

Unpaid Carers Receiving Assessment of Carer's Needs Census 2025-26

Background

The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 [Section 3](#) defines a carer as:

- a person who provides or intends to provide care for an adult or disabled child.

The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, **Part 2** Code of Practice ([General Functions](#)), para. 300 (p64) state that the provision of advice and assistance [requires] staff to undertake a proportionate assessment through discussion and analysis of the five elements of the National Assessment and Eligibility Tool.

The Unpaid Carers receiving support census is based on the definition of eligible unpaid carers, i.e. adults (aged 18 or over) and young people (under the age of 18), **who have had a Carer's Needs Assessment in the collection year** and whose caring responsibilities are not part of paid employment.

The Carer's Needs Assessment should consist of any assessments of carers' support needs, including those that incorporate detailed or comprehensive assessments within the process of assessment, and those that incorporate specialist carer's assessments. This also includes any assessments of carers' support needs which are incorporated into wider, or joint, assessments, where the carer has had an assessment of their needs as a carer at the same time as their own, or others', care and support needs. If an individual has had multiple assessments in a year, only include the most recent assessment. Include individuals who had an assessment in a previous year and are being assessed again this year; this includes people who are being reassessed as they are already receiving support.

Do not include individuals who are only having their existing support plan reviewed (i.e. not a full assessment). Only include those people who are receiving a full Carer's Needs Assessment, even if that assessment was initiated because of a review.

Data should be submitted to the Welsh Government annually and reflect a financial years' worth of data. The first year will detail adults receiving care and support in the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026.

The Unpaid Carers receiving support census was developed with local authorities and other key stakeholders in 2024.

Guidance Notes for completion and submission

The Unpaid Carers receiving support census form should be used to record individual data for all carers who have received care and support in the collection year. The data provided should be accurate to the last interaction the local authority had with the unpaid carer.

Data requirements

Local authorities are required to submit data for unpaid carers who met the eligibility criteria above at any point during the collection year (2025-26), regardless of the date within that year the unpaid carer had an assessment.

An individual return is required for each unpaid carer who had a carers support needs assessment in the collection year, regardless as to whether that individual has an active support plan on 31 March.

True or False fields: There are a number of items within the Carers receiving support census that can be either true or false. The format for the Carers receiving support census is 1 for the true state, and 0 for the false state. However, users of management information systems may be presented with a number of ways of recording this such as with check boxes or a suitable drop-down list. The export functionality for any system will therefore have to convert these fields accordingly. Blank items will be assumed to indicate that data is not available.

Questions about whether the unpaid carer “has” or “had” specified attributes, e.g. health or disability problems, should be answered with reference to the point when the unpaid carer’s assessment was undertaken. This means that the attribute is current according to the information available or on 31 March or at the point when the unpaid carers’ assessment was undertaken.

A full list of data items is in Annex A. The following notes give further detailed guidance for specific sections.

This return should be uploaded, validated, and submitted on Objective Connect
Enquiries regarding the content of the form:

E-mail: stats.pss@gov.wales

Details

The questions below are to be completed for all unpaid carers who has a carer's needs assessment at any point in the financial year.

Local authority code

512 Isle of Anglesey
514 Gwynedd
516 Conwy
518 Denbighshire
520 Flintshire
522 Wrexham
524 Powys
526 Ceredigion
528 Pembrokeshire
530 Carmarthenshire
532 Swansea
534 Neath Port Talbot
536 Bridgend
538 Vale of Glamorgan
540 Rhondda Cynon Taf
542 Merthyr Tydfil
544 Caerphilly
545 Blaenau Gwent
546 Torfaen
548 Monmouthshire
550 Newport
552 Cardiff

Local authority identifier

This must be a unique ID for each unpaid carer, and it should be retained from year to year. The local authority adult ID can only contain alphabetic or numeric characters. It must be the same ID that is used for other purposes.

If you are planning to change the local authority ID, either for a single individual or for a whole group of individuals, it will prevent the Welsh Government from analysing across different census years. For this reason, any proposal to change IDs should be discussed with Welsh Government at an early stage and in advance of any changes.

If the identifier is being provided by a commissioned service, prefix the identifier TP. This will indicate that the identifier is being provided by the third-party organisation.

