



Home Office

REPORT ON REVIEW OF CASH ALLOWANCE PAID TO ASYLUM SEEKERS: 2016

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Introduction

The Home Office ensures asylum seekers are not left destitute by providing appropriate support under section 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 (the 1999 Act). Support is usually provided in the form of free, furnished accommodation (with no utility bills or Council Tax to pay) and a weekly cash allowance to cover the asylum seeker's other essential living needs. Free access to healthcare and schooling is also provided.

The level of the cash allowance is reviewed each year to ensure that it is adequate, using an assessment methodology that was developed in 2014 in light of the findings of and guidance given by the High Court in the case of *R (Refugee Action) v SSHD 2014 EWHC 1033 (Admin)*¹.

The outcome of the 2016 review was delayed because the methodology had been challenged in further judicial review proceedings in the case of *Sumaya Ghulam, K, YT and RG v SSHD 2016 EWHC 2639 (Admin)*². We therefore considered it sensible to await the judgment of the court. On 24 October 2016, following a hearing over four days in July, the High Court upheld our approach and we are therefore able to publish the outcome of our review.

After careful consideration, we have concluded that the cash allowance should remain unchanged. This means that as a general rule asylum seekers supported under section 95 of the 1999 Act will continue to receive a cash allowance of £36.95 per week (with the same amount provided for any dependant in their household). The £36.95 cash allowance will not apply to the minority of asylum seekers and their dependants supported under section 95 in full board accommodation (where some of their needs are met through different arrangements) and those with exceptional needs may apply for additional support.

We have developed a new policy for considering applications for additional support following consultation with partners, which will shortly be published on the Gov.uk website³. The broad approach is that asylum seekers, or their dependants, will typically have a need for further support to cover their essential living needs where they have:

- a need that is essential and different from the needs of asylum seekers in general; or,
- an essential need which is common to all asylum seekers, but which is more costly to meet because of their particular circumstances.

In such circumstances, consideration will be given to using the powers in section 96(2) of the 1999 Act to provide further support. Where it is decided that further support is required it may be provided in a number of ways, such as:

¹ <http://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2014/1033.html>

² <http://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2016/2639.html>

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/asylum-support-asylum-instructions>

- in cash;
- in kind;
- by changes to accommodation; or
- by changes to other arrangements (for example, a change to the designated Post Office from which the asylum seeker needs to collect their weekly cash payment).

Consultation

As part of this year's review of the asylum support rates we invited written submissions from external partners and received responses from the following, for which we are grateful:

- Still Human Still Here
- Refugee Action
- The Children's Society
- STAR (Student Action for Refugees)
- Birmingham Community Law Centre.

The Birmingham Law Centre represented one of the claimants in the judicial review proceedings, so understandably made the same submissions that they used in the case, including that the cash allowances should be similar to the allowances provided by the Department of Work and Pensions under the mainstream benefits system. Some of the other submissions argued along similar lines focusing particularly on the needs of children.

Still Human Still Here conducted some analysis of the most recent ONS data and made an assessment of the costs of meeting other essential living needs.

There were also a number of comments about how to assess the cost of meeting certain essential items, particularly those related to children, some of which we have adopted, as will become evident later in this paper.

Overview of the assessment methodology

In basic terms, our approach is to identify all needs that are considered “essential” for average, able-bodied asylum seekers and their dependants and which are not covered through other arrangements. We then assess the cost of meeting each of these essential needs.

Our assessment of meeting some needs (those related to clothes, travel and communication) is based on our own market research and other available information and is explained in more detail later in this paper.

Our assessment of meeting needs related to food, toiletries, non-prescription medicines and household cleaning items is also in part based on our own research, but as was the case in previous years we have used as a primary source data collected by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) about expenditure by the lowest 10% income group among the UK population on these items. This data is considered the best available indicator of the likely amount of money needed to meet each of the particular needs.

The ONS data is taken from their annual Living Costs and Food Survey. This survey is an important source of information for government and the wider community and is used primarily to provide information for the Consumer Prices Index and the Retail Prices Index, to analyse the effects of taxes and benefits and measure trends in nutrition. The survey samples expenditure patterns of people in private households. The basic unit of the survey is the household. A household comprises one person living alone or a group of people (not necessarily related, but living at the same address) who share cooking facilities and share a living room or sitting room or dining area. Each individual in the household aged over 16 is interviewed and asked to keep diary records of daily expenditure. Detailed questions are asked about the income of each adult member of the household. In addition, personal information such as age, sex and marital status is recorded for each household member. The survey is continuous, interviews being spread evenly over the year to ensure that seasonal effects are covered. The questionnaire content undergoes regular thorough review to ensure that it remains up-to-date and captures information efficiently.

Consideration of the ONS data

The data for this review is taken from the ONS report on Family Spending: 2015 which uses data from Living Costs and Food Survey for the calendar year 2014⁴. The table below illustrates the weekly expenditure by the lowest 10% income group among the UK

⁴ ONS report on Family Spending: 2015:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/incomeandwealth/compendium/familyspending/2015>

population on the particular items that correspond to those that we consider to be essential. As the expenditure levels in the survey were based on a household of 1.3 persons, the figures in the third column have been adjusted appropriately (by dividing by 1.3) to arrive at figures indicative of the expenditure of single person.

Table 1: ONS data from table A6⁵ in the survey

Essential need	Items covered in ONS survey (information taken from table A1⁶)	Expenditure by lowest 10% group adjusted for one person
Food and non-alcoholic drinks	All food and non-alcoholic drinks covered in the survey.	£23.23
Toiletries	Toilet paper, Toiletries (disposable including tampons, lipsoyl, toothpaste etc.) and soap (Bar of soap, liquid soap, shower gel etc.), including Toilet requisites (durable including razors, hairbrushes, toothbrushes etc.)	£1.00
Healthcare	Medicines, prescriptions and healthcare products, including NHS prescription charges and payments, Medicines and medical goods (not NHS), Other medical products (e.g. plasters, condoms, hot water bottle etc.), Non-optical appliances and equipment (e.g. wheelchairs, batteries for hearing aids, shoe build-up).	£0.54
Household cleaning items	Cleaning material, including detergents, washing up liquid, washing powder, Disinfectants, polishes and other cleaning materials etc.	£1.00

The overall position is that expenditure on the four items was £25.77 (compared to £26.38 in the 2013 calendar year). Our findings in respect to further analysis of the amounts required to cover each of the four needs are set out below.

⁵ Table A6 at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/incomeandwealth/compendium/familyspending/2015/familyspending2015referencetables>

⁶ Table A1 at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/incomeandwealth/compendium/familyspending/2015/familyspending2015referencetables>

Food and non-alcoholic drinks

The sum of £23.33 to cover the costs of food and non-alcoholic drinks is consistent with other data collected in the ONS survey. Information collected from One Adult Non-Retired Households⁷ (this time based on quintile groups (20%) rather than decile groups (10%)), shows that expenditure on the category by the lowest 20% of non-retired single households was £24.30 each week on food and non-alcoholic drinks. This sum is £1.07 more than the amount set out in Table 1 above (£23.23), but that sum reflects expenditure for the lowest 20% of UK households rather than the lowest 10%. The amounts are therefore broadly consistent, suggesting that £23.23 per week is indeed about the amount typically spent by persons in the bottom 10% income groups on their dietary needs.

As was the case in previous reviews of the cash allowances, we have decided that a small adjustment needs to be made to the £23.23 figure as the ONS survey shows that the sample group spends some of their income on takeaways, which is recorded separately from spending on food and non-alcoholic drink. The low level of the expenditure is unlikely, however, to relate to more than one takeaway meal per week. The figure of £23.23 per week spending on food and non-alcoholic drinks can therefore reasonably be considered to reflect expenditure on 20 meals each week instead of 21. The average expenditure on providing a non-takeaway meal was therefore just over £1 ($£23.33/20 = £1.16$).

In summary, this means that we assess that around £24.39 (£23.33 plus £1.16) is sufficient to cover the average weekly dietary needs of an adult asylum seeker.

Toiletries, non-prescription medications and household cleaning items

In the reviews undertaken in 2014 and 2015 we considered that it was reasonable to assume that the ONS spending levels in respect of toiletries, household cleaning items and non-prescription medicines were sufficient to meet each particular need. We remain of that view.

