

59950 Community Equipment Services (CES), Clinical Wheelchair Services (WCS), and Home Improvement Agency (HIA), across the UK.

Community Equipment Services (CES)

- How is funding and contracting for CES structured in your Local Authority – which body leads on contracting and what proportion of funding is supplied by the local Integrated Care Board vs from your own budgets?

- What is the total budget allocated for CES services for the current financial year, and what is the planned budget for the next financial year - if this is not known, can you provide a percentage estimate of whether it will be higher, lower, or unchanged compared with the current budget?

The Community Equipment Loans Service (CELS) is administered, managed, and run, in house, by the City of Edinburgh Council as part of the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership. CELS Operates as a partnership between the City of Edinburgh Council, East Lothian Council, Midlothian Council and NHS Lothian and their respective Health and Social Care Partnerships and Integration Joint Boards – the Scottish equivalent of an ICB.

The total budget for CELS in the current financial year is and the expected budget for CELS in the next financial year is –

	2025/26	2026/27
Gross Budget £	7.528m	7.598m
Income Budget £	(5.994m)	(5.994m)
Net Budget £	1.534m	1.604m

CELS operates a re-charge model within its partnership arrangements whereby the following partners or their service areas are charged based up on their use of the service which broadly breaks down in the following percentages.

Authority/Partner	Rate (%)
City of Edinburgh Council – Adults	29
National Health Service Lothian – Adults	35
Midlothian Council – Adults	6
NHSL Midlothian – Adults	8
East Lothian Council – Adults	5
NHSL East Lothian - Adults	7
City of Edinburgh Council – Children	1
National Health Service Lothian – Children	2
Midlothian Council – Children	1
NHSL Midlothian – Children	1
East Lothian Council – Children	1

NHSL East Lothian - Children	1
Education – City of Edinburgh Council	1
Education – Midlothian	1
Education – East Lothian	1

- What was the total expenditure on CES services in your Local Authority for each of the last three financial years?

2025/26 £1,458,130 (forecast)
2024/25 £ 1,434,696
2023/24 £ 1,760,025

- What proportion of expenditure was on outsourced (i.e. independent sector) service providers for each of the last three financial years?

NA - CELS is run in-house by The City of Edinburgh Council.

- Which independent providers did you use for CES services in the last financial year, and what value of total spending was with each provider? For example, NRS Healthcare, Millbrook Healthcare, Ross Care, Medequip.

In the contract of the question, regarding spend by CELS only, in the last financial year (2024-2025), CELS had/has contracts in place that provide elements of works/services for;	Provider	Total spend with the supplier/provider in the financial year. 2024-25 £
Servicing and maintenance of - health and social care equipment	NRS Healthcare	4,220,062
- stair-, step-, through-floor lifts and track hoists	Prism Medical	208,814
- bidet/wash and dry toilets	Closomat	78,613
Reupholstery of seating	Matrix (Fife)	17,616
Tool used for cleaning items	Turbex Ltd	2,531
Installation of minor adaptations	Response BMS	323,300

It is not possible to split out costs specific to the City of Edinburgh. The above costs would be charged either to a specific partners authority/their respective services areas or split in lines of the % split in question Q1a/Q1b.

- Is your local CES service shared with other local authorities? If so, please provide a list of these authorities.

Yes, as noted above.

- When was the service last tendered, and to when is the current contract expected to run until?

As noted above, the CELS is run in house by the City of Edinburgh Council. Further information on the contracts tendered by CELS is available publicly on the Council's [contract register](#).

Clinical Wheelchair Services (WCS)

- How is funding and contracting for WCS structured in your Local Authority – which body leads on contracting and what proportion of funding is supplied by the local Integrated Care Board vs from your own budgets?
- What is the total budget allocated for WCS services for the current financial year, and what is the planned budget for the next financial year - if this is not known, can you provide a percentage estimate of whether it will be higher, lower, or unchanged compared with the current budget?
- What was the total expenditure (?) on WCS services in your Local Authority for each of the last three financial years?
- What proportion of expenditure was on outsourced (i.e. independent sector) service providers for each of the last three financial years?
- Which independent providers did you use for WCS services in the last financial year, and what value of total spending was with each provider? For example, NRS Healthcare, Millbrook Healthcare, Ross Care, AJM Healthcare, Blatchford, Opcare.
- Is your local WCS service shared with other local authorities? If so, please provide a list of these authorities.

The Council does not hold this information.

This question should be directed to NHS Lothian as the regional NHS Wheelchair Service sits outside of the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership.

Home Improvement Agency/Home Adaptation Services

- How is funding and contracting for home adaptation services (such as installations of adaptive bathrooms, stairlifts, ceiling track hoists and other disability access solution) structured in Edinburgh? – who leads on contracting and what proportion of funding is supplied by central government vs from your own budgets?

As the CELS is run by the City of Edinburgh Council, they are the lead contracting authority for any contracts put in place by the CELS. The funding and re-charge arrangements are noted above.

Within the City of Edinburgh, CELS provides stairlifts, step lifts and ceiling track hoists where there is an assessed need and the citizen lives within a local authority tenancy, where the citizen resides in other property types there are separate arrangements managed elsewhere. CELS accesses a provider for the installation of minor adaptations such as grab rails and handrails for owner occupied properties. Other basic disability access solutions that require equipment such as temporary ramps etc. are provided by CELS regardless of property tenure from the wider CELS budget.

Care and Repair Edinburgh provide a care and repair service for those over 60 and those with disabilities in Edinburgh, as identified in Edinburgh's Scheme of Assistance for Homeowners August 2016. The contract provides and fits key safes, handrails and grabrails, conducts small repairs and minor adaptations, assists with advice for grants for adaptations, provides a volunteer service for practical assistance around the home and a trade referral service for other services that CRE do not cover. This service provision supports individuals to lead independent lives at home within a safe and secure environment for as long as possible and assists those in hospital awaiting hospital discharge to return home quickly. Customers are charged for the services although there is no charge for the volunteer handyperson service (although the cost of the materials is charged to the customer), the assistance with adaptation grants nor trade referrals.

