

# Somerset ASC Provider Forum

21/04/2026 & 22/04/2026



# Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Financial context
- Activity context
- Uplifts for 26/27
- Our priorities for 26/27
- Update from ASC Operations
- Somerset Academy
- Questions

# Financial context

- The Council came into being (vested) on 1 April 2023 and declared a financial emergency in November 2023.
- It has been unable to bring down its annual spending to its level of income and has relied on Exceptional Financial Support (putting day-to-day spending on its balance sheet of more than £80m).
- The 2026/27 budget includes a funding gap before Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) of £25m. The budget has been balanced only using one-off resources including EFS.
- The lack of financial sustainability continues over the period 2027/28 to 2030/31 with a budget gap increasing to £88.368m by 2031.

# Sourcing Activity

## Homecare Demand (New Packages)

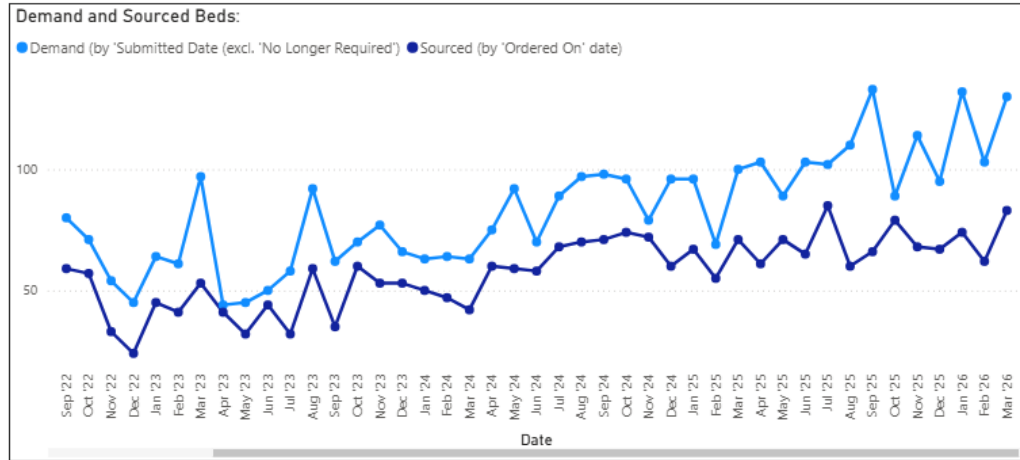
	No.	Hours	Avg Package
2022/23	1,562	18,898	12.1
2023/24	1,501	18,039	12.0
2024/25	1,490	16,870	11.3
2025/26	1,584	18,913	11.9

## 2025/26 Demand by Zone

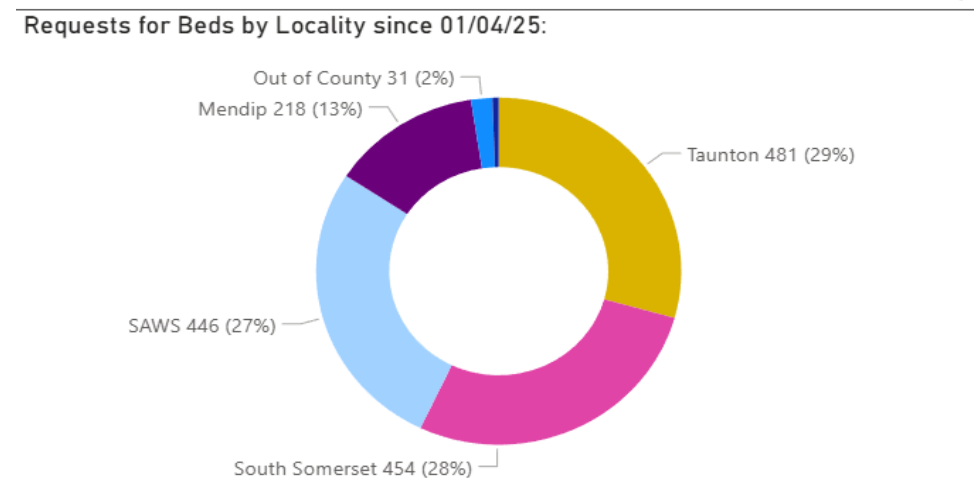
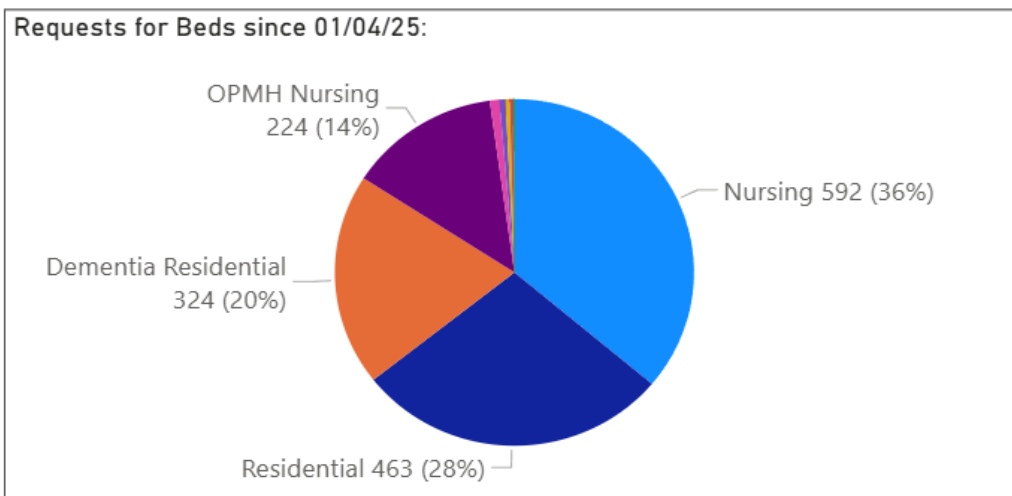
	No.	Hours	Avg
Glastonbury/Street	111	1,243	11.2
Shepton Mallet/Wells	149	1,547	10.4
Frome	107	1,154	10.8
Yeovil	208	2,569	12.3
Langport/Somerton	74	1,033	14.0
Chard/Ilminster/Crewkerne	143	1,741	12.2
Wincanton/Castle Cary	41	528	12.9
Bridgwater/North Petherton	219	2,487	11.4
Burnham/Highbridge/Cheddar	153	1,601	10.5
Minehead	70	956	13.7
Williton/Watchet	41	480	11.7
Taunton	205	2,752	13.4
Wellington	63	822	13.1

