

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 2024, 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 £109k on communications in 2023-24 informing the public and disseminating information. This figure consists of staff costs and external agencies, the bulk of this spend was made up of staff costs as most information is now distributed online

Overseas Travel

We spent £nil on overseas travel.

Hospitality and Entertainment

We spent <£1k in 2023-24 on hospitality and entertainment.

External Consultancy

We spent £21,332 on external consultancy as follows:

Activity	Core
HR Consultancy	£ 9,956
Commodity Manager	£ 5,922
Electronic Data Research (eDris) Project	£ 5,455
Total	£ 21,332

Payments in Excess of £25,000 Single Instance

Payments in excess of £25,000 made by the Mental Welfare Commission:			
Supplier	Number of instances	Value	Type of spend
Scottish Legal Aid Board	1	£ 40,044.25	Rent - 3 months
Scottish Legal Aid Board	1	£ 40,813.31	Rent - 3 months
Scottish Legal Aid Board	1	£ 40,895.47	Rent - 3 months
Access UK Ltd	1	£ 59,831.54	Software Maintenance
		£ 181,584.57	

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

Grouped instance			
Supplier	Number of instances	Core Value	Type of spend
Scottish Legal Aid Board	12	£ 160,838.23	Rent
NHS Education for Scotland	10	£ 139,504.46	Shared Project Staff Costs
Clackmannanshire Council	12	£ 128,024.40	Secondment staff
NHS Tayside	10	£ 92,561.64	Secondment staff
NHS National Services Scotland	7	£ 81,382.80	Secondment staff
Pertemps Group Of Companies	111	£ 71,826.44	Temporary Staff
Reed Specialist Recruitment Limited	130	£ 71,389.04	Temporary Staff
Access UK Ltd	1	£ 59,831.54	Software Maintenance
Fife Health Board (NHS)	2	£ 47,430.00	Secondment staff
ASA Recruitment	35	£ 29,274.42	Temporary Staff
		£ 882,062.97	

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:

Library - Official Publication	£ 3,168.00
Subscriptions/Membership Fees	£ 892.66
Computer Software - renewal	£ 1,846.80
Recruitment	£ 752.40
Telecommunications	£ 1,261.66
Catering	£ 656.21
Conference Costs	£ 1,344.00
Computer Software	£ 1,756.19
Other Expenses - HR	£ 2,052.00
Computer Equipment	£ 518.40
Job - Related Training	£ 3,375.00
	£ 17,623.32

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

One employee received remuneration >£150k.

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 42,383 (22-23: 44,579) forms and other notifications related to mental health and incapacity legislation; 4,738 (22-23: 4,158) Guardianship and Intervention Orders.
- Published our AWI monitoring report highlighting that a total of 3,501 guardianship orders were granted in 2022-23, 3.8% more than in 2021-22. There are now 17,849 people subject to guardianship orders in Scotland compared to 17,101 last year.
- Visited 329 people subject to guardianship orders (compared to 189 last year). We did not meet our target of 350 people and will be prioritising more visits to people subject to guardianship orders in 2024-25.
- Published our MHA monitoring report reporting that a total of 6,713 detention episodes began in 2022-23, which was 1.7% more than in 2021-22 and lower than the average year-on-year increase in the previous years of 4.9%. 50.8% of all episodes began with a short term detention certificate (STDC), 48.0% with an emergency detention certificate (EDC) and 1.2% with a compulsory treatment order (CTO) or an interim compulsory treatment order (iCTO).

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. This year we:

- Carried out 149 local visits to hospitals and care services. We met 848 individuals, and this exceeded our target of 650. For each local visit we provided feedback and recommendations for improvement to the services involved. The [local visit reports](#) are published on our website. A report summarising the findings and recommendations from our local visits in 2023-24 will be published later in 2024;
- Published our closure report relating to Mental Health in Scotland's Prisons in July 2023 and in December 2023 our Ending the Exclusion: care, treatment and support for people with mental ill health and problem substance use in Scotland was published;

- Carried out two national themed visits: These visits were to individuals subject to similar orders and/or receiving similar services across Scotland. The themed visits were to:
 - Individuals subject to community based compulsory treatment orders
 - Individuals receiving health care and treatment out with NHS Scotland services.

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.
- Collaborated with NHS Education for Scotland throughout the year as part of a 16 month project (funded by Scottish Government) to support a national approach to learning and applying the principles and requirements of the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 in practice.

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, building services with the Scottish Legal Aid Board and Microsoft O365 and email provision with the NHS in Scotland.