Indeed our own analysis suggests that the actual cost of meeting these needs is probably lower than the ONS expenditure levels would suggest. Research into the costs of purchasing a range of relevant items that can be bought at a variety of stores (Boots, Superdrug, Poundland and others) shows that, for a man, the annual cost in respect of buying essential toiletries, household cleaning items and non-prescription medication is between £61 and £65 annually (£1.17 - £1.25 weekly). For a woman, the cost is between £64 and £75 annually (£1.23 - £1.44 weekly). The full findings are set out in at Annex A of this paper. The research had of necessity to make some assumptions about the number of items the average person needs to purchase to meet the particular need, which is evident in the analysis. We believe these assumptions are reasonable.

⁷ Table A26 at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/incomeandwealth/compendium/familyspending/2015/familyspending2015referencetables>

In summary, we consider that the most recent ONS data showing a weekly expenditure of £2.54 (£132.08 annually) is comfortably enough to cover needs of a single adult asylum seeker (male or female) that relate to toiletries, household cleaning items and non-prescription medication.

As our research suggests that the figure exceeds the actual costs of meeting these needs we will therefore consider whether it is appropriate to continue to use the ONS data for these items in future years, taking into account the views of partner organisations.

Overall costs of meeting the needs assessed by reference to the ONS data

Our assessment of the overall cost of meeting essential needs related to food, toiletries, household cleaning items and non-prescription medicines (based in part on ONS data) and factoring in adjustments is illustrated in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Make up of cash allowance for single able-bodied adult

Categories of “need”	ONS Expenditure data from 2014 (adjusted for single person)	After Home Office adjustment
Food and non-alcoholic drinks	£23.23	£24.39
Toiletries	£1.00	£1.00
Healthcare	£0.54	£0.54
Household cleaning items	£1.00	£1.00
Subtotal		£26.93
Total - after CPI as at December 2015 (0.2%)⁸		£26.98

The adjustment in Table 2 for inflation follows our practice in previous reviews of applying the general Consumer Prices Index (CPI) to the total assessed amount of meeting the various needs. Adjustments for inflation are not made to the three other essential items considered later in this report (clothing, travel and communications), as the amounts we have set aside are based on market research undertaken in late 2015 and early 2016.

The submission we received from the Birmingham Law Centre suggested that, as different categories of need are subject to different inflationary pressures, it would be more appropriate to use the detailed CPI index for each category of essential item. We see the logic of the Law Centre’s suggested approach and will consider applying it in future, subject to the views of partners. Table 3 below shows that using this approach results in a lower overall figure this year (£26.17 instead of £26.98).

⁸ Taken from Table 1 in the ONS Statistical Bulletin on Consumer Price Inflation December 2015. See: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/bulletins/consumerpriceinflation/december2015>

Table 3: Detailed CPI indices applied

Categories of “need”	2014 ONS survey data (adjusted for single person)	After Home Office adjustment	individual %CPI rates @ Dec 2015 (ONS figures)	After CPI adjustment
Food and non-alcoholic drinks	£23.23	£24.39	-2.9 (-£0.71)	£23.68
Toiletries	£1.00	£1.00	-2.5 (-£0.02)	£0.98
Healthcare	£0.54	£0.54	0.6 (£0.00)	£0.54
Household cleaning items	£1.00	£1.00	-2.7 (£0.03)	£0.97
Subtotal		£26.93		
After 2015 CPI (0.2% as at December 2015)		£26.98		£26.17

Costs of meeting needs not assessed by reference to ONS data

Clothing and footwear

Our reviews of 2014 and 2015 did not use ONS data to assess the cost to an asylum seeker of making reasonable provision for their clothing and footwear, as the level of expenditure shown in the data appeared excessive in terms of meeting the essential need. We remain of that view.

We have therefore followed the practice of previous years of assessing the costs of buying a basic wardrobe of clothes in various clothing stores. We consider that a basic wardrobe of three sets of clothing is sufficient to enable both men and women to be adequately clothed to ensure good health. Most asylum seekers of course already have at least one set of clothing, which provides the first of the three sets of clothing.

The clothing items that comprise our assessment of a basic wardrobe are the same as in previous years, with the addition of nightwear, gloves, scarves and hats, which on reflection we have decided should be treated as essential, following the representation of partners. The full list is set out at Annex B and the total cost of purchasing two sets of the full wardrobe in the clothing stores, including the addition of the extra items, was £134.94 or £2.60 per week.

For this year's review we also refreshed previous research into the costs of clothes in charity shops and this showed that a wardrobe of clothes (excluding underwear) could be obtained for around £20. This research can also be found at Annex B.

In summary, we therefore consider that £2.60 per week is sufficient to cover the clothing and footwear needs of a single adult asylum seeker (male or female) and indeed the strong evidence is that the need can be met more cheaply by using charity stores.

Travel and Communication

We do not consider travel and communication are essential needs in themselves, but they may be necessary in limited circumstances to enable other needs to be met, including those related to maintaining interpersonal relationships and a minimum level of participation in social, cultural and religious life⁹.

Participation in activities associated with interpersonal relationships and social, cultural and religious life, do not always incur a costs. Asylum seekers are invariably accommodated in urban centres where churches, mosques and other religious establishments are within walking distance. Also, many recreational and cultural activities are free (for example community centres and museums).

⁹ Discussion on travel, communications and the maintenance of interpersonal relationships and a minimum level of participation in social, cultural and religious life is set out in paragraphs 104 to 110 and 113 to 116 of Justice Poplewell's judgment in the Refugee Action case.

We nonetheless continue to accept that it is reasonable to factor some allowance for travel into the overall cash allowance provided to asylum seekers to meet these and other occasional incidental travel needs. The sum factored in was £3 per week in the reviews undertaken in 2014 and 2015, as this was sufficient to cover a return bus fare (at least over a short distance) in most of the areas of the UK surveyed where destitute asylum seekers are accommodated.

The survey was refreshed for the purposes of this review and this showed that there has been an increase in travel costs. This was also highlighted in some of the submissions we received from partner organisations. It is accepted that a sum of £4 is now more commonly needed to pay for the cost of a return bus journey, although this is partially offset by a rise in the availability of multi-journey day tickets for £4 across the towns and cities researched. The full analysis of the research can be found at Annex C.

Travel to essential meetings with legal advisers for the purposes of pursuing an asylum claim is met through legal aid.

The costs of travel to other events in connection with their asylum claim are paid separately - for example, travel to asylum interviews and appeal hearings. This is generally done by providing pre-paid tickets, which are issued in advance. Tickets for reporting events are issued if the person lives more than 3 miles away from the reporting centre or for shorter distances where there are extenuating circumstances, for example a medical condition or late stages of pregnancy. There is no change to any of these arrangements.

In respect to communication, the “essential need” is to have the possibility of accessing the means to communicate¹⁰ and there are various ways of doing so, including by telephone (local, international, mobile, landline or SMS), internet (free access to the internet is available at libraries, enabling email and Skype facilities), or by post or fax.

In our experience most asylum seekers already have a mobile phone when they enter the UK or obtain one shortly after arrival (an informal survey of those lodging their claims at the asylum screening unit in Croydon showed this to be the case). Use of a mobile phone certainly appears to be the most common means through which asylum seekers communicate and the research carried out in 2014 and 2015 into the associated costs was therefore updated. This actually shows that the cost of mobile communications and international calling cards had reduced. The full research can be found at Annex D.

Some asylum seekers may prefer to communicate by post and indeed may occasionally need to send documents, for example to legal advisers. However, the cost of writing materials and postage is very low.

¹⁰ See article 14(2)(b) of the EU Reception Condition Directive 2003/9/EC at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2003:031:0018:0025:EN:PDF>

The typical cost of meeting needs related to communication still appears to be around £3 (unchanged), although there is some evidence that some of these costs are lower.

Consideration of the needs of asylum seekers with dependent children

Payments made to asylum seekers with dependent children are intended to cover the needs of the household as a whole. We have approached the review on that basis, taking careful account of the assessed essential needs of the parents and the needs of their children, which differ in important respects and may therefore incur different levels of cost. The extent to which this is was found to be the case, based on our assessment of the essential needs of children and the associated costs of meeting each of those needs, is detailed below.

We also recognised that children are likely to have a range of different needs, depending in particular on their ages and to a degree their gender. The needs of infants are considerably different to the needs of older children and that is why they are considered as a separate category in our analysis below.

