

National Care Association

Funding Challenges for Local Authorities

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Focus for today

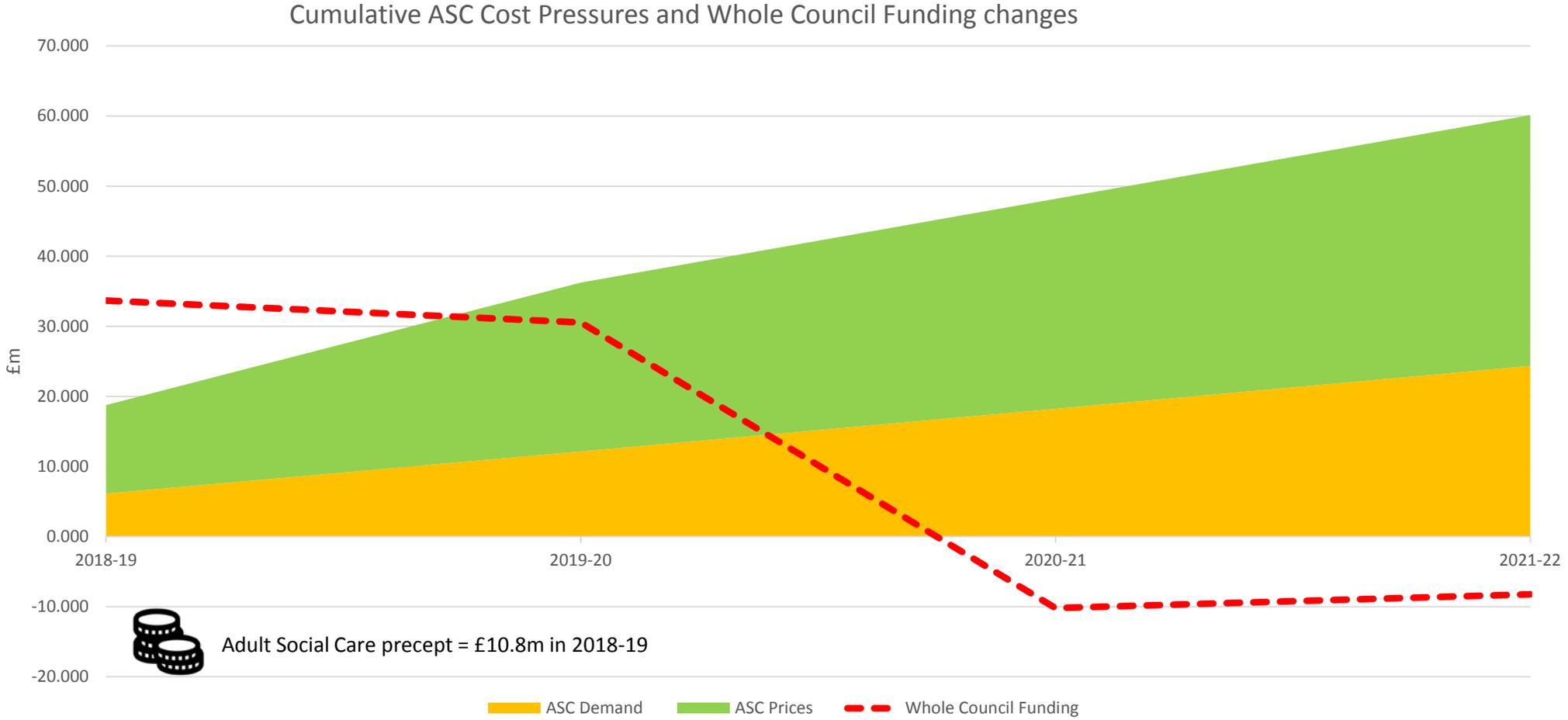


National and Regional Challenges

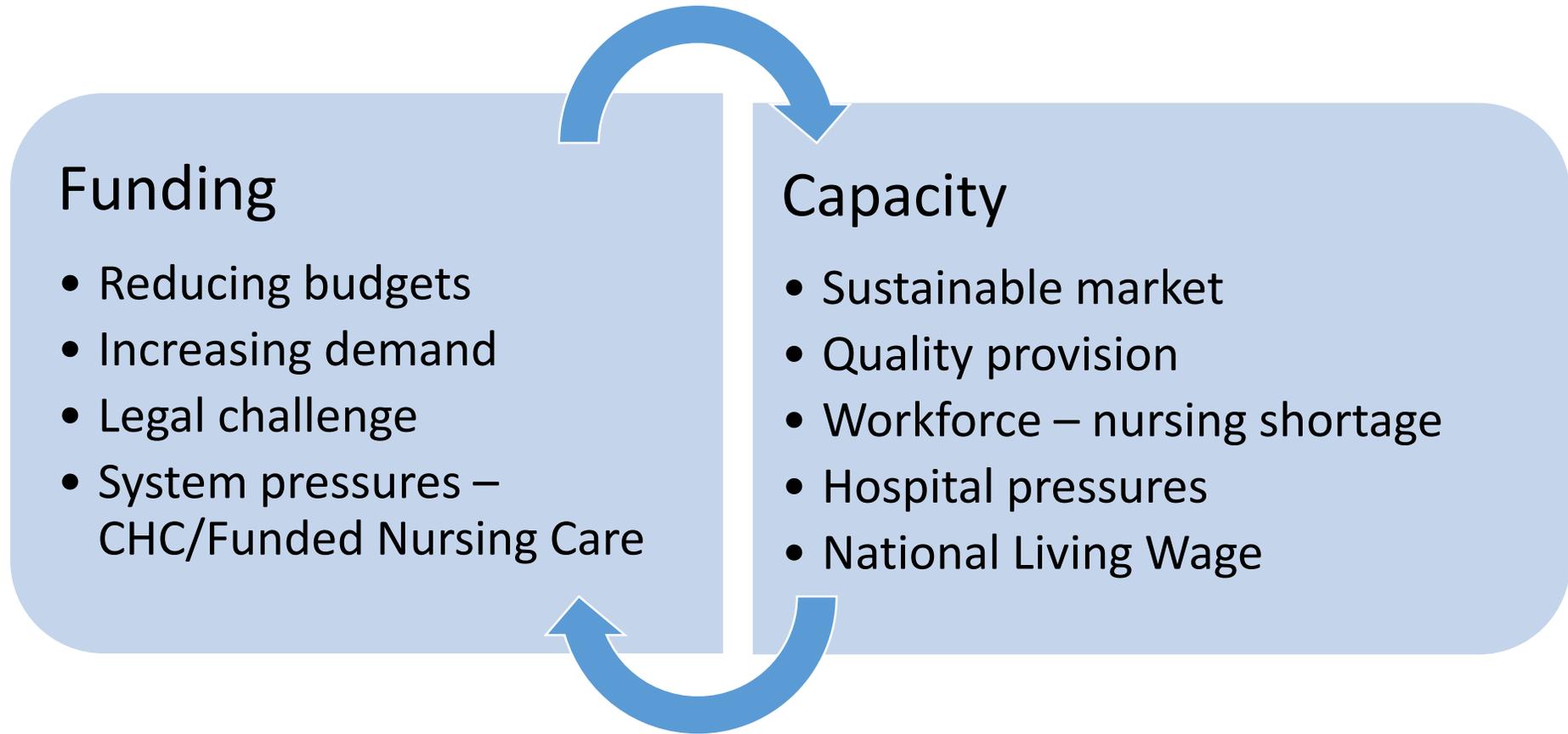
Local authorities throughout England face significant challenges including:

- Nationally independent analysis puts the social care funding gap by 2019-20 between £2.8 billion and £3.5 billion.
- The amount allocated by the Spring Budget to 2020 is not adequate – Green paper is due in the summer
- Increasing demand for more complex services from an ageing population
- Poor quality and ageing care homes
- A lack of care capable housing as an alternative to residential care
- A low wage economy and a high turnover workforce

The stark issue of funding sustainability for adult social care



Key Challenges to Local Authorities (and care providers)



Reforming Social Care to meet the challenge

- **Building Capacity & Living Well** - The Living Well: 3 Conversations approach. First innovation sites completed; further sites started. Positive evaluation and enthusiasm from front line teams.
- **Integrated Short-Term Support** - critical to help people to stay independent for longer, or to recover after a stay in hospital. These are services which aim to help people recover as much confidence and independence as possible and avoid long-term decisions being made in a crisis.
- **Technology Enabled Services** - Refreshing and scaling up the use of assistive technology, making it quicker and easier for people to make the most of new developments – self-funders and adults service users. Exploiting the potential of digital opportunities to complement more traditional face to face care.
- **Learning Disabilities** - A new 'offer' for people with learning disabilities which is based on enablement and promotes independence. Current support draws heavily on traditional formal adult care services, and the intention is to modernise our offer to be more ambitious for service users, enhance independence and improve overall wellbeing.

Challenge for councils and providers to focus on our service users

We need to develop services that are far more bespoke and focused on maximising independence and control.

This means supporting the creation of effective care consumers whose choices about how they wish to be supported drive the market

Providers will need to win business going forward by being responsive and flexible

This requires a changed approach to commissioning moving away from time and task and services that create dependency

Our approach to the market in Norfolk (1)

Sector based commissioning -Evidence based – build the evidence base and work with providers to understand demand

Setting fair prices through joint cost of care work with all key sectors

Strategic commissioning – encouraging collaboration between providers to meet the needs of the market in a cost effective way

Understanding risk – nationally, regionally, local

Increasing our quality assurance offer to support providers

Our approach to the market in Norfolk (2)

Managing demand through our Living Well approach

Embedded market engagement strategy and structures to support ongoing dialogue and co-productive working with providers and care consumers

Supporting the establishment of a formal Care Association

Using our market development fund to secure innovation and new ways of working

Developing our own care companies to lead innovation and secure sustainable services