Unique Pupil Number (UPN)

Young carers in education may have a Unique Pupil Number (UPN). The UPN is automatically allocated to each child in maintained schools in England and Wales. It is an identifier only for use

in an educational context during a child's school career and it is subject to Data Protection restrictions.

The UPN must be 13 characters in the format Annnnnnnnnnnnn or AnnnnnnnnnnnnA (for a temporary UPN) where A is a character and n is numeric. Temporary UPNs may only be issued as an interim measure until the permanent UPN is obtained.

Every attempt must be made by the local authority to track down a child's UPN. If a child has not been assigned a UPN by a maintained school, then they may have been assigned one by the Education Department within the local authority, which has the ability to assign a UPN for those in, for example, alternative provision. Only where it is impossible to discover the UPN should the item be left blank.

Note that maintained Nursery Schools also allocate UPNs, so children may have a UPN from the age of 2 or 3 years onwards.

Surname

The unpaid carer's latest known surname should be provided, as currently recorded.

First name(s)

The unpaid carer's latest known first name should be provided, as currently recorded. If the individual has multiple first names, please provide all names with a space between the names.

Home postcode

The latest known postcode of the address where the unpaid carer was living. Enter the home postcode of the unpaid carer in the following format e.g. CF10 4SD.

If the unpaid carer is living in a residential care home or any kind of supported accommodation, and this is their main residence, please provide the postcode of the care home.

Date of birth

The date of birth should be provided in the format DD MM YYYY.

If the exact date of birth is not known, record an approximate date of birth based on the unpaid carer's estimated age at date of referral.

Gender

Gender is how the individual identifies themselves, not sex at birth. This is the last known gender at the point at which the assessment was completed.

1 Male

2 Female

3 Other

4 Not disclosed or unknown

Ethnicity

Ethnicity should be determined by first asking the unpaid carer about their ethnic identity, as part of their carers support needs assessment.

WTE1 - Gypsy or Irish Traveller

WTE2 - Roma

WTE3 - Any other White background (including English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British)

MIXD1 - White and Black Caribbean

MIXD2 - White and Black African

MIXD3 - White and Asian

MIXD4 - Any other mixed background / multiple ethnic background

ASAB1 - Indian

ASAB2 - Pakistani

ASAB3 - Bangladeshi

ASAB4 - Chinese

ASAB5 - Any other Asian background

BBAC1 - Caribbean

BBAC2 - African

BBAC3 - Any other Black background

OTH1 - Arab

OTH2 - Any other ethnic group

UNKN1 – Unknown

Disability

Record whether an unpaid carer has a disability when the carer's support needs assessment was completed. For the purposes of this data item, the definition of disabled follows that of Section 6 of the Equality Act 2010, which states that:

"A person (P) has a disability if -

(a) P has a physical or mental impairment, and

(b) The impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on P's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities."

Welsh Government adopts the Social Model of Disability. According to the social model of disability, impairment is what has historically been referred to as a "disability" or a health condition.

During a carers needs assessment, the unpaid carer's impairments will be considered to determine if that unpaid carer considers themselves to be disabled.

Does the carer consider themselves disabled?

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

If No or Unknown is selected, no other entries should be made in this section.

If Yes is selected, then for select each of the specified impairment types that apply, enter 1 if the carer identified themselves as having an impairment of this type when the carers needs assessment was completed.

Enter 0 if the unpaid carer did not have a disability of this type when the carers needs assessment was completed.

Categories of impairment:

- Sight
- Hearing
- Physical (e.g. gross motor, manual dexterity or mobility)
- Mental illness (not dementia or neurodevelopmental condition)
- Dementia
- Neurodevelopmental condition (e.g. Autistic Spectrum Condition, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Tourette's syndrome or learning disability)
- Other (not listed)
- Not known

Unpaid carers may have multiple disabilities, in which case more than one category can be entered as true. There may be a small number of adults who are disabled, but do not have any of the specified disabilities. For these unpaid carers, please enter 1 for Other (not listed) and provide the disability in the box provided.

If it is unknown what impairment the carer has (e.g. the data is not recorded), please enter 1 for Not Known.

Language

Record the unpaid carers' preferred language; this is the language the unpaid carer prefers to use to communicate with others. If there are differences between the preferred written or spoken language, use the language in which care and support is provided. Typically, this will be the preferred spoken or face-to-face language. See Annex B – Code List Language.