We consider that our careful analysis of the particular needs of children has ensured that full account is taken of our duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the UK, as set out in section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009, and the guidance published in November 2009: “Every Child Matters: Change for Children”.

Food and non-alcoholic drinks

Excluding infants, the available evidence considered in our review shows that the nutritional needs of children are not higher than those of adults. Tables 15 and 16 in the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (“SACN”) report of 2011: “Dietary Reference Values for Energy¹¹” (“the SACN report”) set out the estimated average calorific intake requirements of children and adults. The overall picture in the report is that children aged under 10 are generally considered to require less calorific (or energy) intake than older groups and in general females of all age groups require less calorific intake than males.

Otherwise, there is no appreciable difference in recommended levels of calorific intake based on age (with the possible exception of the elderly, who require less).

The National Diet and Nutrition Survey (NDNS) results from years 1 to 4 (2008 – 2012) published in 2014¹² measured actual calorific intake of people in different age ranges and also provides some information about levels of calorific intake of people in different income groups. Broadly, the report also shows that actual calorific intake by children is less than it is for adults. The executive summary (page 13) of the report also makes clear that the deficit between recommended and actual intake levels appears to be common to all

¹¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sacn-dietary-reference-values-for-energy>

¹² <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/national-diet-and-nutrition-survey-results-from-years-1-to-4-combined-of-the-rolling-programme-for-2008-and-2009-to-2011-a-2012>

income groups, which we consider a general indicator that the reasons for the deficit are unlikely to be related to income levels.

These sources at face value show that the amount (£24.39) we have assessed as sufficient to cover the typical weekly nutritional needs of an adult is also sufficient to cover the needs of a dependent child.

As a further sense check of this finding, a member of the review team provided an example of a monthly shopping list and menu plan for her family, which included her partner and one school age child. Across a four week period she spent an average of around £51 per week on food (or about £17 per person per person). The shopping list and menu plan can be found at Annex E.

Finally, in respect to our findings on the costs of meeting the dietary needs of children, the review noted that school meals are available to the children of asylum seekers supported under section 95 support of the 1999 Act. This means that the costs of feeding most supported families are reduced, although only of course in term time and only in respect to households with children that are attending school.

Toiletries, household cleaning items and non-prescription medication

We have set out earlier in this paper our reasoning for concluding that the ONS expenditure of £2.54 per week (£132.08 annually) is capable of meeting the cost of these items for a single adult and that our research shows that these necessities can actually be acquired for a single adult for between £64 and £75 annually.

The “need” for toiletries, household cleaning items and non-prescription medicines in respect to the specific needs of children is the same or very similar as it is for adults (i.e. maintaining personal hygiene, keeping the house clean and to buy medicines to cope with minor ailments) and we do not consider the costs of meeting those needs are higher, subject possibly to the need to make small extra provision for household cleaning items in households with young children.

Some of the written submissions we received made reference to child specific non-prescription medicines tending to be more expensive than similar products for adults. This may generally be true, but our understanding is that in practice the products can be prescribed by General Practitioners (and so be obtained free of charge if the parents are asylum seekers). In addition, many medicines for minor ailments can be obtained without a prescription from a wide range of participating chemists such as Boots, Superdrug and independent outlets under the “NHS Minor Ailments Scheme”¹³. This service is intended to relieve pressure on the NHS by reducing the need to make appointments with General Practitioners, where the person is suffering only from a minor ailment. Where the person

¹³ <http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Pharmacy/Pages/Yourpharmacy.aspx>

qualifies for free prescriptions because they are on a low income, which includes asylum seekers, the products are provided free.

Clothing and footwear

The review looked at children's clothing needs from the standpoint of three separate age ranges: infants, young children and teenagers. This followed a helpful suggestion provided in a report by the Welfare Reform Club (WRC) submitted by Birmingham Community Law Centre: "Analysis of Asylum Support Rates in respect of Children". The report looked at the costs of purchasing a full wardrobe of clothes for each of the three age groups by researching the prices of the items at Tesco. The wardrobe for each of the age groups was based on guidance to foster parents issued by Plymouth City Council. This approach resulted in weekly costs of £2.77, £2.62 and £4.82 respectively for each of the three age ranges.

For the purposes of our review, we adopted the same methodology, save that we looked at prices at a greater range of stores (Asda, Matalan and Primark, as well as Tesco) and added a basic school uniform to the wardrobe for the two higher age groups. The full research is set out in Annex F and results in costs for the three age ranges of £2.97, £3.40 and £5.20.

Travel

The review considered that children, particularly young children in single parent households, would generally need to travel for the same or similar purposes as their parents. We considered it more likely that older teenage children might occasionally wish to travel by themselves to see friends or to attend other social activities as part of their general emotional development.

In researching information on travel (Annex D) we found that, in general, children aged under 5 years travel for free on buses and that concessions invariably exist for those aged 6 to 16 years (or 18 years in some areas). These concessions result in free travel for children in some areas and reduced fares in others. The overall cost of meeting any necessary journeys is generally therefore lower for children than it is for their parents.

We accept that travel to school is essential for the children of asylum seekers (where walking is not an option), but it is not necessary to make provision for the cost of it within the cash payments provided to their parents as this is covered by arrangements made by local authorities. If a child is entitled to free school meals – and children supported under section 95 of the 1999 Act are so entitled¹⁴ – they will be able to get free school transport if they are:

- Aged 8 to 11 and the school is at least 2 miles away; or

¹⁴ Section 512ZB of the Education Act 1996: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/56/contents>

- Aged 11 to 16 and the school is 2 to 6 miles away – as long as there are not 3 or more suitable schools nearer to home; or
- Aged 11 to 16 and the school is 2 – 15 miles away - if it is their nearest school or one preferred on the grounds of religion or belief.

In addition, the policy in the Department of Education guidance on Home to School Travel and Transport¹⁵ (July 2014) is clear that if there is no safe walking route, free transport must be provided whatever the distance between the home and the schools.

As a result, we do not consider that any more than an additional £4 (the same sum we aside for adults) is necessary to meet the essential travel costs of a child in a particular household. Indeed, the cost of meeting the need is likely to be less and would in fact provide funds for additional journeys for other members of the household. For example, in some circumstances the concessions available would provide for a second journey for an adult (where there is a child under the age of 5 years), or 1 to 2 journeys for a child aged under 16 years.

Communications

The review acknowledged that children may have their own need to communicate for the purposes of maintaining interpersonal relationships and also in relation to their general development needs, but considered it less likely that there would be any cost associated with meeting the need. In respect to keeping in touch with relatives overseas, for example, we considered that this would primarily be carried out on their behalf by their parents. Additionally, the incidental costs sometimes incurred by their parents in pursuing their asylum claim would not apply to the children (telephoning legal advisers for example).

In respect to the means to communicate, for example for the purposes of arranging meetings with friends or social events, we considered it reasonable to generally expect children to share the same facilities used by their parents (for example a mobile phone).

Older children are more likely to require their own means of communication, both to talk to peers and to access the internet for study purposes. Our research (as set out in Annex E) shows that some access to the internet is already contained within mobile telephone deals (generally a mix of call minutes, texts and data). Additionally, access to the internet for study purposes, both at school and at local libraries, is free.

We therefore considered that the costs of meeting the communication needs of children are likely to be lower than those of their parents and that an additional £3 (the amount set aside for a single adult) is sufficient to meet the need.

¹⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/home-to-school-travel-and-transport-guidance>

[N.B. Guidance on this issue for Scotland is provided in sections 42(4) and 51 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and at the following link: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Education/Schools/Parents/transport/transport-guidance>

Special needs of infants

At a high level, the basic needs of infants are the same as those of adults or older children: to have a roof over their head, sufficient food to eat, adequate clothing, and the means to maintain personal cleanliness. However, the precise way in which each of these needs is met is quite different. Infants, for example, have particular dietary and clothing requirements.

The Money Advice Service (MAS) website (which featured in the report by the Welfare Reform Club report) contains an annual baby cost calculator¹⁶ that can be used to assess the costs of bringing up babies in the first year of their lives. These costs range from around £1,600 annually for those on a low budget (under £31 per week) to £7,270 (around £140 per week) for those who wish to spend more money.

