

Plymouth City Council: local authority assessment

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About Plymouth City Council

Demographics

Plymouth has a population of approximately 270,000 people and is one of the largest cities on the south coast. Economically, Plymouth has a mix of public sector employment, particularly in health and education, and maritime industries, including naval and defence-related jobs, which continue to shape its demographic and social landscape.

Between 2011 and 2021, there has been an increase of 17.2% in people aged 65 years and over, and a decrease of 0.2% in people aged 15 to 64 years. Plymouth's 65 plus population is expected to increase by 31.6% between 2021 to 2043. In addition, 21.7% of Plymouth's population are disabled under the Equality Act 2010. Life expectancy at birth is lower than England for both men and women. In terms of ethnicity, 93.97% of people in Plymouth are White British, 2.2% are Asian/Asian British, 1.8% are mixed/multiple ethnic groups, 1.1% are Black/Black British/Caribbean or African, and 1% Other.

The local authority has an Index of Multiple Deprivation score of 7. A local authority with a decile of 1 means it is in the least deprived group (lowest 10%), while a local authority with a decile of 10 means it is in the most deprived group (highest 10%). Deprivation in Plymouth remains higher than the England average with the city within the 40% most deprived local authorities in England.

The Integrated Care System for Devon is made up of Plymouth City Council, Torbay Council and Devon County Council along with NHS Devon Integrated Care Board, NHS trusts, general practice, community services, mental health services, and the voluntary and community sector. Plymouth City Council is a Labour led council.

The majority of Plymouth City Council's Care Act assessment functions are carried out by a commissioned community interest company (referred to as 'the commissioned partner' in the report) and have been since 2015. This is one of the local authorities commissioning arrangements. The services which remain within the local authority are oversight of all social care and Director of Adult Social Services responsibilities, some safeguarding and Deprivation of Liberty (DoLS) functions, power to charge, reablement, commissioning, an outreach service and some learning disability and emergency respite services. For ease, both the local authority and community interest company staff, are all referred to as 'staff' in the report.

Financial facts

- The local authority estimated that in 2023/24, its total budget would be **£359,993,000.00**. Its actual spend for that year was **£400,100,000.00**, which was **£40,107,000.00** more than estimated.
- The local authority estimated that it would spend **£101,858,000.00** of its total budget on adult social care in 2023/24. Its actual spend was **£107,552,000.00**, which is **£5664,000.00** more than estimated.

- In 2023/24, **26.87%** of the budget was spent on adult social care.
- The local authority has raised the full adult social care precept for 2023/24, with a value of **2%**. Please note that the amount raised through ASC precept varies from local authority to local authority.
- Approximately **4330** people were accessing long-term adult social care support, and approximately **1000** people were accessing short-term adult social care support in 2023/24. Local authorities spend money on a range of adult social care services, including supporting individuals. No two care packages are the same and vary significantly in their intensity, duration, and cost.

This data is reproduced at the request of the Department of Health and Social Care. It has not been factored into our assessment and is presented for information purposes only.