

JSNA Health and Wellbeing Profile 2025/26

Adult Social Care

Summary points

- 4,178 adults received a community-based social care support service during 2024/25. 1,763 of these were older people (65+) and 2,415 were people aged 18-64 years
- 1,436 care home places were funded in 2024/25

Findings

This section covers adults of 18-64 years and older people 65 plus. Full information about Bristol's strategic priorities for Adult Social Care is available in the [Market Position Statement](#)¹

During 2024/25, Adult Social Care in Bristol received 41,853 contact referrals, 46.2% (19,325) related to adults with long term conditions and 29.4% (12,307) related to older people. Further breakdown is provided in the following sections, demonstrating how many referrals progress to different types of care.

Please note that the data used for this 2024/25 section excludes funded nursing care, suspensions and services delivered inhouse. It is not comparable with data prior to 2023/24 where these services were included and therefore no trend graphs have been produced.

Community Support Services (CSS)

Community Support Services (CSS) in Bristol are specific adult social care support services for adults (18 years+) with eligible social care needs delivered within community settings or at home². This does not include specific home care provision but does include:

- Supported Living
- Support to Access the Community
- Day Services
- Time for You (support for carers to have a break)

At the end of 2024/25, 4,178 adults had received Community Support Services in Bristol: 1,763 older people and 2,415 adults aged 18-64 years. For CSS clients of working age (18-64 years) 29% have a mental health issue, 27% have a learning disability and 24% have a physical impairment, whilst for clients aged 65+ the largest client group was for physical impairment (59%) followed by mental health (21%) – see Figure 1 overleaf.

Equalities data: In 2024/25, women accounted for approximately 53% of the take up of services, with 47% for men. For older people, women accounted for 63% of take up, with 37% men. Across all age groups, 70% of clients were of White ethnicity, 11.7% were of Black/Black British ethnicity and 4.9% were of Asian ethnicity.

¹ Bristol City Council "Working with us for Better Lives", June 2018

² See www.bristol.gov.uk/csscommissioning

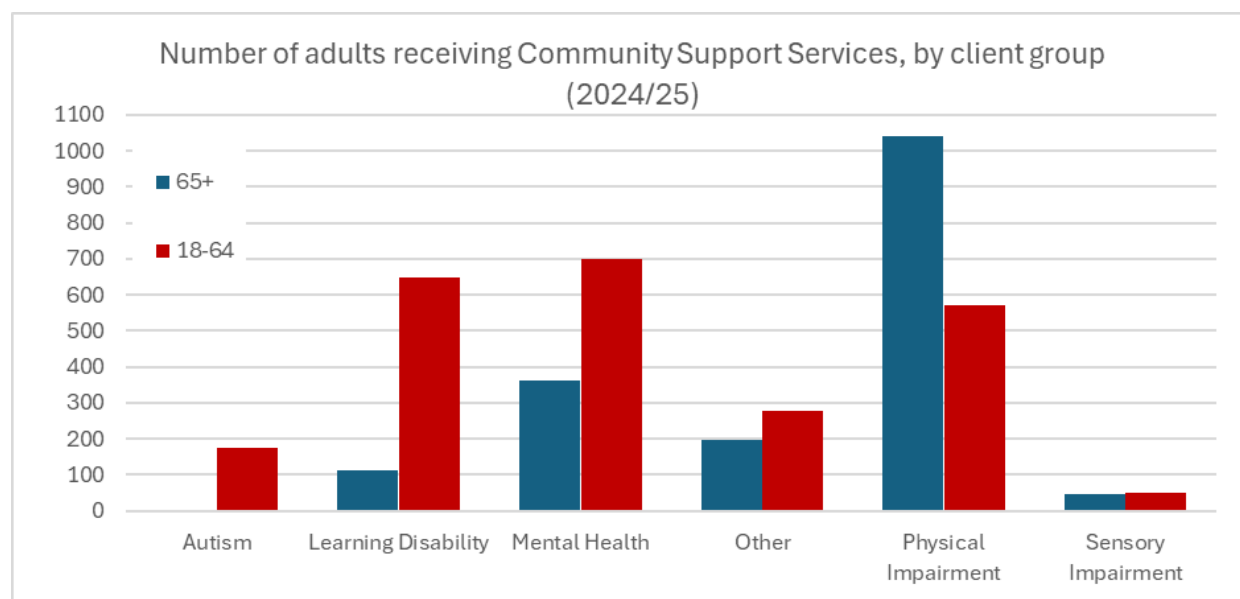


Figure 1: CSS client by client group; BCC – June 2025

Across the city by locality, there are large differences in the rates of people receiving CSS services (per 1,000 population) for both older people age 65+ and people aged 18-64. The city average for older people is 27.8 per 1,000 population and ranges from 20.3 per 1,000 people in the North & West of Bristol to 39.4 per 1,000 people in the Inner City & East locality of Bristol (Figure 2). Whilst the rates are much lower in the younger age category (Figure 3) there is again a higher rate of demand for services in the Inner City & East locality than elsewhere in the city. The city average rate is 6.5 per 1,000 population aged 18-64.

