



About PSSRU

The Personal Social Services Research Unit was established in 1974 at the University of Kent. The LSE branch of PSSRU was opened in 1996.

PSSRU at LSE is part of LSE Health and Social Care, located within the Department of Social Policy. The PSSRU receives funding from a number of organisations, in particular, continuing support and funding from the Department of Health for core research and related activities.

Our research

The PSSRU carries out policy analysis, research and consultancy in the UK and abroad. The Unit's current research programmes focus on needs, resources and outcomes in social and health care, with particular emphasis on economic aspects of community care, residential and nursing home provision, social care markets and commissioning, long-term care finance, and mental health policy.

The PSSRU has long had close and productive links with policy makers in the UK and elsewhere.



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Personal Social Services Research Unit

at the

**London School of Economics and Political
Science**



Excellence in social care research



Our mission

PSSRU's mission is to conduct high quality research on social and health care to inform and influence policy, practice and theory.

Our aims

- To conduct long-term research to help shape the developments of social and health care systems, in the UK and internationally, while also responding to more immediate research needs.
- To develop and employ rigorous research methods from a multidisciplinary base.
- To examine the performance and functioning of social and health care finance, organisation and delivery, with a particular emphasis on promoting efficiency and equity.
- To conduct research that meets the best standards of research governance.
- To work towards greater user and carer involvement in all stages of research.
- To communicate research findings to a variety of audiences through a variety of media.
- To train people in social care research methods and related skills.

Research focus

Research at PSSRU's LSE branch is focused around ten research areas, within three core research programmes:

The Commissioning and Performance programme

aims to describe and evaluate the mixed economy of social and health care in England, looking at:

- Prevention and partnership
- Care service evaluations
- Consumer-directed care
- European social care
- Local variations

The Long-Term Care Finance programme

works to make projections of likely demand for long-term care for older people and associated expenditure to 2041 under different scenarios, looking particularly at:

- Long-term care finance and workforce
- Informal care

The Mental Health Economics and Policy programme

focuses on mental health policy and practice, looking at:

- International mental health
- UK mental health policy and practice
- Children and young people's services

Publications

PSSRU cross-branch annual Bulletin

Research Bites newsletter

Policy Briefs

Journal papers

Research summaries

Lay summaries

Books

Chapters in edited volumes

Reports

PSSRU website

