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Sent: 31 October 2015 12:05
To: Laura Catchpole
Subject: Policy News October 2015



Policy News from MHA: October 2015

Welcome to MHA's October monthly policy bulletin.

October has been a busy month, kicking off with the Party Conferences. Of interest to MHA and continued to be present in the headlines are charity governance and fundraising, housing and health and social care funding.

Government – Charities and Fundraising – Devolution- Health and Social Care – Housing- Pensions

Below are highlights of emerging research and policy in other areas of interest:

Ageing

Dementia

Finance and Pensions

Health

Housing - Right to Buy - Reclassification of housing associations as public bodies

Social Care - State of Care - National Living Wage - Nursing -

Third Sector

Government



Following the Party conferences parliament resumed on 12 October.

Progress of legislation and inquiries:

Charities and Fundraising

- The Public Administration & Constitutional Affairs Committee has been continuing its inquiry into [Fundraising in the Charitable Sector](#), focussing on the practices adopted by fundraising call centres, the impact on vulnerable members of the public and how regulation might change. Evidence has been given by Christopher Graham, the Information Commissioner, who is currently investigating charities that passed on/sold personal details. Daily Mail journalist Katherine Faulkner, who worked for three weeks undercover in a fundraising call centre, has also given evidence.
- The government has accepted all the recommendations of the [Etherington Review](#) led by Sir Stuart Etherington, of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations. One of his recommendations was to create a new fundraising regulator, which is likely to be implemented within 6-9 months.

MHA comments: The [Charities \(Protection and Social Investment\) Bill](#) is expected to have its second debate reading shortly. We attended a briefing on the Bill presented by Ben Harrison, the lead senior policy adviser responsible for the Bill at the Cabinet Office. We will produce a briefing paper outlining the key proposals of the legislation and the implications for MHA.

Devolution

- This [Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill](#) has progressed to Committee Stage in the House of Commons, where MPs can make amendments to the Bill. The Nuffield Trust has published a [briefing paper](#). It outlines the implications for the English NHS and social care system, such as the new power to remove functions from NHS hospitals, commissioners, and other bodies, and transfer them to a local or regional authority control. An example of health devolution currently underway is for the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, which has published a [Memorandum of Understanding](#), outlining the timescales and some detail of the delegation of health and social care duties.

MHA comments: this will be of interest to our services in the Greater Manchester area.

Health and Social Care

- The Public Accounts Committee held an oral evidence session for the [Care Act first-phase reforms](#) inquiry, with senior civil servants. They suggested it was too early to assess the impact of the first Care Act phase, however they were generally confident that local authorities were delivering as they should. It was confirmed that the £146m paid to councils already to begin implementation of phase 2 of the Care Act, would not be claimed back. The session highlighted the Committee's concerns about the outcomes of the Comprehensive Spending Review for social care and the sustainability of the care market. A report of the session is due soon with the Committee's recommendations.
- The Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee has published its [recommendations](#) on the [Dying Without Dignity report](#) which the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman published in May 2015. The recommendations state that; staff should be supported to report mistakes and near misses; there should be wider provision of end of life care training; successful examples of integrated, round-the-clock services must be replicated; and that proper leadership is desperately required.

Housing

- The [Housing and Planning Bill](#) had its first reading in the House of Commons. Through the Bill, the Government is aiming to encourage more house building with a focus on home ownership and speeding up the planning system - the National Housing Federation have produced a [briefing paper](#) about the Bill. The Bill also includes an extension of the Right to Buy to housing association tenants. Whilst the Communities and Local Government Committee are continuing their [inquiry](#) with more evidence sessions on Right to Buy, the Prime Minister did announce during the Conservative Party conference that this would be delivered by a voluntary agreement with the National Housing Federation. See the [Housing](#) section below for more information on Right to Buy.

Pensions

- The Work and Pensions Committee have been holding an inquiry into [Pension freedom guidance and advice](#), concluding that reforms introduced in April 2015 are insufficient. The Committee says pension freedom is not yet operating entirely as it should. It calls on Government to: provide more anti-scam publicity and introduce stricter reporting requirements for pension providers; reduce the use of jargon and complex pricing structures; clarify the distinction between guidance and advice; and clarify the definitions of safeguarded benefits.

MHA comments: we know how important and of concern, financial security is to our members and residents. We will be keeping an eye on developments in this sector.