Record the language preference when the carers needs assessment was completed.; where a plan has closed, record the language preference as of the date of closure.

Date carer's needs assessment completed

A statutory carer's needs assessment is defined by [Part 3, section 24 of the Social Services and Wellbeing \(Wales\) Act 2014](#).

An assessment is considered complete, when it has been authorised by a practice manager or a person acting on that person's behalf (e.g. allocated social worker). This should be when the outcome of the assessment has been decided and agreed.

This applies only to (re)assessments completed in the collection year. This field records the date of the most recent (re)assessment in the collection year.

- Where a carer was assessed for the first time, and only once in the collection year, record this date.
- Where a carer already had a carer's support plan, and was reassessed in the collection year, record the date of the reassessment.

- Where a carer was assessed more than once in the collection year, record the date of the most recent (re)assessment.

This should be recorded as DD MM YYYY.

An assessment may also have multiple elements, record only when these elements have all been completed.

Outcome of carer's needs assessment

At the point of completion of a carers' needs assessment, the outcome should be one of the following:

1. Needs could be met with a carer's support plan or care and support plan. This is when the local authority is providing, or planning to provide, any support/provisions through a support plan.
2. Needs were able to be met by any other means. For example, support made available through preventative services or a third party.
3. There were no eligible needs to meet.

Provisions

As part of the carers needs assessment, necessary provisions should be identified. Regardless of the outcome of the carer's needs assessment, the assessment should assess to what extent the provision of the following services is required:

1. Services funded by the local authority for the unpaid carer to continue in their caring role (not to address the unpaid carer's own or the cared for person's care needs). See Types of Service below
2. Early intervention or preventative support, including offers of support to the unpaid carer for them to access when required and also information, advice or assistance, such as directing people to universal services
3. None

Record whether the carer required any of the specified provisions.

If 1 is entered for "none", no other entries should be made in this section.

If 0 is entered for "none", then for each of the specified provisions that apply, enter 1 if the unpaid carer requires the provision of this type at any time in the collection year.

Enter 0 if the unpaid carer did not require the provision of this type.

Types of Services

If services for the unpaid carer are **required** (i.e. if 1 is selected under Provisions), the types of services required should be recorded. This support is for the purpose of enabling the unpaid carer to continue in their caring role and/or for the unpaid carer to receive respite time for caring responsibilities. This support is **funded or offered to the unpaid carer** as a result of their carer's needs assessment.

Do not include support which is made available to all unpaid carers as part of a universal offer.

An individual may require more than one type of support, please select all types that the individual requires.

For each type of support, enter 1 if this is required by the unpaid carer.

Enter 0 if the unpaid carer does not require this type of support.

Types of service:

- Care replacement/relief
- Funded activities
- Domestic assistance
- Direct payments
- Other

Care Replacement/Relief – Support provided by the local authority to provide relief to the unpaid carer and/or person being cared for. This may be either:

- where the individual who receives care and support is temporarily accommodated away from their home or usual place of residence, e.g. in a residential home setting.
- where a paid carer provides support in the person's home or usual place of residence.

The period of care should cover one or more hours, but not exceed 3 months. Do not include temporary care home accommodation for those individuals awaiting a long-term package

Funded Activities – Activities which the local authority provides or funds, which is to support the carers' wellbeing. These can include leisure, social, cultural or educational needs of the carer. This may include peer support groups, counselling, and exercise classes. There should be a cost to these activities which is met by the local authority.

Domestic assistance – Additional support to the carer in providing their caring role. This may be helping with cleaning, cooking or providing care to the 'cared for' person. This may be the local authority providing staff time to assist the unpaid carer or paying for a service for the same purpose.

Direct payments – Monetary payments made by local authorities directly to the unpaid carer for the purchase of care and support services.

Care and support needs

An unpaid carer may have their own care and support needs, in addition to providing care to a disabled adult or child. These needs may or may not be eligible for support from the local authority through a care and support plan but may still impact their ability to carry out their caring role.

This may be identified during the carer's needs assessment or raised separately by the unpaid carer. These care and support needs may also be identified by offering a separate assessment or undertaking a joint carer needs and care and support needs assessment.