# Sourcing Activity

## Sourcing of Beds

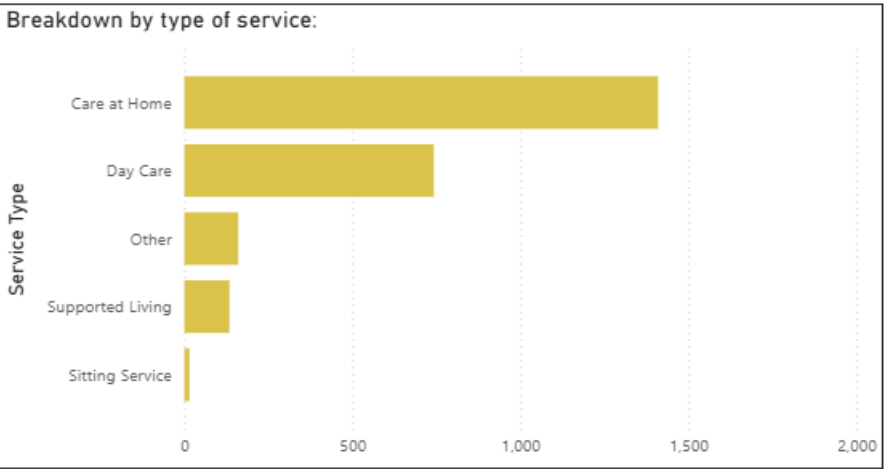
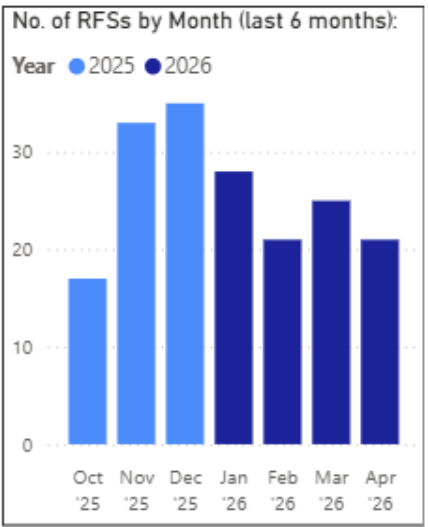
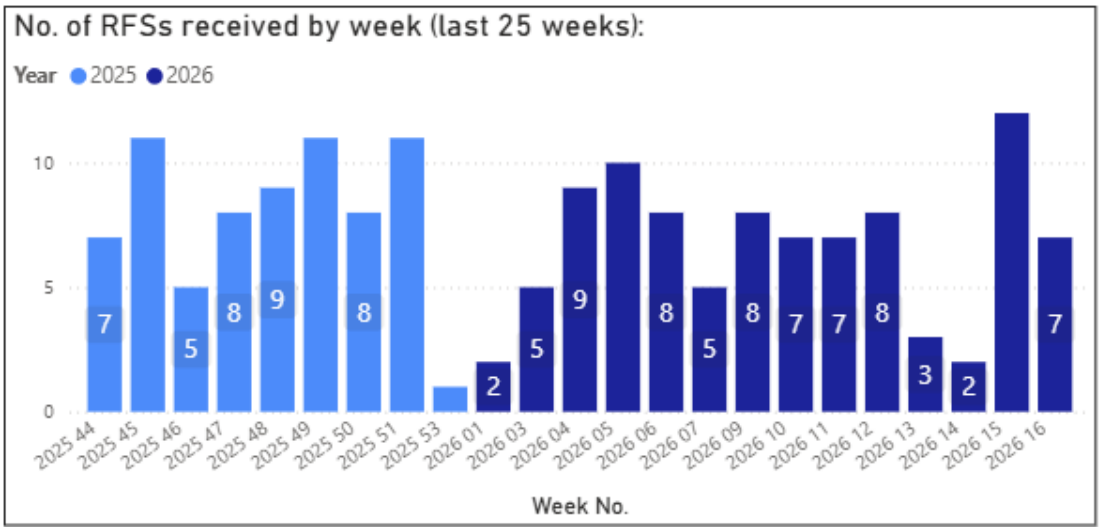


