

State of Support

Local Healthwatch funding survey: Key findings

Publication date: 31 January 2017 (updated from October 2016)

Overview

A survey of 148 local Healthwatch, which are working across 152 local authority areas, about their funding for 2016/17 indicates that:

- For 2016/17 local Healthwatch have reported that the amount received to perform their statutory activities was £29,438,075. This compares with the 2015/16 figure of £31,812,823 received by local Healthwatch to deliver statutory functions.
- Half of local Healthwatch will maintain the same level of funding as 2015/16 or receive an increase in funding.

What is the history regarding funding for local Healthwatch?

Funding is given to local authorities to commission a local Healthwatch.

Although this funding is not ring-fenced, the Government originally announced a total of £43.5m, which was handed out to local authorities in 2013/14.

Following research indicating that only £33.5m got through to front line local Healthwatch services in 2013/14, we were asked by the Department of Health to report how much funding was being allocated to the network.

What does the funding situation look like for 2016/17?

2016/17 financial position	No. of local Healthwatch	As a % of local Healthwatch who have provided their budget for 2016/17
Increasing by more than £5,000	7	4.7%
Decreasing by more than £5,000	53	35.8%
Staying the same or less than	83	56.1%

£5,000 change		
Figures varied between years to include / exclude complaints advocacy, making like for like comparison of funding impossible	5	3.4%
No funding information provided	0	0%

How are local Healthwatch being supported on this issue?

In keeping with our statutory role in relation to commissioning arrangements and support for local Healthwatch, we will continue to support local Healthwatch during individual negotiations on budgets when requested.

We will also continue to review the information provided by local Healthwatch on funding matters, and support the Healthwatch network with advice and guidance on providing an effective, sustainable service.

We also provide local Healthwatch commissioners with regular opportunities to share best practice and identify how they can work together to support a stronger, more effective network.

With local Healthwatch also being asked to play a key part in new regional health and social care reforms, we will also promote the need for this work to be resourced effectively.

What does the funding look like in my area?

Local Healthwatch	2015/16 Healthwatch funding	2016/17 Healthwatch funding
Barking and Dagenham	£124,000	£124,000
Barnet	£197,361	£120,000
Barnsley	£150,000	£150,000
Bath and North East Somerset	£81,579	£80,000
Bedford	£93,000	£92,000
Bexley	£134,000	£114,116
Birmingham	£445,382	£445,382

Blackburn with Darwen	£165,000	£165,000
Blackpool	£58,000	£63,000
Bolton	£224,500	£175,000
Bracknell Forest	£100,122	£100,122
Bradford	£223,692	£180,000
Brent	£150,000	£150,000
Brighton and Hove	£234,000	£184,000
Bristol	£278,912	£278,912
Bromley	£126,384	£113,150
Buckinghamshire	£240,000	£200,000
Bury	£122,000	£122,000
Calderdale	£120,000	£70,000
Cambridgeshire	£287,602	£287,602
Camden	£244,538	£218,815
Central Bedfordshire	£140,000	£140,000
Central West London	£450,000	£450,000
Cheshire East	£178,000	£140,945
Cheshire West and Chester	£189,385	£189,000
City of London	£54,678	£70,000
Cornwall	£309,886	£300,886
County Durham	£198,000	£196,900

Coventry ¹	-	£195,616
Croydon	£245,000	£206,000
Cumbria	£286,000	£238,450
Darlington	£131,697	£131,697
Derby City	£235,000	£235,000
Derbyshire	£321,114	£321,114
Devon	£468,295	£468,295
Doncaster	£279,950	£242,000
Dorset	£446,700	£402,030
Dudley	£206,698	£206,000
Ealing	£160,300	£140,000
East Riding of Yorkshire	£180,000	£171,000
East Sussex	£395,000	£380,509
Enfield	£264,108	£230,000
Essex	£780,000	£780,000
Gateshead	£150,000	£150,000
Gloucestershire	£382,000	£382,000
Greenwich	£129,000	£129,000
Hackney	£150,000	£160,000
Halton	£134,715	£134,750

¹ The figure for 2015/16 included complaints advocacy services funding. Therefore, it is not possible to make a like for like comparison.