Regional market initiatives

All regions are taking forward a range of initiatives. By way of example the Eastern region has developed the PAMMS inspection tool that enables an objective assessment of quality and performance to be determined and agreed with providers. Early evidence shows that this is pushing up quality and is really helping providers to develop their own improvement plans. The tool is now being used by other regions and will be developed further

The Green Paper

- Over the past 20 years there have already been 5 Green Papers, 4 independent reviews into social care and countless policy papers
- This time the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has set out 7 key principles to guide thinking

A relentless & unswerving focus on providing the highest standards of care

Full integration of health and social care joined up around the system

Control – joint care plan and integrated health and care personal budgets

Respect and nurture the social care workforce

Supporting families and carers

A sustainable financial system for care supported by a diverse, vibrant and stable market

Security for all

Quality

Local authorities purchase more than 90% of care services from a care market of tens of thousands of providers the vast majority of whom are independent businesses

Whilst on average across the whole of this market 81% of providers are rated as good or better this masks significant variations across regions and sectors

There is a growing focus on the quality of commissioning of social care services which is being seen as a key factor in this variation. An Ofsted style inspection regime is being considered to improve commissioning practice

Quality continued

Local authorities are not the regulators of care quality but have clear duties under the Care Act to secure sustainable high quality services

In Norfolk for example we

Have a clear published Quality Framework

Publish an honest and transparent annual quality report and set out our improvement plan.

We have a specific Requires Improvement to Good (RIG) programme that targets support to providers most at risk of failing to secure a Good or better rating from CQC

Are trialling a new self audit and improvement tool at no cost to the market

We recognise however that more needs to be done but this requires providers to step up to the mark as well working collaboratively with commissioners and social care professionals

Whole person integrated care

This means the full integration of health and social care around the person and in Norfolk we have already created integrated community care teams

The key challenge here is culture and process change in both the health and care system and the provider market

The Norfolk and Waveney STP and Norfolk County Council are committed to promoting independence helping people live as independently as possible in their own homes.

When something happens that means a person needs care and support we need the market to be more responsive and flexible and focus on promoting the person's return to home and recovery. We in health and social care need to change the way we commission care from the market to support this approach

Whole person integrated care cont...

In Norfolk we have funded 4 new trusted assessor posts embedded in our hospital discharge teams to work with families and providers to get people home as soon as possible freeing up much needed acute hospital beds

We have introduced a new on line bed tracker system to enable care home providers to tell our brokerage service what bed availability they have on a daily basis.

These simple changes already support the promotion of recovery and independence and are already improving the experience of the individuals being cared for

Control

This focuses on the idea of integrated personal health and social care budgets currently being trialled in Gloucestershire, Lincolnshire and Nottingham

Personal budgets and direct payments are nothing new in social care where people can choose the way in which they wish to be supported having a choice of providers.

Having a joint care plan and an integrated personal budget provides more opportunity for control and will create health and care consumers.

Providers will increasingly have to win the business of care consumers commissioning their own care

Workforce

There will be a new 10 year NHS & Social Care workforce strategy with needs of both sectors considered together and fully aligned

This is to be welcomed but will require additional funding to not only meet increasing national minimum wage requirements but also to move social care away from the low wage economy

We already have Local Workforce programmes in all the STPs

Supporting families and carers

The needs of carers will be central to the new social care strategy and an action plan to support carers will be published

Ideas will include better employer support, more flexible working and harnessing new technologies

Tackling loneliness in particular is highlighted and the Green Paper is expected to set out ideas including building an active partnership between state, individuals and wider civil society

A sustainable funding model for social cares supported by a diverse, vibrant and stable market

It is this principle that will attract the most attention by both local authorities and providers alike. There is clear recognition that the current system is not sustainable. The role of housing and assistive and digital technologies is seen as important as well as new models of care but it is the funding that will be the key. It seems likely that the funding solution will continue to require financial support from

Security for all

It seems clear that securing the care that people need whether because of disability or conditions associated with old age there will be some form of risk pooling requiring financial contributions from individuals as well as the state

Green Paper – highlights our shared lobby agenda to Government

Our key 'asks' – we need the Green Paper to address:

- Complexity of the health and social care system from a user's perspective
- Need to fund prevention and reablement – as well as more formal care
- Need to provide effective support for carers
- Very challenging market issues – the tension between local authority rates and self-funders
- In particular – the cost and growing demand for dementia and nursing care

Our key 'asks' – wider context which impacts on social care

- Building stronger communities – housing, community support, role of the third sector, supporting carers
- Health system – creating the 'wrong' behaviours through different finance and performance regimes in the NHS and local authorities
- Sustainable care market – workforce issues, role of the not for profit sector, cost of nursing care
- Technology – a plea to help trial and test technology so it can be implemented at scale

How the future is funded

We urge that the Green Paper should focus on a spectrum of options rather than one solution.

An approach which balances :

- an equitable way to generate funds for delivery of social care for the wider population
- an element of personal contributions toward care, which will help moderate demand.
- Explore options for reallocating funding, increasing existing national taxes or new national taxes, looking at charging regimes

Any Questions?