Housing Services:

Council properties: stairlifts, through floor lifts, external steplifts, closomats toilets, ceiling track hoists are provided through a contract held within the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership's community equipment service but any building works associated are completed through the Housing Service, as above.

City of Edinburgh Council's Housing and Homelessness Service funds and contracts home adaptation services for City of Edinburgh Council homes. The low-rise block management team lead on contracting associated works through use of available frameworks. There are no ringfenced grants for adaptations and therefore costs are met from general programme funding made up from borrowing, general capital grant, capital receipts, and reserves.

Owner occupier/ private rent: Adaptations for homeowners and private tenants' homes are supported by grant funding provided through the Council's Capital Budget Strategy funded through the Council's General Fund. There is a statutory duty to provide grants for those living in the private sector, who are assessed as needing adaptations. To qualify for the private sector adaptations grant, a disabled/older person must have an occupational therapist (OT) assessment to determine if the home adaptations are essential. The mandatory grant is 80% of the approved expense. If applicants are in receipt of certain specified benefits they will automatically be eligible ('passported') for 100% grant for the approved expense.

Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) – Funding for adaptations to RSL homes is managed by the City of Edinburgh Council on behalf of the Scottish Government, as part of the wider Affordable Housing Supply Programme budget. A provisional budget is allocated to each RSL on an annual basis. When a request is sent to them for an adaptation, following assessment by an OT, the RSL will arrange this via their own contractors and invoice the team in the Council to release the funds.

- What is the total budget allocated for these services for the current financial year, and what is the planned budget for the next financial year - if this is not known, can you provide a percentage estimate of whether it will be higher, lower, or unchanged compared with the current budget?

CELS:

The funding and re-charge arrangements for CELS is noted above in Q1a/Q1b and Q1c.
The total budget for CELS in the current financial year is £350 000.
The expected budget for CELS in the next financial year is £350 000.

Care and Repair:

The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board commission, through the City of Edinburgh Council, Care and Repair Edinburgh Ltd to conduct the Care and Repair service.
The value of this contract for 2025/26 is £230,098.65.
The planned budget for the Care and Repair contract for 2026/27 is £230,098.65.

Housing Services:

Budget for adaptations to City of Edinburgh Council homes 2025/26 - £1,199,977.61
Budget for 2026/27 to be agreed at City of Edinburgh Council Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee on 12th May 2026. Estimated to be lower than 2025/26 budget.

Budget for Private Sector Homes via Home Improvement Grant 2025/26 is currently set at £1.5million per year.

Budget for RSL adaptations in 2025/26 was c£1million. Provisional budget for 2026/27 will be set at approximately quarter one of the financial year with a fully issued funding offer to RSLs around end of Q1/beginning of Q2. Against historical data, we expect this to remain at the same funding levels as last year but this is subject to change as Edinburgh's allocation has not been fully confirmed by Scottish Government. The adaptations budget is informed by spend in previous years, but with flexibility built in to enable RSLs to request additional funding to respond to demand.

- What was the total expenditure (?) on these services in Edinburgh for each of the last three financial years?

CELS:

The funding and re-charge arrangements for CELS is noted above in Q1a/Q1b and Q1c.
The total expenditure by the CELS in the 2025-2026 financial year is £388,060.
The total expenditure by the CELS in the 2024-2025 financial year is £323,300.
The total expenditure by the CELS in the 2023-2024 financial year is £442,787.

Care and Repair:

2023/24 - contract spend was £255,665
2024/25 - contract spend was £230,098.50
2025/26 - contract spend is £230,098.65

Housing Services:

Spend on City of Edinburgh Council's Housing Adaptations

	No. major adaptations	Spend major adaptations (£)
2022/23	94	608,000

2023/24	115	708,000
2024/25	44	632,000

Spend on Private Sector Adaptations

	No. major adaptations	Spend major adaptations (£)
2022/23	234	1,227,458
2023/24	200	1,262,228
2024/25	140	1,062,801

Spend on RSL adaptations

	No. adaptations (incl. minor adaptations)	Spend adaptations (£)
2022/23	430	978,272
2023/24	349	930,272
2024/25	241	534,737

- What proportion of expenditure was on outsourced (i.e. independent sector) service providers for each of the last three financial years?

As noted above, none of the CELS is “outsourced.”

Care and Repair Edinburgh is a registered charity – 100% of this contract has been outsourced for the last 3 years.

Housing Services:

No expenditure on independent sector for adaptations to homes owned by City of Edinburgh Council.

- Which independent providers did you use for these services in the last financial year, and what value of total spending was with each provider? For example, Medequip, Millbrook Healthcare.

As noted above, none of the CELS is “outsourced” though it does have contracts in place for elements of works, more information can be found publicly on the Contract Register.

2024/2025	2024/25
Response Building Maintenance Services (Scotland) Limited	£323,300

Block Contract for Care and Repair (independent charity)	2023/24 Actual	2024/25 Actual	2025/26 Forecast

	£256,366	£230,099	£230,099
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- Is your local home adaptations service shared with other local authorities? If so, please provide a list of these authorities.

No

- When was the service last tendered, and to when is the current contract expected to run until?

As noted above, none of the CELS is “outsourced” though it does have contracts in place for elements of works, more information can be found publicly on the Contract Register.

Care and Repair: The contract was last tendered in 2023 for 4 years to 31 March 2027 (with an option to extend beyond 2027 for up to 4 years), The contract began on 1 April 2023.