In brief: Other Parliamentary and Government News

- The [Hospital Parking Charges \(Exemption for Carers\) Bill \(Private Members\)](#) has had its second reading in Parliament. Carers UK are campaigning on this issue and a [briefing note](#) providing the background to the Bill has been produced.
- The [EU Referendum Bill](#) is at Committee stage in the House of Lords for a line by line examination of the Bill. A [briefing paper](#) on the Bill's background and progress is available.
- The [Immigration Bill](#) which will introduce new laws on immigration and asylum, has progressed to the Public Bill Committee stage for closer scrutiny. A [briefing paper](#) is available outlining the detail of the Bill.
- The [Welfare Reform and Work Bill](#) generated much publicity when the House of Lords controversially voted to delay tax credit cuts and to compensate those affected in full. This Bill also includes the proposal of an annual 1% reduction in rents for social housing.
- In Scotland, a [proposed Bill](#) has been put forward that suggests that social care services delivered at

home, should be provided free of charge. A consultation is taking place to establish what support there is or not, for this idea. In Wales, [Plaid Cymru](#) have also pledged to abolish social care charges over a phased period, as part of their 2016 election campaign for the National Assembly for Wales.

- Also in Wales, the [Regulation and Inspection of Social Care \(Wales\) Bill](#) has progressed to Stage 3 for detailed consideration by the Assembly. Amongst other things, it aims to reform of the regulatory regime for care and support services, revise the regulatory framework and inspection regime for local authority social services functions.

MHA comments: that our services in Wales need to be aware of these potential changes to regulations.

In brief: Party Conferences (courtesy of De Havilland)

- **Labour: Health** - [Heidi Alexander MP](#), Shadow Health Secretary, spoke mainly about the problems facing the NHS, however she did also raise the issue of care funding and the need, in this parliament, to find a long-term solution to pay for older people's care. **Housing** - [John Healey MP](#), Shadow Minister for Housing and Planning, indicated that housing was a top priority for the Labour Party and pledged to oppose the right to buy extension to housing associations. He announced an independent review led by Taylor Wimpey Chief Executive, Pete Redfern, to analyse the root causes of home-ownership decline and set out the ideas needed for a wide new debate on housing.
- **Conservative: Health** - [Jeremy Hunt MP](#) also focussed on the NHS and restated the party's commitment to a seven day health service. On the subject of care, the focus was on a greater role for families who, it was suggested, could house older relatives in their homes rather than pay for care homes. In an [interview with The Guardian](#), the Care Minister [Alistair Burt MP](#) discussed a return to self-supporting, multi-generational households. He said, "*We're not going to turn overnight into a society where everyone can live in large housing units, but all sorts of things suggest that more people will probably have a mum or dad living with them at some stage in the future – and that housing changes will flow from that.*". **Housing** - the emphasis from the Prime Minister was on building more homes for people to buy, which included the announcement of the voluntary agreement of extending Right to Buy to housing associations. **Employment** - [George Osborne MP](#), announced

that working grandparents are to be given a new legal right to take time off to help care for their grandchildren in an extension of the system of flexible parental leave. **Business Rates** - the Chancellor also announced that local authorities in England would be able to keep the proceeds from business rates raised in their area.

- **Scottish National Party (SNP):** A key announcement at the SNP Conference included that they would unveil a new Social Security Bill setting out how it would use devolved welfare powers in first year of the next Scottish Parliament. The legislation would include recognition the contribution of carers to society and increase Carers Allowance to the same level as Jobseekers' Allowance.

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Ageing

In brief:

- The new chief executive of the Centre for Ageing Better, Anna Dixon has been talking to [The Guardian](#) about the development of this new organisation and how it is scoping the areas it will fund, "*We think there's lots of opportunity to change not only how we experience old age but some of the perceptions of what it is to grow old. We have a great opportunity to make a big difference on one of the biggest public policy issues internationally. We want the work we do to mean more of us look forward to a good old age.*" The Centre was established with a 10-year endowment of £50m from the Big Lottery Fund.
- The Office for National Statistics has published data on [Measuring Older People's Wellbeing](#), which finds that those aged 65 to 79 are most likely to report high levels of life satisfaction, worthwhile activities and happiness and low levels of anxiety, than those of working age. However the report also finds that three out of ten people aged 80+ reported being lonely, a higher proportion than working age people and people aged 65 to 79. Those who reported being lonely were also seven times more likely to have low life satisfaction.
- Loneliness is becoming such a problem among Scotland's elderly people that some are booking appointments with their GP or reporting to accident and emergency wards because they have "no-one

else for company”, according to a new report from the [Scottish Parliament’s Equal Opportunities Committee](#) concluded. They suggest that the damaging effects of social isolation are so serious that the issue should be ranked alongside problems such as poverty and poor housing on the country’s public health agenda and that there should be a Scottish social isolation strategy.

