

Statement from Communities and Local Government

Research into the financial benefits of the Supporting People programme: A report by Capgemini

The Supporting People programme generates huge benefits, both to the individuals it supports and to society more generally. It improves people's quality of life, for example, by increasing independent living and reducing the fear of crime. Such benefits are hard to quantify in financial terms but are invaluable. It also produces more general benefits, including financial benefits to society, for example, in reducing the need for vulnerable people to use expensive social care, as well as non-financial benefits such as improved involvement in the community.

Purpose

The Department for Communities and Local Government commissioned Capgemini to undertake a study to assess the **financial benefits** of the Supporting People programme. Whilst an understanding of *all* the benefits produced by the programme is important, one of the drivers of this study was to inform discussions with Treasury in the run up to the Comprehensive Spending Review, so it was necessary to focus on the financial aspect.

Methodology

The approach was to consider, for each client group, what the financial impact would be if Supporting People services were replaced with the most appropriate alternative services. The most appropriate alternative was considered to be the service package that would best meet the clients' needs. This differs from other similar studies that have been produced for other Supporting People stakeholders, for example, in Scotland, which based the alternative on what services were available to best meet clients' needs. Both methodologies are valid, and the results from each study support one another.

In addition, as with all economic models, hypothetical and unknown events must be turned into intelligent assumptions. These assumptions have an effect on the final figures produced and are outlined within Capgemini's report.

Key findings

- Investment in Supporting People services avoids costs elsewhere, and therefore produces a net financial benefit.

This is a powerful yet intuitive conclusion. Investing in early preventative support will reduce the need for more intensive care and support.

The figures outlined in Capgemini's report should be treated as indicative rather than absolute, but the key message is clear – there are large financial benefits associated with investment in housing support services.

Communities and Local Government
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