

# IJB Updated Budget Position: 2025/6

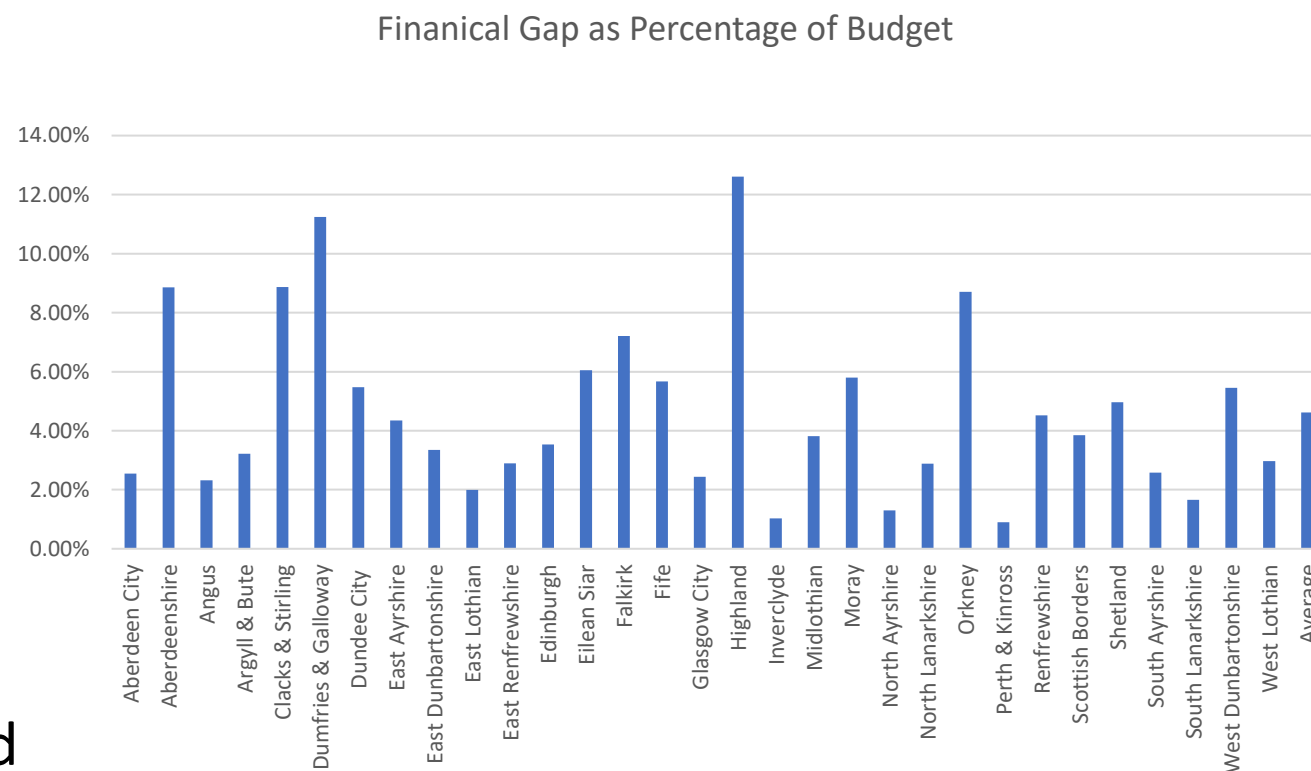
Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing  
and Sport : 5.6.25