- [Technology update](#): In Singapore, a new Robocoach is working with older people to help them stay healthy with regular exercise. The Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA), a government body that supports the country’s tech industry, reports that the robot has been effective in engaging seniors to do their exercise routines correctly with its motion-sensor technology and that those taking part enjoy the novel approach, although interaction with human volunteers is just as important. And in Japan which has the fastest ageing population, the Riken Institute are developing an android that can help lift a people from a bed into a wheelchair.

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Dementia

In brief:

- [Public Health England](#) have published a review of research on the prevalence of dementia amongst groups by protected characteristics. It found that: dementia was more common in people from African American, black-Caribbean or Hispanic background; dementia is more common in women; and people with learning disabilities and lower socio-economic position both increased the prevalence.
- The [National Housing Federation](#) has produced a briefing, highlighting the role housing associations could play in transforming dementia care pathways. It aims to encourage health and social care commissioners to work better together.
- [Skills for Care](#) has published a practical guide for social care teams who work with people living with dementia, who also face other physical conditions. The guide includes case studies which look at sensory impairment, holistic care, learning disabilities, long term pain management, mental health

and Parkinson's, alongside dementia.

- The National Institute of Health and Care Excellence (NICE) have also published new guidance on [Dementia, disability and frailty in later life](#). It aims to increase the amount of time that people can be independent, healthy and active in later life.

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Deprivation

- The Department of Communities and Local Government has published the [English Indices of Deprivation 2015](#), which ranks every neighbourhood and local authority area in terms of the depth of multiple deprivation. An update to the Index is published every few years and indicators of deprivation cover barriers to housing and services, crime, education, employment, health, income and living environment. The main findings include:
 - 61% of local authority districts contain at least one of the most deprived neighbourhoods in England.
 - Middlesbrough, Knowsley, Kingston upon Hull, Liverpool and Manchester are the local authorities with the highest proportions of neighbourhoods among the most deprived in England.
 - The London Boroughs of Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Haringey have become relatively less deprived and no longer feature in the top 20 most deprived authorities.
 - Seven of the 10 local authority districts with the highest levels of income deprivation among older people are in London.
 - Tower Hamlets is the most deprived district with regard to income deprivation among both children and older people.

MHA says: This will be useful information to our service planning and in funding applications.

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Finance and Pensions

In brief:

- The [Department for Work and Pensions](#) has launched a State Pension top up scheme. The scheme could give pensioners an up to £25 a week extra in exchange for a lump sum payment. It is being introduced as an option for existing pensioners to increase their state pensions, ahead of the introduction of the new State Pension in April 2016. It is available to men aged 65+ and women aged 63+ and will remain open for 18 months. The Work and Pensions have also launched an [inquiry](#) into the scheme.
- According to a new report from [Weill Cornell Medical College in New York and Rush University Medical Centre in Chicago](#), the problem of financial instability in older people is often overlooked. The report refers to “age-associated financial vulnerability”, to describe the issue of older people becoming less able to manage their financial affairs, leading to losses and a decline in living standards, and also leaving them vulnerable to financial crime or abuse. Cognitive or emotional decline, impairments in vision, hearing or mobility, social isolation and progressive illness can all contribute to the problem.
- Analysis from [Victim Support](#) has revealed that one in three people who suffer fraud are aged 65+. Victim Support received 39,272 referrals for fraud from the police in the 12 months up to September 2015 and of those referrals, 35% of victims were aged 65+. 19% of victims were aged 75+.
- Funeral costs in the UK are rising as rapidly as house prices, according to research by insurer [Royal London](#). Its study found the cost of a UK funeral has increased by 3.9% in the past year, with an average basic one now costing £3,702, an increase of £140 in one year. This is above annual UK inflation. More than one in ten struggles with funeral expenses, with the average debt being £1,318.