Hampshire	£475,374	£417,243
Haringey	£180,000	£180,000
Harrow	£100,000	£100,000
Hartlepool	£129,056	£129,056
Havering	£117,359	£117,359
Herefordshire	£155,557	£140,000
Hertfordshire	£466,593	£466,593
Hillingdon	£175,000	£175,000
Hounslow	£89,378	£89,000
Isle of Wight	£153,000	£153,000
Isles of Scilly	£50,507	£50,507
Islington	£176,200	£165,000
Kent	£730,000	£666,270
Kingston Upon Hull ²	£213,800	£205,699
Kingston upon Thames	£122,000	£122,000
Kirklees	£205,000	£184,500
Knowsley	£180,000	£171,000
Lambeth	£265,000	£225,000
Lancashire	£638,000	£438,000
Leeds	£414,878	£375,000

² 2016/17 figure includes complaints advocacy services funding from December 2016 to March 2017, which cannot be split out from funding to delivery statutory activities.

Leicester ³	£200,000	£210,000
Leicestershire	£187,391	£187,391
Lewisham	£146,164	£107,428
Lincolnshire	£432,724	£340,000
Liverpool ⁴	-	£401,543
Luton	£128,876	£128,876
Manchester	£80,000	£80,000
Medway	£128,000	£128,000
Merton	£125,085	£125,000
Middlesbrough	£111,208	£140,910
Milton Keynes	£158,644	£158,000
Newcastle upon Tyne	£215,078	£215,000
Newham	£140,000	£160,000
Norfolk	£605,000	£600,760
North East Lincolnshire	£109,344	£108,504
North Lincolnshire	£121,000	£126,000
North Somerset	£147,000	£139,300
North Tyneside	£148,900	£148,953
North Yorkshire	£140,894	£144,397

³ 2016/17 figure includes complaints advocacy services funding, which cannot be split out from funding to delivery statutory activities.

⁴ The figure for 2015/16 included complaints advocacy services funding. Therefore, it is not possible to make a like for like comparison.

Northamptonshire	£355,000	£295,000
Northumberland	£224,000	£224,000
Nottingham City	£160,000	£160,000
Nottinghamshire	£335,000	£296,000
Oldham	£144,000	£146,000
Oxfordshire	£335,000	£235,948
Peterborough	£153,000	£153,000
Plymouth	£159,855	£111,899
Portsmouth ⁵	-	£79,938
Reading	£130,311	£110,000
Redbridge	£166,000	£166,000
Redcar and Cleveland	£127,500	£127,500
Richmond upon Thames	£146,000	£146,000
Rochdale	£156,068	£157,000
Rotherham	£215,000	£193,500
Rutland	£65,000	£65,000
Salford	£166,000	£166,000
Sandwell	£195,000	£195,000
Sefton	£143,300	£143,281
Sheffield	£239,619	£238,000
Shropshire	£191,487	£191,487

⁵ The figure for 2015/16 included complaints advocacy services funding. Therefore, it is not possible to make a like for like comparison.

Slough	£113,163	£95,000
Solihull ⁶	£150,000	£90,000
Somerset	£199,047	£199,047
South Gloucestershire	£98,972	£100,437
South Tyneside	£103,000	£103,409
Southampton	£140,000	£130,000
Southend	£190,000	£134,500
Southwark	£120,000	£120,000
St. Helens	£149,615	£149,615
Staffordshire	£512,000	£461,232
Stockport ⁷	£88,000	£88,000
Stockton on Tees	£128,552	£128,554
Stoke-on-Trent	£217,000	£195,000
Suffolk	£484,014	£484,000
Sunderland	£213,263	£225,000
Surrey ⁸	-	£519,089
Sutton	£157,969	£133,840
Swindon	£151,000	£145,000
Tameside	£115,000	£115,000

⁶ 2016/17 figure covers funding from July 2016 - March 2017.

⁷ 2015/16 figure includes funding for signposting and information statutory activities. 2016/17 figure does not include funding for signposting and information statutory activities.

⁸ The figure for 2015/16 included complaints advocacy services funding. Therefore, it is not possible to make a like for like comparison.

Telford and Wrekin	£140,000	£100,000
Thurrock	£126,000	£116,000
Torbay	£139,000	£132,000
Tower Hamlets	£220,500	£220,000
Trafford	£158,000	£118,000
Wakefield	£217,268	£217,268
Walsall	£220,000	£209,200
Waltham Forest	£160,000	£160,000
Wandsworth	£170,000	£192,000
Warrington	£160,000	£160,000
Warwickshire	£304,000	£304,000
West Berkshire	£112,406	£110,000
West Sussex ⁹	-	£430,000
Wigan	£200,000	£200,000
Wiltshire	£205,000	£205,000
Windsor, Ascot & Maidenhead	£128,481	£26,785
Wirral	£170,000	£170,000
Wokingham Borough	£107,677	£107,677
Wolverhampton	£195,000	£194,289
Worcestershire	£320,000	£289,000
York	£115,000	£115,000

⁹ The figure for 2015/16 included complaints advocacy services funding. Therefore, it is not possible to make a like for like comparison.