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# 2025/26 Position

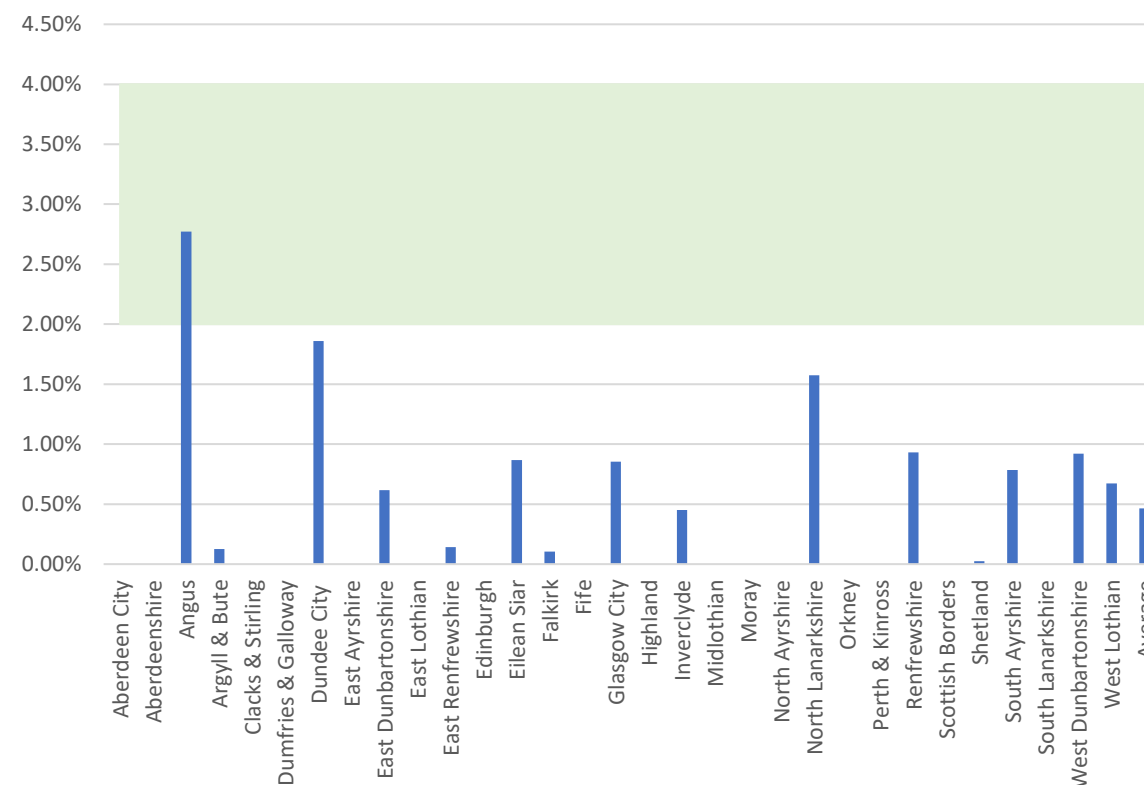
- Budget gap of £497.5m
- Average of 4.62% with gaps ranging from 1.30% to 12.61%
- Pressures across the system including
  - Increases in demand, complexity and demographics
  - Prescribing
  - Recurring deficits/ baseline pressures/ inflation
  - Pay pressures
  - Contract inflation for commissioned services



# Financial Sustainability – Worsening Position

- Depleted reserves - majority (55%) with no contingency reserve
- Best practice contingency reserves - held at 2 to 4% of revenue budget
- Total contingency reserve balance held is £55m or 0.46% of total funding (£183m in 22/23)
- Significant financial gaps to be met to hold our current position
- Under delivery in savings plans, a reduction in funding or unanticipated cost increases all risk exposing funding partners to additional costs

Contingency Reserve as Percentage of Budget Against General Practice Range



# Savings Plans to Address Gap

- **Cost Containment** - reducing overspends through cost curtailment programmes including agency, overtime and vacancy management
- **Prescribing Action Plans** - generic prescribing, polypharmacy & therapeutic switches
- **Income Maximisation** - increase/introduction of charges
- **Efficiency Reviews** – reviews of staffing/business supports/assessment models
- **Service Redesign & Innovations** - investment in digital approaches/dynamic scheduling/
- **Service Prioritisation & Reduction**

# Service Prioritisation & Reduction

## Examples;

- Reassessment of existing care packages to prioritise only "critical" needs
- Day centre/Day Care reductions or closure for adults with disabilities or older people.
- Reduced access to respite care and scaling back of carer supports.
- Reviewing out of hours care and responder services
- Reductions in early intervention and reablement services
- Reduction in commissioned care packages
- Removal of low - level care and support including provision of meals, transport etc

# Impacts of savings

## Supporters of therapy centre demand U-turn on funding axe after "life changing" treatment

Notre Dame Centre faces closure after NHS sanctioned a £500,000 cut. Supporters claim its highly specialised therapy is irreplaceable

**Cuts are to be made to services for adults with learning disabilities in Aberdeenshire.**

Eight projects will close as part of efforts to find £17m of savings at Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership (AHSCP) this year.

Day centres will stay open, but fewer people will be eligible to attend, while social care transport is to be cut almost entirely.

Hugely concerning proposed cuts to community mental health services in Edinburgh would put the city on the backfoot with more expensive services and increased demand in their place.

A proposed cut means the **Stafford Centre** itself, our community resource on Edinburgh's Broughton Street, would be at risk – a service which supports **640 people annually**, plus **9,870 additional hours of support** through Thrive.

## Over 145 Glasgow health and social care jobs cut as union warns city 'cannot weather the storm'

Unions warned health inequalities are worsening as plans to cover a funding gap of more than £40m in health and social care services were agreed.

A supported living service for the elderly — including people with dementia — will be axed while a counselling service for sexual assault victims at the Sandyford clinic is also expected to stop.

## Fears cuts will affect most vulnerable

This includes reducing care home placements bought from the private sector, which bosses say will generate a saving of £500k.

'Cuts to disability day care would be devastating'

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Union protest (Image: Newsquest)