Average Demand mth	24/25	25/26
	80	103



# Sourcing Activity

## Specialist Adult Support in Somerset (SASIS) DPS



# Uplifts for 26/27

- We have worked to ensure that uplifts take into account increases to the National Living Wage where people are supported in Somerset.
- We are therefore offering an uplift of 3.56% across all service types.
- We identified that there were a small number of rates for people placed in supported living services that were at risk of becoming unviable with the increase in National Living Wage, and have therefore introduced a floor of £21 per hour.
- Where people are placed outside of Somerset our policy for 2026/27 will be to match the relevant rate of uplift offered by the host LA.
- Our full rate table is available here: [ASC-Fees-2026-27-FINAL.pdf](#)

# Our priorities for 26/27 – Older People

- New Pathway 1 D2A service – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026
- Developing TEC pilots in D2A – exploring TEC in reablement
- Phase 2 of Nobi lighting in OPMH settings
- Widening engagement of the draft Equipment in Care homes policy
- Re-commission of a new Direct Payments Advice and Guidance Service
- New Service Specifications across placements for all categories
- Development of the Somerset Dementia Strategy with a focus group to lead and co-produce
- Inspiring Innovations – doing things differently, doing things better. A focus on prevention, ensuring more people have access to preventative / enabling services. Focus on proactive outreach and digital

# Our priorities for 26/27 – Working Age Adults

- Further developing preventative and community based services, and support to unpaid carers.
- Re-establishing a Learning Disability Partnership Board
- Further developing options for people who experience homelessness and multiple disadvantages
- Remodel our respite offer
- Beginning work to replace our SASIS DPS
- Inspiring Innovations – doing things differently, doing things better: A focus on Working Age Adults using strengths-based approaches and focused pieces of work to help people to build and retain their independence and ensuring we have the right models of support in place.

# Update from ASC Operations

- Our operational teams for Adults with Learning Disabilities are currently under significant pressure for reasons that are outside of their control.
- They are working to address this, and we hope that you will start to see an improvement in the very near future.
- In the meantime, please do not stop making referrals or reporting concerns.

# Somerset Health & Care Academy

**“A place where health and care professionals learn, innovate, and work together for a workforce enabling healthier, resilient communities where everyone can thrive.**

- Physical hub at Bridgwater Community Hospital, including an Independent Living Centre, GP research unit and office space.
- Virtual and digital learning
- Flexible and accessible training
- Designed with and for employers
- Innovative and inter active
- Designed around teams and communities

Work will be progressing in the coming months, including with care and support providers, to design the Academy's offer.

**Please let us know if you would like further information about how to get involved**

# Notes

## Additional Information

**Capacity Tracker** – DHSC are seeking volunteers to take part in user research sessions to help co-design improvements to Capacity Tracker and reduce duplicative data requests. If you would like to be involved, please email [necsu.capacitytracker@nhs.net](mailto:necsu.capacitytracker@nhs.net)

**Supported Housing Consultation** – The government have now published their response to the supported housing consultation which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/supported-housing-regulation-consultation>. This also confirms that the Regulations are being drafted by MHCLG and DWP currently and are due to be consulted on later in 2026.

**National Wound Care Strategy Programme** – Career Framework for Tissue Viability adapted for Somerset Health and Social Care settings - Volunteers to support via workshop

From 1<sup>st</sup> June, aligning to health arrangements, Somerset Council will fund the net cost of care home placements for 48 hours after RiP.

# Questions