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Health

In brief:

- The [Local Government Association](#) is calling on the Chancellor to use the Spending Review to urgently invest £2bn to help transform the health and care system towards **preventing ill health** rather than waiting to fix problems after they occur. It reports that currently, 5% of the entire healthcare budget is spent on schemes that prevent people from falling ill and that programmes keeping those aged between 40 and 65 active could save more than £3 for every £1 spent. Telehealth care could bring back £2.70 of every £1 invested. It called on a £1bn 'transformation fund' to be spent on prevention programmes, with cost-benefits of more than £7bn over a five-year period.
- Health Secretary [Jeremy Hunt](#) has outlined plans for new '[Ofsted style](#)' ratings to show patients how their local area's health service is performing in crucial areas, including: Cancer; dementia; diabetes; mental health; learning disabilities; and maternity care. The new ratings, broken down by Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), will be based on local data and verified by experts in each field. Initial ratings based on the current CCG assessments, will be published in June 2016.
- [Ipsos Ethnography Centre of Excellence](#) have found that older people living with multiple long term conditions are generally happy with the NHS but often find the health and care system is not set up for their needs. It found that people are trying hard to manage their long term conditions to the best of their abilities, but often feel the system is not set up to cope with their complex needs and they can consequently feel like a burden within their home as well as within the health and care system, preventing them seeking the help they need.
- NHS England has endorsed a pilot programme championed by the [National Association of Primary Care](#) to deliver care under the 'primary care home' model. The primary care home would be a venue in the local community (i.e. a GP surgery), which would be able to provide older people with more holistic personal care. The model would aim to be patient-centred and be somewhere that meets the

majority of the patients' needs in one site, providing diagnostics and urgent care, as well as a encompassing services such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, citizens' advice and counselling. There is also a suggestion that third sector support services could also have space on site, helping patients deal with issues linked to ageing, such as grief, loneliness, isolation and depression.

MHA comments: This will be of interest to our Live At Home Schemes, whic could link to the 'primary care home' model if the pilots prove successful and are established in their areas.

- The [NHS Confederation](#) has appointed the former Secretary of State for Health Stephen Dorrell as its new Chair. The organisation is a membership body that brings together and represents organisations that plan, commission and provide NHS services. At a [Guardian event](#) he said that it made *"no sense" to ringfence the NHS budget while cutting social care funding. He added: "If we mean what we say about joined-up health and social care, that has to be around one budget and one budget-planning process."* He also called for more devolution, saying that council-owned social care, the NHS and social housing could not integrate their services if they are centralised. Meanwhile, Jim Mackey, Chief Executive of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, has been appointed as the Chief Executive of [NHS Improvement](#).
- The King's Fund published their [Quarterly Monitoring Report](#) on NHS performance, which combines public NHS data and views from health leaders, stating that *"Cuts in local authority social care budgets are adversely affecting health services."* It coincided with a report from NHS regulator [Monitor](#), where hospitals had been found to have overspent by £930m in three months due in part to the cost of agency and temporary staff and is on course for an annual deficit of at least £2bn. The King's Fund commented *"With winter approaching, the health service is facing widespread deficits, rising waiting times and deteriorating staff morale. The government must now acknowledge that the NHS cannot continue to maintain standards of care and balance the books. Unless emergency funding is announced in the forthcoming Spending Review, a rapid and serious decline in patient care is inevitable."*

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Housing



Right to Buy

- Extending the Right to Buy to housing associations is a key part of the Housing and Planning Bill. The Government have accepted a voluntary agreement, rather than a statutory measure, proposed by the National Housing Federation (NHF). The [proposal document](#) outlines that:
 - Every housing association (HA) tenant would have the right to purchase a home at Right to Buy level discounts, subject to the overall availability of funding for the scheme. The presumption is that HAs would sell the tenant the property in which they live.
 - HAs would have discretion not to sell, for example where a property is in a rural area and could not be replaced, or where it is adapted for special needs tenants (this includes housing for older people). In that event, HAs would offer tenants the opportunity to use their discount to buy an alternative home from either their own or another association's stock.
 - The Government would compensate the housing association for the discount offered to the tenant and HAs would retain the sales receipt to enable them to reinvest in the delivery of new homes.
 - HAs would be able to use sales proceeds to deliver new supply and would have flexibility to replace rented homes with other tenures such as shared ownership.

Reclassification of Housing Associations as Public Bodies

- The [Office for National Statistics](#) (ONS) has decided to reclassify housing associations as public bodies, concluding that Private Registered Providers are public, market producers and as such will be reclassified to the Public Non-Financial Corporations sub-sector for the purpose of national accounts and other ONS economic statistics. The NHF had raised concerns that if its members' accounts are included in national audit data, they would effectively cease to be charities and the implications are still unclear. David Orr, Chief Executive of NHF, said "*Reclassification could mean fewer new homes are built at the time of a national housing crisis. We therefore welcome the Government's commitment to take the necessary steps through deregulatory measures in the Housing Bill to address the issues raised in this decision.*" A [representative](#) from the Department of Communities and Local Government said "*The change makes no material changes to the operation of housing associations, gives the government no new powers over them, imposes no new borrowing controls and has no effect on tenants.*"

MHA comments that we will watch the progress of the Housing and Planning Bill and the development of this announcement.