The costs, at both ends of the scale, are intended to cover many of the things that are provided to asylum seekers with babies as part of their accommodation needs (cot, highchairs, stair gates and sterilisation equipment, for example) or are intended to be funded by the separate £300 maternity grant provided to asylum seeking families to assist them in preparing for a newborn child (prams, feeding equipment, clothing, for example)

Using the lower end costs set out in the MAS calculator, Table 5 below sets out the amount that a parent on asylum support would generally need to feed and clothe their infant child. Not all of the costs in the table (for example, the full costs of formula) are likely to be incurred by a breastfeeding mother, but the table gives a general guide to the overall costs.

Table 5: Information from MAS annual baby costs calculator

Item	Weekly cost
Clothing - budget level	£8.94
Nappies - budget level	£6.35
Formula - bottle only	£8.65
Baby food - combination of bought and home made	£5.00
total	£28.94

The MAS calculator therefore confirms that the basic needs of babies (food, nappies and clothing) can be provided for within the overall package of support that is available. The cash payments provided to a supported asylum seeker increase by £41.95 per week for the first year after the birth of a dependent child, falling to £39.95 for the period when the child is aged between one and three years.

¹⁶ https://partner-tools.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/baby_cost_calculator_syndicated/index.html

In previous years, as part of assessing the costs associated with caring for babies, we conducted our own research into the cost of nappies and baby formula milk. The research was based on freely available information on how much baby formula is needed during the first year after birth and information on the cost and number of nappies needed for up to 2 years. Our original research showed that, over the first 12 months of a child's life, the costs of these items would be between £17 and £22 per week.

The information has been reviewed and refreshed and shows that the costs of nappies and formula milk have remained fairly steady (even slightly decreasing). The average weekly cost of nappies and formula milk over the first 24 months of an infant's life is now between £14 and £22.50. This research can be found at Annex G.

When these costs are taken together with the £2.97 average weekly cost of clothing an infant set out in our research at Annex F, the additional weekly cash payment of £41.95 provided to a family is enough to cover all necessary costs, including any needed for baby toiletries, additional cleaning stuffs and travel needs.

We are therefore satisfied that the level of cash allowance provided to asylum seeking families in general is also sufficient to meet the essential living needs of those with an infant.

Conclusions

Like all people, asylum seekers need to budget appropriately and plan their expenditure according to the income available to them. It is unlikely that they will always spend the same amount of money on the same things each week. The amounts we have assessed as necessary to meet each of the needs we consider to be essential are therefore no more than a general guide to the amount of money they will on average need to spend each week.

With this important caveat, the table below sets out our assessment of the total overall cost of meeting the typical weekly expenses that a single adult asylum seeker will incur in meeting their essential needs.

As can be seen, the resulting amount of **£36.58** is slightly less than the current level of the weekly cash allowance paid to supported asylum seeker of **£36.95**. For this reason we are satisfied that £36.95 is sufficient to cover the ordinary needs of an average asylum seeker.

Table 4: Make up of cash allowance for single able-bodied adult

Categories of “need”	ONS Expenditure data from 2014 (adjusted for single person)	After Home Office adjustment
Food and non-alcoholic drinks	£23.23	£24.39
Toiletries	£1.00	£1.00
Healthcare	£0.54	£0.54
Household cleaning items	£1.00	£1.00
Subtotal		£26.93
Total - after CPI as at December 2015 (0.2%)		£26.98
Clothing		£2.60
Travel		£4.00
Communications		£3.00
Subtotal		£9.60
Overall Total		£36.58

The essential needs of children differ in some important respects to those of their adult parents, but our careful assessment does not show that the overall costs of meeting those needs are higher. The only clearly identified individual need where we found the costs are likely to be higher is in respect to clothing and only by a small amount. In other respects, the cost of meeting the various needs of a child that are identified as essential are generally the same as the cost to an adult of meeting the same need, or in some cases lower (for example travel).

In respect to babies and infants, direct comparisons are not appropriate because the respective needs are substantially different. However, the analysis set out in this report shows that the weekly cost of meeting all the identified essential needs of a baby or infant is substantially less than £36.95 per week (which is, in any event, supplemented by £5 or £3 respectively for babies and very young children and by the availability of maternity grants).

Asylum seekers with dependent children will also in practice be able to take advantage of economies of scale, since less money per person will be needed to cover some key essential needs, especially in respect to food, in multi-person households and some costs will be shared. Indeed, subsistence payments for asylum seekers in many European countries are based on the general principle. Germany, Sweden and France (three of the countries with large intakes of asylum seekers that provide some support through cash) provide decreasing payments for each additional member of a family household.

ONS survey data (Table A23¹⁷) confirms that overall expenditure per person reduces with the size of the household. In one parent households, the overall weekly expenditure per person reduced from around £162 per week (1 child) to around £110 (2 or more children). In two parent households, it reduced from over £200 per person (1 child) to around £145 per person (3 or more children).

The same reduction in expenditure per person can be seen in respect to expenditure on food and non-alcoholic drinks. In one parent households, weekly expenditure per person reduces from around £20 per week (1 child) to under £17 (2 or more children). In two parent households, it reduced from over £22 per person (1 child) to just over £18 per person (3 or more children).

The difference is even greater among low income groups. The ONS survey data¹⁸ shows that the average weekly spend per person on food and non alcoholic drink in households in the lowest 20% income bracket is just over £17 per person per week in single parent households and just under £17 per person in two parent households.

These figures are considerably lower than the £24.39 assessed for food and non-alcoholic drink for a single person.

In conclusion, we consider that the current payment system (£36.95 per supported person in a household) ensures that families with children have sufficient to cover their essential living needs, whether they are one or two parent households and irrespective of the number of children in the household.

¹⁷ Table A23 at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/incomeandwealth/compendium/familyspending/2015/familyspending2015referencetables>

¹⁸ Tables A27 and 3.6 and A28 and 3.5 at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/incomeandwealth/compendium/familyspending/2015/familyspending2015referencetables>

Annex A: Cost of toiletries, non-prescription medication and household cleaning items

Results of 2015 research	Results of 2016 research			
Essential Toiletries:	2016 prices	Multiplier	total p.a.	Outlet
Toothpaste x 4 (£4);	£0.50	6 x 75ml	£3.00	Superdrug
Toothbrushes x 4 (£1-2),	99p (2) - £1 (2-5)	2 - 5 brushes	£2.00	all, bar Boots
Soap x4 (£1),	£1.00	4 x 100g packs	£1.00	Poundland
Shower gel x 4 (£4),	£0.85	4 x 400ml	£3.40	Superdrug
Shampoo x 4 (£4)	£1.00	4 x 500ml	£4.00	Boots
Flannel/sponge 1-2 (£1)	<i>(removed from the list as item provided under contract by the accommodation providers)</i>			
Feminine hygiene items x 13 (£13)	£1 - £1.60	13	£13- £20.80	Superdrug
Male shaving items (disposable razors (R) x 52 and shaving soap (S) x 4) (£10)	R-10 x 97p S- 250ml -99p	R x 6 S x 4	£10.00	Boots
Deodorant (roll on/spray) x 6 (£6)	£0.68	x6	£4.08	Superdrug
Subtotal = £32 (men) - £35 (women)	Subtotal = £27.48 (men) - £30.48 - £34.20 (women)			
Essential cleaning stuffs:				
Bleach x4 (£4),	£0.99	4 x 750ml	£3.97	99p Store
Cleaning fluid (like Jif or equivalent) x 4 (£4),	£0.99	4 x 750ml	£3.97	99p Store
Washing up liquid x 4 (£4),	£0.99 - £1 for packs of 2 x 500-750ml	2 x two packs	£2.00	Poundland / Poundworld / 99p stores
Toilet roll - 52 rolls bought in 6s = 10 packs at £1 a pack (£10),	£1.00	6 x 9 rolls	£6.00	Poundworld
Washing powder (5 washes every fortnight), bought in 10 wash packs x 13 (£13)	£1.00	Powder: 13-15 washes Gel: 15-28 washes	£6 -£10	Poundland / Poundworld / 99p stores
Subtotal = £35	Subtotal = £21.94 - £25.94			
Essential generic non-prescription medication:				
Headaches - 2 x 3 packs of 16 tablets each of Paracetamol (P) and Ibuprofen (I) at £1 each (£4),	P - 20p I - 30p	P - 16 x 3 I - 19 x 3	£1.50	Superdrug
Indigestion - 3 x packs of 36 tablets at £1 each (£3);	£2.69	pack of 96 tablets	£2.69	Superdrug
cold remedies:				
2 x cough linctus at £1 each (£2);	£1.00	200ml x2	£2.00	Poundland / Poundworld / 99p stores
2 boxes of hot drink sachets at 39p- 69p each (£1.50);	£0.39	x2	£0.78	Superdrug
1 vapour rub and 1 pack of 2 nasal inhalers both at £1 each (2);and	£1.00	x2	£2.00	Poundland