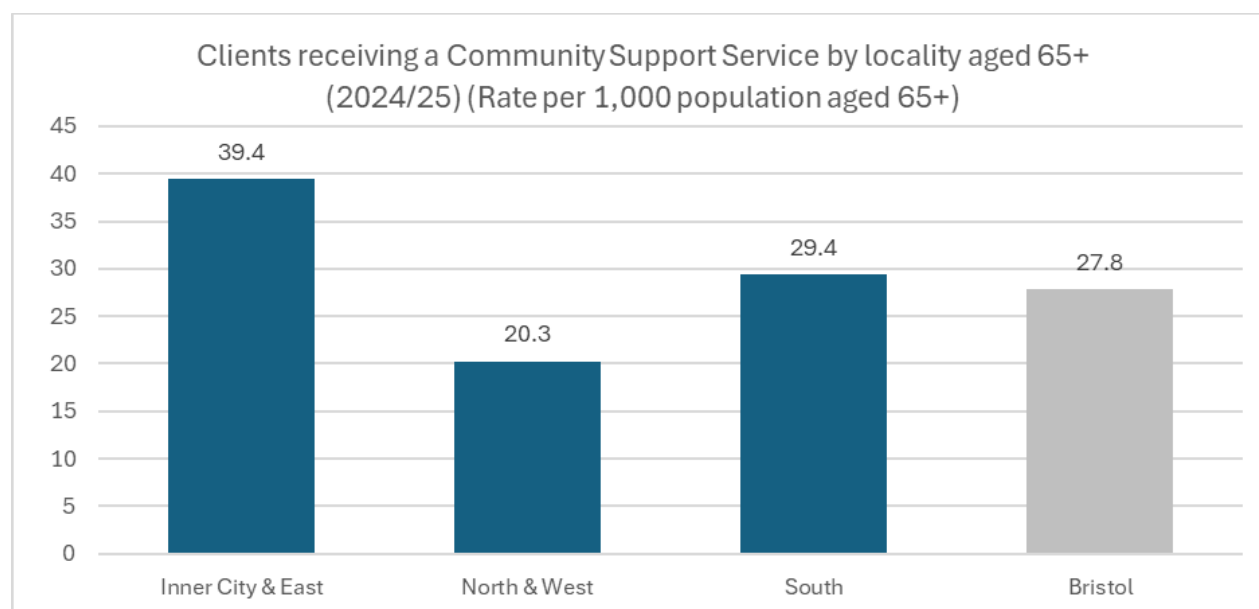


Figure 2: 2024/25 rate of CSS clients aged 65+ by locality. Source: BCC – June 2025