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Regulation

In brief:

- The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has published a [discussion paper](#) that sets out some of the choices it faces in responding to changes to how health and social care is delivered. It is asking for views on how regulation can develop ahead of the next stage of consultation on its new strategy next year. The two objectives laid out in Building Strong Foundations are for CQC to become more effective

and efficient, and to develop a regulation model that can adapt to changing sectors. Professor Martin Green OBE, Chief Executive of Care England welcomed the discussion paper and its emphasis on better co-working with providers, but stresses the need to create a climate in which providers can drive quality and are empowered to co-regulate. He said "*Crucially, the CQC must assure local authorities of its strength as a regulator and improve communication with councils to avoid excessive and duplicative regulation.*"

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Social Care



State of Care Reports

- LaingBuisson also published its latest [Care of Older People market report](#), which reports that 90% of residential and nursing care services are now delivered by independent providers, with strong evidence of a marketplace where healthy profits (25-30% of revenue) can only be made by those operators focusing on self-pay residents in affluent areas of the country. Meanwhile, those homes catering mainly for publicly paid residents in non-affluent areas have sunk to a worryingly low profit levels hovering around the 15% mark - compared with over 20% five years ago. This indicates that a two-tier market has developed as a result of austerity measures, with real terms fee reductions by councils the main reason for falling profits. LaingBuisson said, "*While new investment for private payers remains strong, investment in new capacity has largely dried up in areas dominated by public pay, in the main part as a result of pressure on fee margins.*" Figures from October 2014 to March 2015 also show that capacity loss from closures has exceeded capacity gain by 3,000 places for the first time.

- The Care Quality Commission have published their annual [State of Care](#) report. For the adult social care sector they have highlighted issues around the sustainability of provision, due to the increasing complexity of people's care needs, significant cuts to local authority budgets, increasing costs, high vacancy rates, and pressure from local commissioners to keep fees as low as possible. Despite this pressure, CQC inspections to 31 May 2015 showed that almost 60% of services were providing good or outstanding care and they flag up that having a consistent registered manager in post has a positive influence on the quality of a service and helps to make sure that people receive care services that are safe, effective, caring and responsive.
- New research by the [Carers Trust](#) has revealed that many adults adopt an 'ostrich approach' when it comes to the question of care for immediate older family members. The survey of over 2,000 people found that 23% of those with living parents said they had talked to their parents about future care arrangements, and a third had no idea how they would pay for any future care needs. For many it appears future care needs are a taboo topic, with around a third having never discussed it with their parents because they were embarrassed, thought it would upset them, didn't think they would want to discuss it, or simply didn't know how to broach the subject. Even amongst those aged 55+ with living parents, the conversation had never arisen for a third of those polled. Carers Trust Chief Executive, Gail Scott-Spicer said *"Given the expected rise in the UK's elderly population and the fact there are already over 12 million over 65 year olds in the country, we simply can't afford to not have these conversations. People need to plan for the care of their loved ones in later life."*

National Living Wage (NLW)

- Research commissioned by the [Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#) has investigated the earnings below the Living Wage (LW) for staff in care homes for older people, considering the costs and benefits of

increasing pay and identified how that pay increase could be funded. Key findings include:

- The new NLW will affect at least 50% of care home workers and would cost £387m per year for the UK. Proposed reductions to in-work benefits mean that many low-income households would lose out on any potential gains in income.
- Care homes with self-funded residents are most likely to be able to afford a wage increase. Providers heavily dependent on local authority funding are least likely to afford it, given that local authorities fees are currently failing to cover the cost of residential care.
- The most compelling funding option is for central government to make more funds available to care home providers, given that it will receive additional funds from increases in tax and national insurance receipts and reductions to in-work benefits payments.

MHA comments: Our response to the Low Pay Commission's consultation on the NLW was supportive of its introduction, but emphasised the need for local authorities to have adequate funding to meet their social care duties and responsibilities.