2 boxes of decongestant packs (Beachams/Lemsip) at £1 each (£2)	£1.00	x2	£2.00	Poundland / Poundworld / 99p stores
Subtotal = £14.50	Subtotal = £10.97			
(Anything other than this should be provided via GP on free prescriptions).				
Grand Total - £81.50 (men)- £85.50(women)	Grand Total (men) - £60.39-£64.39 Grand Total (women) - £63.39-£75.19			

Background Research

- In-store research done in Superdrug / Boots / PoundLand on 22 December 2015
- In-store research done in 99p Stores and PoundWorld on 22 December 2015
- Unless stated otherwise for Boots/Superdrug, items are their own branded goods

Items	Description	Superdrug	Boots	PoundLand	99p store	PoundWorld
Toiletries						
Toothpaste		SD Total care Freshmint Toothpaste 75mls for £0.50; Macleans White and Shine Fluoride Toothpaste 100mls for £0.98	Mentadent T/paste 100ml for £1.45	Various branded varieties - 75-125ml - £1	Various brands 75-125ml for 99p	Brands from 75mls & 2x100ml for £1
Toothbrush		Pack of 2 for 99p	1 for 79p 2 for £1.39	Packs of 2 - 5 for £1	Branded and non-branded packs of 1, 2 or 3 for 99p	Branded / unbranded packs of 2-5 for £1
Soap - shower gel	bars of soap / shower / bath gel / cream	<u>Soap</u> : Dove soap pack of 4 100g each for £1.50 <u>Shower gel</u> : SD brand 400ml - 85p	<u>Soap</u> : single scented bars for 100g each - 60p	<u>Soap</u> : Packs of Palmolive 4 bars, 100g each - £1 <u>Shower gel</u> : various brands 250- 500ml - £1	<u>Soap</u> - 99p [packs of 5x80g; 3x90g (Nivea); 2x100g (Dove); 2x1235g (Simple); best deal = 2xpack of 3x120g (Dettol)] <u>Shower gel</u> men/women: 250ml 99p	<u>Soap</u> : 2-3 x 100g - £1 <u>Shower gel</u> (men/women): 250ml - £1

Shampoo		S/D anti-dandruff shampoo (various, 2-in-1 etc) - 500ml: £3.00	Boots brand 500mls for £1	Various branded varieties 250-400ml for £1	200ml for 99p	unbranded 2-in-1, 900ml - £1 various brands, 250-350ml - £1
Feminine hygiene items	tampons / towels / pantyliners	<u>Tampon:</u> Superdrug Non Applicator Tampons Super x 16 for 99p or buy 2 products for £1.80. <u>Towels</u> (normal): 20 for 55p	<u>Tampons</u> (reg): 16 for £1.29 <u>Towels</u> (normal): 14 pack with wings for 89p	<u>Tampons:</u> Lil-lets day x 16 - £1 Lil-lets night x 12 - £1 <u>Towels</u> (normal): Bodyform 14-16 - £1	<u>Towels:</u> unbranded - 12 for 99p Kotex - 99p for 16 (normal), or 14 (super), or 10 (Night),	<u>Tampons:</u> Tampax, pack of 8 - £1 <u>Towel:</u> Kotex/ Always/ Bodyform, 10-14 for £1; Ultrex, 2x10 - £1; <u>Pantyliners</u> Ultrex, 2x30 - £1; Bodyform, 50 for £1:
Male shaving items	disposable razors / shaving foam	<u>Razors:</u> 10 for £1 <u>S/Foam:</u> Gillette Series S/skin 250ml for £1.48	<u>Razors:</u> 10 for £0.97 <u>S/Foam:</u> Boots own brand 250ml for 99p	<u>Razors:</u> 5 for £1 <u>S/Foam:</u> 200ml for £1	<u>Razors:</u> 4 for 99p (Bic) <u>S/Foam:</u> 200ml for 99p	<u>Razors:</u> 5 for £1 <u>S/Foam:</u> 200ml for £1
Deodorant	spray or roll-on	<u>Spray:</u> Women: 75ml for 68p; Men: 150mls for 68p <u>Roll-on:</u> 75-150mls from 68p	<u>Spray:</u> Women: 250ml for £1.50. <u>Roll-on</u> for men and women from 75p - 94p each	Any branded deodorant for men or women - spray or roll-on - £1 each	Any branded deodorant for men or women - spray or roll-on - 99p each	Any branded deodorant for men or women - spray or roll-on - £1 each
Face clothes / sponges		face cloth - £1.49	face cloth - £1.99p	3 x sponges - £1	N/A	N/A
Household Cleaning items						
Bleach		N/A	N/A	Twin packs for £1	Bleach 750ml for 99p	Domestos, 750ml - £1
Cleaning fluid (Cif or equivalent)		N/A	N/A	Cif - 500ml - £1	Various brands from 500-750mls for 99p	Cif and other non-branded cleaners, 500ml - £1

Washing up liquid		N/A	N/A	Fairy - 500ml - £1 Others brands, including pack of 2 x 550ml for £1 and 675ml for £1	2 x 750ml for 99p	non-branded, 2x500ml - £1 Fairy, 500ml - £1
Toilet roll		N/A	N/A	6 rolls for £1	Managers special - 16 rolls - £2.99	9 rolls for £1
Washing powder		N/A	N/A	<u>Powder:</u> 13-15 washes £1 <u>Laundry gel:</u> 28 washes - £1	<u>Laundry gel:</u> 25 washes - 99p	<u>Powder:</u> 13 washes £1 <u>Laundry liquid:</u> 15 washes - £1

Annex B: Adult Clothing.

General

In the 2014 review of payment rates a reasonable basic wardrobe for adult asylum seekers (men or women) for the maintenance of health, decency and cleanliness was taken to consist of the following items:

- 3 pairs of underpants
- 3 pairs of sock/tights
- 2 vests/bras
- 2 tops or shirts
- 2 pairs of trousers or skirts
- 2 cardigans/jumpers/sweatshirts
- A coat
- 2 pairs of shoes

Research has therefore been undertaken at various times into the cost of purchasing the wardrobe at various retail outlets (Matalan, Tesco, and Asda initially and Primark added later).

The research has consistently shown that the costs of the items range quite widely. This is illustrated in the tables below, which represent the result of research undertaken in 2016.

Men				
Shops	Primark	Matalan	Tesco	Asda
Underwear				
Pants (x3)	£4.50 (5 pairs)	£5 (4 pairs)	£8 (4 pairs)	£5 (5 pairs)
Socks(x3)	£2-£4 (5 pairs)	£3 (5 pairs)	£2.50 (5 pairs)	£4 (5 pairs)
vests (x2)	£2.50 (1)	£6 (2-pack)	£8 (2-pack)	£8 (3-pack)
Outerwear				
Tops/shirts (x2)	£2.50-£11 (1)	£4-£6 (1)	£4.50-£7 (1)	£5-£8 (1) £8-£10 for 2-packs
Trousers/skirts(x2)	£9 -£18 (1)	£10-£14 (1)	£5-£12 (1)	£6-£15 (1) 2 pairs of jeans £10
Sweatshirts/jumpers/cardigans (x2)	£6 – £12 (1)	£8-12 (1) £15 pack of 2 jumpers	£8-£10 (1)	£8-£10 (1)
Coat (x1)	£8 -£15(1)	£15-£35 (1)	£12-£18(1)	£15-£30 (1)
Shoes (x2)	£3 -£16(1)	£8-£20 (1)	£12-£25 (1)	£8-£18(1)
Range totals	£60.50-£142.50	£88-£153	£89.50-£144.50	£82-£149
Middle ground	£101.50	£120.50	£117	£115.50

