, the following information is required;

Duty to provide information on certain expenditure

Section 31(1) and (2) requires us to publish details of any expenditure incurred in the previous financial year on or in connection with the following matters:

Public Relations

We spent £237,370 on communications in 2020-21 informing the public and disseminating information. This figure consists of staff costs and external agencies.

The amount above includes £16,006 spent by the Commission on core activities, the bulk of this spend was made up of staff costs as an increasing amount of communications is now via our website.

It also includes £24,853 costs incurred by the National Confidential Forum (NCF) primarily on closure activities.

Overseas Travel

We spent £nil on overseas travel.

Hospitality and Entertainment

We spent £Nil in 2020-21 as all meetings were held remotely during the year.

External Consultancy

We spent £106,476 on external consultancy as follows;

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Activity	Core	NCF
IT infrastructure review	£ 4,099	£ -
Organisational development	£ 36,504	£ 5,460
Policy development	£ 20,188	£ 40,225
	£ 60,791	£ 45,685

Payments in Excess of £25,000

Payments in excess of £25,000 made by the Mental Welfare Commission:

Singular instance - Core				
Supplier	Number of instances	Value	Type of spend	
CSE-Servelec Limited	1	£ 45,246	Software maint	
Scottish Legal Aid Board	1	£ 35,846	Rent	
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Grouped instance					
Supplier	Number	Total Value	Core Value	NCF Value	Type of spend
Borders NHS Board	3	£ 72,349	£ 72,349	£ -	Secondments
Flexiform Business Furniture Limited	4	£ 28,819	£ 28,819	£ -	Office Furniture
Health in Mind	3	£ 26,636	£ -	£ 26,636	NCF Support line
Ryden Property Consultants	7	£ 37,538	£ -	£ 37,538	NCF Rent
SecureData Europe Limited	6	£ 31,846	£ 31,846	£ -	Software maint

Government Procurement Cards – transactions over £500

The Scottish Government requires that from 1 September 2013 onwards, all public bodies will publish data on GPC transactions of £500 and above. The Commission publishes this data once annually.

These single transactions are as follows:

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Computer Software	£ 602
Computer Software	£ 850
Peripheral hardware	£ 886
Telecoms	£ 621
Computer Software	£ 1,296
Telecoms	£ 668
Courier services	£ 923
Human Resources - Training	£ 1,080
Telecoms	£ 668
	£ 7,593

Members or employees who received remuneration in excess of £150,000

There are no employees or members in this category

Duty to Publish a Statement on Sustainable Economic Growth and Efficiency, Effectiveness and Economy

Section 32(1)(a) of the Act place a duty on public bodies to publish a statement of the steps it has taken during the financial year to promote and increase sustainable growth and improve efficiency, effectiveness and economy through the exercise of its functions

Sustainable Economic Growth

The Scottish Government has a [National Performance Framework](#) which gives Scotland's public services a common set of outcomes to work towards.

In any successful country, if all its citizens are to flourish, it is imperative that there are systems in place to safeguard the most vulnerable in society, those without a voice and those that may be detained or compelled to take treatment against their will. The Commission provides part of this essential function for Scotland. In particular our work contributes to the national outcomes on health and human rights

People with mental illness, learning disabilities and related conditions are at greater risk of being marginalised and of having their rights eroded. We safeguard those rights by ensuring compliance with mental health and incapacity legislation and by highlighting situations where existing legislation provides insufficient safeguards and/or appears incompatible with human rights law. During the year we:

- Processed 39,514 forms and other notifications relating to mental health and incapacity legislation.

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- Published our monitoring report on the use of the Adults with Incapacity Act.
- Published two reports on how the Mental Health Act was used through the pandemic period
- Provided advice on the operation of mental health and incapacity legislation through our telephone advice service and other publications.
- Updated 13 good practice guides and 15 advice notes.

We have a major role to play in making Scotland healthier. People with mental illness, learning disability and related conditions have poorer physical health and a reduced life expectancy. By reporting on the care of individual people, we can help to address inequalities in health care and raise expectations of what can be done to help the people we see. Our investigations into deficiency of care and treatment of individuals result in significant learning points for services. Our visits to individuals result in action to address unmet needs and help to build a picture of service locally and nationally. Despite the restrictions placed on our visit programme during the year by the pandemic, we:

- Carried out 10 local visits reviewing the care and treatment of 73 individuals. After each local visit we make recommendations for improvement to services based on the individuals we see. We ask services to follow up on these recommendations.
- Progressed 27 investigation cases and followed up numerous cases which were resolved without formal investigations. Investigations are at many levels from a telephone call to a service to a more in depth investigation where we might interview individuals and staff involved. We cannot investigate every case that we hear about and so we concentrate our investigation work on issues that we believe there needs to be improvement across Scotland. The recommendations from our investigation reports are used by managers in health and social care to improve care and treatment for all the people of Scotland.

Efficiency, Effectiveness and Economy

We are committed to demonstrating that our work provides value for money. This year we:

- continue to audit the advice given on the telephone advice line and our local visits. Results from these evaluations are fed back to the practitioners to improve practice and share any learning points.

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- provided advice to Scottish Government and other stakeholders on the implications of emergency legislation and other issues arising from the pandemic on restrictions and safeguards for vulnerable people subject to mental health and incapacity legislation.
- produced a Covid -19 advice note (24 editions) designed to help practitioners in the field respond to a rapidly changing environment and ensure that any restrictions proposed were proportionate and ethical.
- completed a review of moves of people from hospital to care homes during the initial period of the pandemic. Our authority to discharge report was published in May 2021
- started a project to look at the experience, barriers and problems that people from an ethnic minority with lived experience of mental illness, and their carers', experience in accessing and receiving support from mental health services. The project also aims address structural issues around workforce diversity and the training and perceived cultural competency of the staff that work within these services. This will report in September 2021.
- carried out self-assessments of the Board and A,R & IG Committee and implemented improvements

We utilise, wherever possible, the Scottish Government framework agreements and collaborative contracts. This allows us to benefit from competitive rates and economies of scale.

We also share services with other public sector partners. We share payroll and finance with the Scottish Government and building services with the Scottish Legal Aid Board and Microsoft 0365 and email provision with the NHS in Scotland.