At the most recent carers support needs assessments, was the unpaid carer identified as having their own care and support needs?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Unknown

If the unpaid carer has some care and support needs but is not eligible for a care and support plan, select Yes. Also select Yes, if the unpaid carer has a care and support plan with the local authority.

Care and support plans

The unpaid carer may then also have a care and support plan with the local authority, which may be separate to, or integrated with, their carers support plan.

Does the unpaid carer have a care and support plan for their own care needs?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Unknown

This care and support plan may be combined with a carers support plan or be separate to it.

The unpaid carer may have a care and support plan and has had a carers needs assessment in the collection year. If the unpaid carer has had a carers needs assessment and has a care and support plan, include them here.

Select Yes, if the carer has care and support needs which are included in the cared for person's care and support plan.

Annex A – List of data items

Local authority code
Local authority identifier
Surname
First Name(s)
Home Postcode
Date of birth
Gender
Ethnicity
Disability – Sight
Disability – Hearing
Disability – Physical
Disability – Mental illness
Disability – Dementia
Disability – Neurodevelopmental condition
Disability – Other (not listed)
Disability – None
Language
Date carer's needs assessment completed
Outcome of carer's needs assessment
Provisions
Types of Services - Care replacement/relief
Types of Services - Funded activities
Types of Services - Domestic assistance
Types of Services - Direct payments
Types of Services – Other
Care and support needs
Care and support plans

Annex B - Code List Language

Code Language

ENG	English
CYM	Welsh/Cymraeg
ACL	Acholi
ADA	Adangme
AFA	Afar-Saho
AFK	Afrikaans
AKA	Akan/Twi-Fante
ALB	Albanian/Shqip
ALU	Alur
AMR	Amharic
ARA	Arabic
ARM	Armenian
ASM	Assamese
ASR	Assyrian/Aramaic
AYB	Anyi-Baule
AYM	Aymara
AZE	Azeri
BAI	Bamileke (Any)
BAL	Balochi
BEJ	Beja/Bedawi
BEL	Belarusian
BEM	Bemba
BHO	Bhojpuri
BIK	Bikol
BIS	Bislama
BLT	Balti Tibetan
BMA	Burmese/Myanma
BNG	Bengali
BSL	British Sign Language
BSQ	Basque/Euskara
BUL	Bulgarian
CAM	Cambodian/Khmer
CAT	Catalan
CCE	Caribbean Creole English
CF	Caribbean Creole French
CGA	Chaga
CGR	Chattisgarhi/Khatahi
CHE	Chechen
CHI	Chinese
CKW	Chokwe

Code Language

CRN	Cornish
CTR	Chitrali/Khowar
CWA	Chichewa/Nyanja
CZE	Czech
DAN	Danish
DGA	Dagaare
DGB	Dagbane
DIN	Dinka/Jieng
DUT	Dutch/Flemish
DZO	Dzongkha/Bhutanese
EBI	Ebira
EDO	Edo/Bini
EFI	Efik-Ibibio
ESA	Esan/Ishan
EST	Estonian
EWE	Ewe
EWO	Ewondo
FAN	Fang
FIJ	Fijian
FIN	Finnish
FON	Fon
FRN	French
FUL	Fula/Fulfulde-Pulaar
GAA	Ga
GAE	Gaelic/Irish
GAL	Gaelic (Scotland)
GEO	Georgian
GER	German
GGO	Gogo/Chigogo
GKY	Kikuyu/Gikuyu
GLG	Galician/Galego
GRE	Greek
GRN	Guarani
GUJ	Gujarati
GUN	Gurenne/Frafra
GUR	Gurma
HAU	Hausa
HDK	Hindko
HEB	Hebrew
HER	Herero
HGR	Hungarian

Code Language

HIN	Hindi
IBA	Iban
IDM	Idoma
IGA	Igala
IGB	Igbo
IJO	Ijo (Any)
ILO	Ilokano
ISK	Itsekiri
ISL	Icelandic
ITA	Italian
JAV	Javanese
JIN	Jinghpaw/Kachin
JPN	Japanese
KAM	Kikamba
KAN	Kannada
KAR	Karen (Any)
KAS	Kashmiri
KAU	Kanuri
KAZ	Kazakh
KCH	Katchi
KGZ	Kirghiz/Kyrgyz
KHA	Khasi
KHY	Kihaya/Luziba
KIN	Kinyarwanda
KIR	Kirundi
KIS	Kisi (West Africa)
KLN	Kalenjin
KMB	Kimbundu
KME	Kimeru
KNK	Konkani
KNY	Kinyakyusa-Ngonde
KON	Kikongo
KOR	Korean
KPE	Kpelle
KRI	Krio
KRU	Kru (Any)
KSI	Kisii/Ekegusii (Kenya)
KSU	Kisukuma
KUR	Kurdish
LAO	Lao
LBA	Luba