Women				
Shops	Primark	Matalan	Tesco	Asda
Underwear				
Pants (x3)	£2.50-£3 (4 pairs)	£4 (5 pairs)	£2.50 (4)	£2.50 - £4 (4) 3 for £6 (mix 'n match)
Socks (x3), or tights (x3)	£2.50 (5 pairs) £3 (5 pairs)	£2 (5 pairs) £5 (5 pairs)	£2 (5 pairs) £2 (6 pairs)	£2 (5 pairs) £2 (6 pairs)
Bras (x2)	£8 for 2-pack	£6-£8 for 2-pack	£9 for a 2-pack	£4-£6 for a 2-pack
Outerwear				
Tops/shirts (x2)	£2-£10 (1)	£4-£5 (1) £10 (2 long sleeved)	£3-£10 (1)	£2.50-£16 (1)
Trousers/skirts(x2)	£5-£15 (1)	£6-£16 (1)	£6-£14 (1)	£8-£16 (1)
Sweatshirts/jumpers/cardigans (x2)	£6 -£10 (1)	£8-£14 (1)	£8-£10 (1)	£6-£14 (1)
Coat (x1)	£10-£25 (1)	£30 (1)	£14-£35 (1)	£10-£22 (1)
Shoes (x2)	£3-£18 (1)	£6-£18 (1)	£7-£20 (1)	£3-£16 (1)
Range totals	£55-£145	£90-£153	£75.50-£156.50	£57.50-£160
Middle ground	£100	£121.50	£116	£108.75

Overall, this shows that the cost of the clothing items in the stores is marginally less than in previous years. In contrast to previous years, male clothing items are marginally more expensive than female items; the annual cost male items is £113.63 (using an average of the middle range costs in the stores), or £111.57 for women. Taking the higher of the two, the weekly cost is £2.19.

Significant representations have been made by partners that other items should be added to the basic wardrobe (nightwear, a hat, gloves or a scarf) and research into the cost of these items shows the following:

Men				
Shops	Primark	Matalan	Tesco	Asda
Nightwear (pyjama/lounge wear sets- short/long sleeve/leg)	£10 a set 2 x lounge tops £8 & bottoms for £10	£9-£10 a set	£10-£14 a set	£5-£12 a set
Hat	£2.50- £4.00	£3 - £4	£2.50- £4.00	Set of H & S for £6
gloves	1.5- £2	£4- £5	£1.50	£3
scarf	£4- £5	£5	£5	N/A
range totals	£18-£29	£21-£24	£19-£24.50	£14-£21
Middle ground	£23.50	£22.50	£21.75	£17.50
Average annual cost:	£21.31			
Average weekly cost:	£0.41			

Women				
Shops	Primark	Matalan	Tesco	Asda
Nightwear (P - pyjama sets - short/long sleeve/leg, or N - nighties)	P - £8 - £10 a set (fleece/flannel/cotton) N - (T-Shirt) from £4.50	P - £8 a set N - from £5 each	P - £8-£10 a set	P - Mix & Match set of 2 for £10 N - £5-£10 each
Hat	£2- £4	£ 3- £4	£3.00	£3
gloves	1.5- £2	£ 4- £5	£1.50	£1.50
scarf	£2- £4	£ 5 - £6	£3.00	£3
range totals	£10-£20	£17-£23	£15.50-£17.50	£12.50-£17.50
Middle ground	£15.00	£20.00	£16.50	£15.00
Average annual cost:	£16.63			
Average weekly cost:	£0.32			

Taking the higher of the mid-range costs of purchasing the items, would require £0.41 per week. Added to the cost of the other items in the wardrobe, this results in a total weekly cost of £2.60.

Costs at Charity Stores

A survey of charity shops was carried out in Croydon. The original research included the following shops:- British Heart Foundation (BHF), Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to

Animals (RSCPA), MENCAP, Scope, St. Christopher's Hospice (SCH) in the month of September 2014. This research was re-done in June and July 2015, at which time one of the charity shops had closed (MENCAP) and was replaced by MIND. The research was further refreshed in May 2016 (see tables below), at which time the British Heart Foundation was replaced with The Salvation Army (TSA).

The items on sale in these charity shops is dependent on the donations given by the public, and as such there may be some days when some garments may not be available at that particular charity shop. Further, whilst the 2014 research was conducted in autumn, research in 2015 and 2016 was conducted during spring and summer. However, on the days of the survey, there appeared to be a good mix of clothing of various weights, both light and heavy, and for both men and women in the shops.

Though not formally costed, there also appeared to be a good and reasonably priced range of clothing for babies and young children.

All of the shops mentioned stated that if asylum seekers were to shop with them they may be able to make deals on costs depending on the amount of clothing purchased.

The following items were considered to be acceptable to be sourced from charity shops to supplement/provide an outdoor wardrobe for men or women.

- A coat or jacket (long/short)
- Top or shirt
- Pair of trouser, jeans, or a skirt
- Cardigans, jumpers, or hoodie

The results of the most recent survey are set out in the tables below. The average mid range cost of purchasing the items is £26 for a woman and £35.35 for a man. The research shows that asylum seekers should be able to reduce the costs of meeting their clothing needs considerably by using charity shops.

Women's Clothing:

SHOPS	TSA	MIND	RSCPA	SCOPE	SCH
Coat	£4.99 - £5.99	£4.50-£9	£3-£5.50	£2.50 - £6.50	£4 - £7
Trousers / jean / skirt	£3.99-£4.99	£2.50-£4.50	£2 - £6	£3.50-£6.95	£3-£7
Top	£2.99-£4.99	£1.25-£4	£1-£4	£3.50-£4.75	£1-£3.50
Cardigan	£2.99-£4.99	£3.50-£8.50	£3.50-£4	£3.50-£5	£3-£4
Total	£14.96-£20.96	£11.75-£26	£9.50-£19.50	£13 - £23.20	£11-£21.50
Middle Ground	£17.96	£18.86	£14.50	£18.10	£16.25

Men's Clothing:

SHOPS	TSA	MIND	RSCPA	SCOPE	SCH
Coat	£3.99 - £5.99	£4-£7	£4-£7	£7.95 - £14.50	£4
Trousers / jean /	£3.99 - £5.99	£3..50-£4.50	£2.50-£4	£4.95-£6.95	£3-£4
Top	£2.99 - £5.99	£3-£5.50	£1.50-£7	£2-£6.95	£3-£4
Cardigan	£4.99 - £5.99	£3-£5.50	£3 -£4	£3.95-£6.95	£1-£3
Total	£15.96– £23.90	£13.50 - £22.50	£11-£22	£18.85-£35.35	£11-£15
Middle Ground	£19.96	£18	£16.50	£27.10	£13

Annex C: Travel

General

A large number of supported asylum seeker are housed in various towns & cities in the UK. In June 2015, research was undertaken into the cost of travel and availability of concessions in 14 of these cities. This research was been refreshed in December 2015.

Analysis of the results of the December research (and that of June for comparison) is contained in the first two tables below. The final table contains the results of the research itself.

Conclusions

- As at December 2015, just under 50% of the supported asylum seeker population lived in the 14 towns/cities covered.
- It is possible to make a short return journey for £3 or less (using either a return ticket or 2 singles, and sometimes 3 short hops) in % of the towns and cities. This is down from 78% in June 2015
- It is possible to make a return journey for £4 or less (using either 2 singles, a return or multiple journey ticket) in 100% of the towns and cities
- It is now possible to obtain multiple journey tickets for £4 in 57% of these towns and cities - a rise of 20% since June 2015.
- In all towns and cities, those aged 63+ may travel for free on local buses with a national concessionary card. Eligibility to the card only depends on residence in the area and is not linked to immigration status.
- Across the UK, those aged 5 years and under travel for free on local buses.
- Concessions exist for those aged 6 - 16 or 18, dependent upon the locality, involving either free travel or cut price child fares.