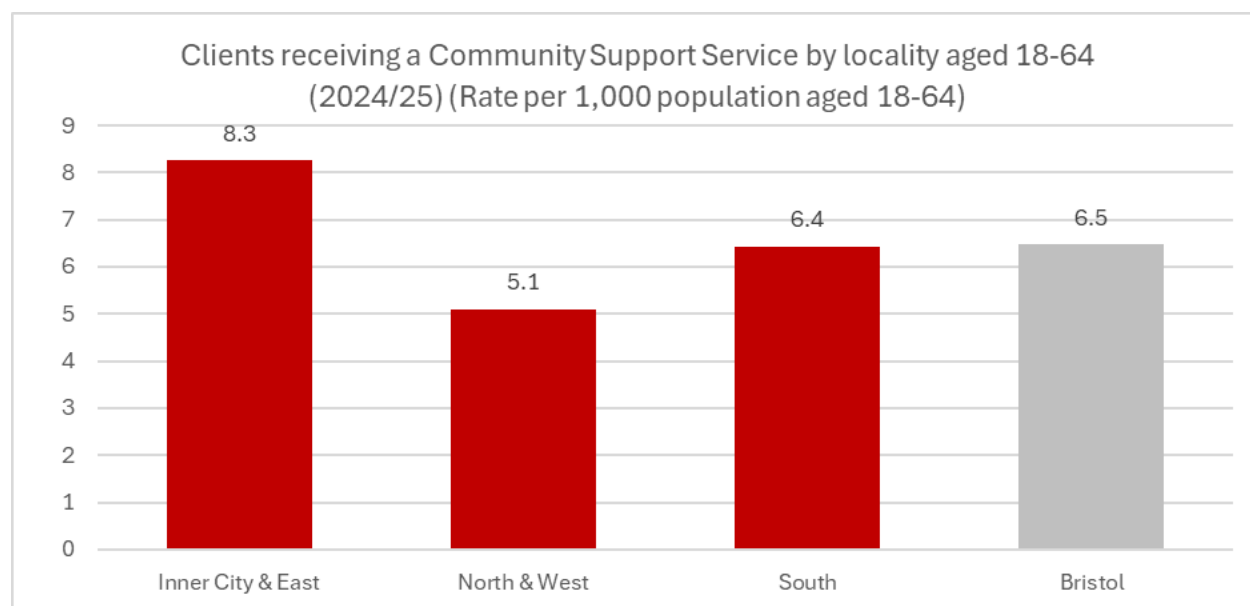


Figure 3: 2024/25 rate of CSS clients 18-64 years by locality. Source: BCC – June 2025

Care home placements

At a snapshot taken on the 31st of March 2025 there were 1,436 clients in care homes, of which 1,031 were older people aged 65 and over and 405 were aged 18-64. The majority of older clients were in care homes for physical impairment issues (40%) or mental health issues (42%) whilst the majority of people aged 18-64 were placed in a care home for issues relating to a learning disability (47%) or a mental health issue (29%).

Equalities data: 53% of care home places for all clients were given to females and 47% were given to males. By age group, 40% of places for clients aged 18-64 were given to females and 60% were given to men. In contrast 59% of places for clients aged 65 and over were given to females and 41% were given to men. In terms of ethnicity the largest recipient group were White (84.1%), followed by Black / Black British (5.5%) and mixed / multiple ethnicity (2.9%).

There is evidence to suggest that BCC places more people in residential and nursing placements than in other comparator local authorities. However the number of placements made in residential and nursing care is reducing as BCC builds and commissions alternatives to this care e.g. more Extra Care Housing and home care supply.

Home care packages

At the end of 2024/25, BCC funded 1,031 home ("domestic") care packages for older people (65+) of which 68% supported physical impairments and 21% supported mental health issues. An additional 391 home care packages were funded for people of working age (18-64) of which 55% were for physical impairments, 20% for mental health and 9% for learning disabilities.

Equalities data: Approximately 64% of all home care packages were received by females and 36% by men. By age group, 57% of packages for clients aged 18-64 were received by females and 43% by men. For clients aged 65 and over 67% were received by females and 33% were received by men. By ethnic group, 69% of recipients were White, 12.2% were Black / Black British and 4.3% were Asian / Asian British.

Extra care housing (ECH)

Extra care housing, sometimes known as assisted living, is for older people with care and support needs who want to be active and independent. It is an alternative to residential care allowing older people to live in either one or two bedroom ECH flats, houses or bungalows which are part of complexes with public spaces that may include a restaurant, activity room, lunch club, hairdressers, shop.

During 2024/25, there were 425 ECH packages received by people aged 55 and over, of which 58% were provided to support physical impairments and 19% to support mental health issues.

Equalities data: 56% of ECH packages (55+) were received by women in 2024/25 and 44% were received by men. 77% of recipients were White, 4.0% were of mixed / multiple ethnicity and 4.5% were Black / Black British.

Direct payments

A direct payment is money provided by BCC to pay for care and support needs for people who have been assessed and choose to use the money to meet their assessed needs. This enables more choice and control about the care that is received and can be used to:

- employ a personal assistant
- pay an agency for support
- employ a family member as long as they do not live in the same home

In 2024/25, 847 clients received direct payments in Bristol, of which 622 were aged 18 to 64 and 225 clients were aged 65 and over. Physical impairment was the main need met by a payment accounting for 55% of older clients requests and 39% of payments received by 18 to 64 year olds.

Equalities data: 60% of clients receiving direct payments were female and 40% were male. In terms of ethnicity the largest recipient group were White (59%), followed by Black / Black British (20%) and Asian / Asian British (9.1%).

Further data / links:

- [Adult Social Care Strategic Plan 2016 to 2020](#)
- [Better Lives in Bristol - Supported Housing Delivery Plan 2024-29](#)

Date updated: June 2025

Date of next update: June 2026