Code Language

LGA	Luganda
LGB	Lugbara
LGS	Lugisu/Lumasaba
LIN	Lingala
LIT	Lithuanian
LNG	Lango (Uganda)
LOZ	Lozi/Silozi
LSO	Lusoga
LTV	Latvian
LTZ	Luxemburgish
LUE	Luvale/Luena
LUN	Lunda
LUO	Luo (Kenya/Tanzania)
LUY	Luhya (Any)
MAG	Magahi
MAI	Maithili
MAK	Makua
MAN	Manding/Mandekan
MAO	Maori
MAR	Marathi
MAS	Maasai
MDV	Maldivian/Dhivehi
MEN	Mende
MKD	Macedonian
MLG	Malagasy
MLM	Malayalam
MLT	Maltese
MLY	Malay/Indonesian
MNA	Magindanao-Maranao
MNG	Mongolian (Khalkha)
MNX	Manx Gaelic
MOR	Moore/Mossi
MSC	Mauritian/Seychelles Creole
MUN	Munda (Any)
MYA	Maya (Any)
NAH	Nahuatl/Mexicano
NAM	Nama/Damara
NBN	Nubian (Any)
NDB	Ndebele
NEP	Nepali
NOR	Norwegian

Code Language

NUE	Nuer/Naadh
NUP	Nupe
NWA	Newari
NZM	Nzema
OAM	Ambo/Oshiwambo
OGN	Ogoni (Any)
ORI	Oriya
ORM	Oromo
OTL	Other Language / Unknown / Unable to communicate
PAG	Pangasinan
PAM	Pampangan
PAT	Pashto/Pakhto
PHA	Pahari/Himachali (India)
PHR	Pahari (Pakistan)
PNJ	Panjabi
POL	Polish
POR	Portuguese
PRS	Persian/Farsi
QUE	Quechua
RAJ	Rajasthani/Marwari
RME	Romany/English Romanes
RMI	Romani (International)
RMN	Romanian
RMS	Romansch
RNY	Runyakitara
RUS	Russian
SAM	Samoan
SCB	Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian
SCO	Scots
SHL	Shilluk/Cholo
HO	Shona
SID	Sidamo
SIO	Sign Language (Other)
SLO	Slovak
SLV	Slovenian
SND	Sindhi
SNG	Sango
SNH	Sinhala
SOM	Somali
SPA	Spanish
SRD	Sardinian

Code Language

SRK	Siraiki
SSO	Sotho/Sesotho
SSW	Swazi/Siswati
STS	Tswana/Setswana
SWA	Swahili/Kiswahili
SWE	Swedish
TAM	Tamil
TEL	Telugu
TEM	Temne
TES	Teso/Ateso
TGE	Tigre
TGL	Tagalog/Filipino
TGR	Tigrinya
THA	Thai
TIB	Tibetan
TIV	Tiv
TMZ	Berber/Tamazight
TNG	Tonga/Chitonga (Zambia)
TON	Tongan (Oceania)
TPI	Tok Pisin
TRI	Traveller Irish/Shelta
TSO	Tsonga
TUK	Turkmen
TUL	Tulu
TUM	Tumbuka
TUR	Turkish
UKR	Ukrainian
UMB	Umbundu
URD	Urdu
URH	Urhobo-Isoko
UYG	Uyghur
UZB	Uzbek
VEN	Venda
VIE	Vietnamese
VSY	Visayan/Bisaya
WAP	Wa-Paraok (South-East Asia)
WCP	West-African Creole Portuguese
WOL	Wolof
WPE	West-African Pidgin English
XHO	Xhosa
YAO	Yao/Chiyao (East Africa)

Code Language

YDI	Yiddish
YOR	Yoruba
ZND	Zande
ZUL	Zulu
ZZX	Refused