Analysis of research conducted in December 2015:

Town	2 singles for £3 or less	return journey for £3 or less	return journey for £4 or less	multiple journey ticket for £4 or less
London	yes	yes (2xsingles)	yes (2xsingles)	no
Glasgow	no	no	yes	yes
Birmingham	yes - short hops	no	yes	no
Cardiff	yes - short hops	no	yes (2xsingles)	yes
Manchester	no	no	yes	no
Liverpool	no	no	yes	no
Leicester	Yes - short journeys	Yes (2xsingles - short journeys)	yes (2xsingles)	no
Rochdale	yes	yes (2xsingles)	yes	yes
Coventry	yes - short hops	yes - up to 3 short hops	yes	yes
Doncaster	yes - short trips	yes - short trips	yes	yes
Wigan	no	no	yes (2xsingles)	yes
Bristol	yes - short journeys	yes - (2xsingles) or up to 3 short hops	yes - (2xsingles) or up to 3 short hops	yes (inner zone only)
Newcastle	no	no	yes	yes

Totals:	8 yes	7 yes	14 yes	8 yes
Conclusions:	57% can make two single journeys for £3 or less	50% can get a return ticket for £3 or less	100% can make a return journey for £4 or less	57% can obtain a multi-journey ticket for £4 or less

Analysis of research conducted in June 2015:

Town	2 singles for £3 or less	return journey for £3 or less	return journey for £4 or less	multiple journey ticket for £4 or less
London	yes	yes (2xsingles)	yes (2xsingles)	no
Glasgow	yes	no	yes	no
Birmingham	yes - short hops	no	yes	no
Cardiff	yes - short hops	no	yes (2xsingles)	yes
Manchester	yes	yes (2xsingles)	yes	no
Liverpool	no	no	yes	yes
Leicester	no	no	yes (2xsingles)	no
Rochdale	yes	yes (2xsingles)	yes	yes
Coventry	yes - short hops	yes - up to 3 short hops	yes	yes
Doncaster	yes - short trips	yes - short trips	yes	yes
Wigan	no	no	yes (2xsingles)	no
Bristol	yes	yes - (2xsingles) or up to 3 short hops	yes - (2xsingles) or up to 3 short hops	no
Newcastle	yes	yes (2xsingles)	yes (2xsingles)	yes

Total:	11 yes	8 yes	14 yes	5 yes
Conclusion:	78% can make two single journeys for £3 or less	57% can get a return ticket for £3 or less	100% can make a return journey for £4 or less	36% can obtain a multi-journey ticket for £4 or less

Research conducted on 21 December 2015

Region	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2015	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
London	2446	Pay as you go: £1.50 with a contactless payment or Oyster card on all buses trams in London.	N/A	N/A	<p>Information obtained from Transport for London website:</p> <p>Under 11s Under 11s travel free on buses and trams. They do not need an Oyster photo card.</p> <p>11-15 an travel free on buses and trams with an 11-15 Zip Oyster photo card.</p> <p>16+ If not eligible for free bus and tram travel, will need a 16+ Zip Oyster photo card to get age 16+ fares or can buy half adult-rate Bus & Tram Passes.</p> <p>18+ Student Can apply for an 18+ Student Oyster photo card and can get 30% off 7 Day, Monthly and longer period Bus & Tram Passes.</p> <p>Apprentice Can apply for an Apprentice Oyster photo card and can get 30% off 7 Day, Monthly and longer period Bus & Tram Passes. You need an Apprentice Oyster photo card or an Oyster card to use pay as you go and benefit from daily capping, which is at adult rate. NB. Zip Oyster photo cards are subject to an admin charge at time of application.</p>	18years +

Region	Supported Asylum seeker population @31 December 2015	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
Glasgow	3084	Three main operators, First, Stagecoach and National Express, and some independent operators, run local bus services in Scotland between the main cities, towns and villages. Average fare of £1.95- £3.00 depending on the bus operator [N.B. For journeys of any length in any area children pay just 60p.]		One day card which covers travel around the area £4.00	<5years free Young Scot card (11-25) - 16-18 can use card to get 1/3 of bus fares. Unirider - the flexible student bus ticket for those studying at Colleges and Universities. 60+ concession card are eligible for free travel in Scotland on most of our Stagecoach bus services.	
Birmingham	1775	dependent upon company and coach operator - single fare £1 - £2.30	N/A	1 day ticket - £4.20	<5 years free Under 16 photo card - for child fares 16-18 photo card - £10 per academic year - for child fares. 63+ : free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.	16+

Region	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2015	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
Cardiff	1450	Within Cardiff a single fare £1.80 Short hop fares valid within the boundaries in the city centre, Canton, Roath, Llanrumney & St. Mellons cost £1	N/A	Day to go ticket - £3.60	<p><5 travel free</p> <p>6-60 may obtain an "iff card" to obtain cheaper fares; cost £5;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10xsingle tickets for £15; - day to go ticket for £3.50; <p>Young persons aged 5-18 have reduced fares with or without "iff card".</p> <p>Welsh 60+ bus pass enable free travel on local buses.</p>	on 19th birthday
Manchester	1103	Dependent on companies, routes and length of the journey single tickets can be purchased for £1.60 - £3.10 In addition, there is a free hop on hop off service in the city centre - Metro Shuttle	N/A	Greater Manchester day ticket (covering bus journeys across an area including Wigan, Bolton, Rochdale, Manchester and Stockport) costs £4.20 - also known as a plus saver ticket. A daily card which covers travel around the Liverpool & Manchester area £5.20	<p><5 years free</p> <p>5- 18 years pay a £2 for a day ticket which covers the whole of Merseyside area.</p> <p>63+: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass and can travel after 09.30hrs.</p>	16+

Region	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12. 2015	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
Liverpool	1556	Dependent on companies and routes, but evidence that single tickets can be purchased for £1.60 - £3.10 which is dependent on the length of the journey.	N/A	A daily card which covers travel around the Liverpool & Manchester area £5.20 1 day saveaway - £4.20 (Liverpool area)	<5 years free 5-15 - reduced fares from various operators, including free travel for school children (5-16) using LEA bus pass. 63+ : free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.	16+
Leicester	918	Dependent on length of the journey and routes a minimum single ticket - £1.00- £3.80 First :10 Journey carnet of 10 single tickets valid for up to 1 month £18	N/A	Day ticket - £4.20 - £6.20 (for outside boundaries areas such as Market Harbour etc)	<5 years free 5-15 - reduced child rates 63+ : free local off-peak bus travel after 09.30hrs if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.	16+

Region	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2015	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
Rochdale	1044	Dependent on companies and routes, but evidence that single tickets can be purchased for between £1 - £1.50	Around £3.30	Dayticket (covering bus journeys across an area including Wigan, Bolton, Bury Rochdale and Oldham) costs - £4 - £4.20	<p><5 years free</p> <p>11-16 IGO pass: costs £5 and valid till the end of the school year and is valid until 31 August after your 16th birthday. [N.B. 6-11 - will need the IGO pass to get concessionary child fares across GM area].</p> <p>16-21 years and in full time education one can apply for an Scholars Concessionary Permit which can be used to travel from their college to residential address during school term Monday - Friday which can allow them to a concessionary fare (half adult-rate Bus & Metro tickets)</p> <p>63+: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.</p>	16+
Coventry	551	Dependent on company a single fare costs between £1.90-£2.20. Coventry City Hopty hop fare of £1 per journey anywhere within the Ring Road	from £3.10 dependent upon company	Coventry: daysavers £3.60 Regional: daysavers £3.80	<p><5 years free.</p> <p>5-18 year olds can apply for a Term Plus Travelcard to be eligible for discounts. Student bus passes are available to all full-time students.</p> <p>Under 16 photo card - for child fares</p> <p>16-18 photo card -£10 per academic year - for child fares.</p> <p>63+: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.</p>	16 - 18 - dependent on whether in education

Region	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2015	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
Doncaster	261	from £1 - £3.00	N/A	Day ticket - £4	<p><5 years free</p> <p>6-11 - child fare of 70p - no ID necessary</p> <p>11-16 - need to have ID (South Yorkshire bus pass available free) to get concessionary fare - 70p.</p> <p>16-18 - if in fulltime education - need ID card (South Yorkshire bus pass available free) to be eligible for the concessionary fare of 70p.</p> <p>Under 25 years can apply for a Travel Master Discount for a further discount.</p> <p>63+: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.</p>	17 - 18 - dependent on whether in education
Wigan	590	around £2	N/A	Dayticket (covering bus journeys across an area including Wigan, Bolton, Bury Rochdale and Oldham) costs - £4 - £4.20	<p><5 years free</p> <p>11-16 IGO pass: costs £5 and valid till the end of the school year. [N.B. 6-11 - will need the IGO pass to get concessionary child fares across GM area]</p> <p>16-21years can apply for an IGO pass which cost £5 to use from their college to residential address during school term Monday – Friday. It allows them access to a concessionary fare (half adult-rate Bus & Metro tickets)</p> <p>63+: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.</p>	16+