Nursing

- [Home Secretary, Theresa May](#), has requested that the independent Migration Advisory Service, temporarily lift restrictions on recruiting nurses from overseas. Nurses are now being added to the government's **shortage occupation list (SOL)** and priority will be given to work visa applications from those from outside the European Economic Area. The move follows a recent calls to change the immigration rules for nurses. The Migration Advisory Committee have also been asked to review the change and present further evidence to the government by February 2016.
- Meanwhile [Health Education England](#) has reportedly increased nurse training places by 14% over the last 2 years and is forecasting that more than 23,000 additional nurses will be in place by 2019. A campaign is also being run to get experienced nurses who've left the profession back to work to co-ordinate plans across the health and care sector to improve the retention of nurses.

- The [Nursing and Midwifery Council](#) has introduced new revalidation system for all nurses and midwives in the UK. Revalidation means that all registered nurses would have to demonstrate on a regular basis that they are able to deliver care in a safe, effective and professional way and up to date in their practice and living the values of the professional code. For the first time, they will also have to obtain confirmation that they have met all requirements before they apply to renew their place on the register every three years.

In brief:

- The [Health and Social Care Information Centre](#) (HSCIC) have published new statistics from the Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework. The data indicates that nearly 1.85m requests for support were made in 2014-15, but just over 650,000 people received help. 144,000 of the requests for help resulted in long-term care, which includes places in care homes or help in the home for tasks such as washing and dressing. And 220,000 people got short-term help, such as rehabilitation after discharge from hospital, and another 300,000 got low-level support such as walking aids and telecare. The remainder did not receive any help or were advised to seek help from charities, the NHS or from housing services.
- In its [annual report](#), Healthwatch England raised concerns about the safety and wellbeing of people who use state-funded personal budgets or pay privately to use services, as some are falling through gaps in the regulation system. Healthwatch Chair, Anne Bradley said *"People understand the challenges that the NHS and social care services face and stand ready to do their bit. They want to contribute by managing their own wellbeing more and helping to build better services for their community. However, commissioners and providers of services need to do more to capitalise on the public's desire. Individuals need to be treated as equal partners in determining their own care, as well as the decisions that will be taken about future services. People also have to be given the opportunity to share their views."*

- The [Wales Audit Office](#) has raised concerns that while Welsh authorities have identified the independence of older people as a priority, their strategies and plans do not always recognise the positive contribution made by partners and many non-health and social services which could reduce demand for expensive health and social services. The study also found that cuts to key services are at odds with the wellbeing and preventative priorities of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014, which goes live in April 2016. The report also notes that the impact of austerity and the demands of an ageing population are set to make the challenge of delivering preventative services more difficult.
- The Centre for Workforce Intelligence (CfWI) published [Forecasting the adult social care workforce](#), which assessed the future demand for and supply of the adult social care workforce in England over the next 15 years to 2030. The analysis forecasts that the workforce will need to grow from 1.2m to almost 1.6m (FTE) to meet a 33% growth in adult social care demand by 2030. This is more than the 16% total increase in the adult social care workforce forecast by 2030 that the CfWI is predicting will occur in the same period.

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Third Sector

In brief:

- Nine out of 10 donors are happy with the service they receive from the charities they support, according to a [survey of 13,500 donors](#) by the Centre for Sustainable Philanthropy at Plymouth University. The survey asked a range of questions about their satisfaction with, commitment to and trust in the charities they donated to.
- The [Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations](#) (ACEVO) has warned that charities are

facing unprecedented pressures with a real danger of collapse. Data collected in its survey of 45 Chief Executives of small and medium sized charities show that 86% of respondents expect demand for their services to increase over the next year, with 77% unable to meet that demand. 34% reported that their reserves were declining at pace, or that they expected them to dip in the near future. ACEVO also refer to a Localgiving survey of over 500 charities, which reported similar issues. ACEVO Chief Executive Sir Stephen Bubb says: *"We have seen one major charity collapse with catastrophic results. It's clear that this could happen elsewhere given the weight of demand and concerns about reserves. Now is the time for Government to reinforce good governance and the distribution of targeted grants. Too many suffered when Kids Company went under. We must learn the lessons fast."*

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Look Ahead

- Parliamentary recess - 10 -15 November
- Autumn Statement and Comprehensive Spending review - 25 November

If you have any feedback that will help us improve our MHA Policy news, please tell us - liz.jones@mha.org.uk

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Some information sourced from [DeHavilland](#).

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MHA is a charity providing care, accommodation and support services for older people throughout Britain. Our mission is to improve the quality of life for older people, inspired by Christian concern.

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