Region	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12. 2015	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
Bristol	328	Singles fares vary to the length of the journey from £1- £3.50	N/A	Inner Zone - £4 Outer zone - £6.50	<p><5 years free</p> <p>5-15 and Students (16+) in education: 50% discount on all fares with a First Photo ID valid for 1 year from date of issue - free. Fares vary from £0.50p to £1.75 (inner zone) & from £0.75 to £2.25 for the outer zone.</p> <p>16-21 - get same concessions but ID cards costs £10 for the year. Fares vary from £0.50p to £1.75 (inner zone) & from £0.75 to £2.25 for the outer zone.</p> <p>63+: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.</p>	16 if no ID card 21 if held ID card.
Newcastle	572	Singles cash fares vary to the length of the journey from £1.80 - £3.40		<p>One day travel ticket £7.70 valid for travel in the North East all regions</p> <p>Go North East: Daysaver - £3.50</p> <p>Buzzfare: 1, 2 or 3 zones range from £2.70 - £7.60</p>	<p><5 years free.</p> <p>Fare for a single bus journey £0.60p at any time, on any day if you have an Under 16 Pop Card.</p> <p>With an U16 Child All-day Ticket a child can travel anywhere for £1.10/day.</p> <p>63+: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.</p>	16+

Annex D: Communications 2016

Writing materials for communication and for education of children

The costs are very low. An A4 refill pad, and six ball point pens, can be bought for £2 (**4 pence per week over a year**). It seems reasonable for all children who can write to make use of such pads and pens, with larger families able to split and share the resource.

Contract Phones

The cheapest contracts found (including handset and allowing for 250 minutes/5000 texts/500MB of data per month) are around £4.50-£7.50 per calendar month, based on a two year contract, which is typical. That is £54-£90 per annum over the term of the contract, or **£1.03 - £1.73 per week**.

SIM Free mobile phones and SIM only deals

SIM Free phone users do have to pay for the full cost of the phone on the day of purchase, but the benefits include no long term contract and possible long term savings. Many basic mobile phones can be purchased for as little as £10 or £20. For example:

SIM free phone	Cost of phone (£)	Cost of SIM
Refurbished Nokia 6080 Used Mobile Phone	£13.99	Life SIM Card - 500 minutes 500 texts and 500MB –1month contract - £4.95 per month
Samsung E250 Silver - Unlocked	£8.50	Carphone Warehouse, 250 minutes, 5000 texts, 1 GB data - £5 per month
Nokia 1100 unlocked	£9.90	250Minutes, Unlimited Texts, 250MB Data - £3.99 (12 month contract)

Networks now offer SIM only deals with minimum terms of 12 and 18 months. These offer even better value, giving more minutes and texts for the same monthly price as the equivalent 1 month SIM only deal. There are also regular special offers.

The Samsung E250 above, giving 250 minutes talk, 5000 texts per month and 1 GB of data, would cost just £13.50 in the first month and £5 per month from then on. That is £3.37 per week for the first four weeks then £1.16 per week from then on using a phone refurbished under Amazon contract.

Pay-As-You-Go

If a person is already in possession of a mobile phone it is possible to further restrict spending on telephone calls by purchasing Pay as You Go (PAYG) SIM cards. Many PAYG SIM only deals are available for free, or are free with the purchase of a certain amount of credit (usually £10). Lebara, for instance, offer a free SIM when bought with a £10 top-up (500 any UK minutes, unlimited texts, unlimited Lebara to Lebara calls and texts and 1GB data).

Where using PAYG SIMs require an existing phone to be unlocked, this is readily available and relatively cheap (anywhere from £15 - £20). If the current phone is under contract with the existing network, the supplier is obligated to unlock the phone for the person on request. They may charge a fee for this service, but often waive it if the person remains with their network.

International calling cards

Tesco calling cards are typical. Data taken from their website on 05/01/2016.

Top 11 supported nationalities (@31.12.15)	Landline/Landline cost	Landline/Mobile cost	SMS	connection fee p. call
Pakistan (4498)	5	4	0	4
China (2882)	1	1	0	4
Eritrea (2809)	22	24	0	4
Iran (2799)	8	10	0	4
Nigeria (2651)	2	6	0	4
Afghanistan (1783)	12	16	0	4
Iraq (1770)	8	14	0	4
Albania (1769)	12	22	0	4
Sudan (1554)	8	12	0	4
Sri Lanka (1549)	7	8	0	4
Syria (1188)	8	12	0	4

Thus more than 74% of all currently supported persons (25,252/34,363) can make an international call for on average 8 – 12 pence per minute, plus a 4p connection fee, as well as being able to text for free. Given that access to the internet at libraries is free, communication via Skype is cheaper still.

Annex E: Four Week Menu Plan for Family of three (inc. one school age child)

Week 1	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner
Monday	Cereal with milk	Pasta bake with cheese & fresh tomatoes	Shepherd's pie with vegetables
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Stewed apple with custard
	Tea/ Coffee		
	Orange Juice		
Tuesday	Cereal with milk	Cheese and onion pasty with baked beans	Chickpea curry and vegetable rice
	Tea/ Coffee	Yoghurt	Fruit
	Fruit		
Wednesday	Cereal with milk	Sandwich with fillings - tuna & sweetcorn	Minced beef with rice and carrots & peas
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Stewed apple with custard	Fruit salad
	Tea/ Coffee/ Orange juice		
Thursday	Cereal with milk	Baked potato with baked beans & coleslaw	Lambs liver with rice
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Stewed pears with custard
	Tea/ Coffee		
Friday	Cereal with milk	Sandwich with egg filling & salad	Fish & chips and peas
	Tea/ Coffee/ Orange juice	Yoghurt with fruit	Strawberry delight
	Fruit		
Saturday	Cereal with milk	Baked beans on toast	Spaghetti Bolognese
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Banana delight with banana
	Tea/ Coffee		
Sunday	Scramble eggs on toast	Pasta with tuna salad	Roast chicken breast with roast potatoes & vegetables
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit salad	Ice cream
	Tea/ Coffee/ Orange juice		
	Fruit		

Week 2	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner
Monday	Cereal with milk	Fish cakes with chips	Beef casserole with vegetables
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Whipped chocolate mouse
	Orange juice / Fruit		
Tuesday	Cereal with milk	Baked beans on toast	Lentil curry with rice
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Stewed apple in juices
	Tea/ Coffee/ Orange juice		
Wednesday	Cereal with milk	Scrambled eggs on toast	Pasta with fish in a cream sauce and mushrooms
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Ice cream
	Tea/ Coffee/ Fruit		
Thursday	Cereal with milk	Chickpea curry with rice	Fish cakes with baked beans, coleslaw & cheese
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Stewed fruit with custard
	Tea/ Coffee/ Orange juice		
Friday	Cereal with milk	Cheese pasty with baked beans	Lamb's liver with rice
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Yoghurt
	Tea/ Coffee/ Fruit		
Saturday	Cereal with milk	Omelette with salad & coleslaw	Chilli with ground beef and red kidney beans and rice
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Fruit salad
	Tea/ Coffee/ Orange juice		
Sunday	Cereal with milk	Egg fried rice with shredded cabbage & carrots	Roast chicken breast with roast potatoes & vegetables
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Ice cream
	Tea/ Coffee		
	Orange juice/ Fruit		

Week 3	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner
Monday	Cereal with milk	Quiche (cheese and onion) with baked beans & coleslaw	Beef Bourguignon with rice
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Yoghurt
	Tea/ Coffee & Fruit		
Tuesday	Cereal with milk	Fish cakes with chips & peas	Lentil curry and rice
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Stewed fruit with custard
	Orange juice		
Wednesday	Cereal with milk	Egg salad with coleslaw & baked beans	Vegetable casserole with mashed potatoes
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Angel Delight
	Tea/ Coffee/ Orange juice		
	Fruit		
Thursday	Cereal with milk	Liver and onions with steamed rice	Lentil loaf with vegetables
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Fruit
	Tea/ Coffee/ Orange juice		
Friday	Cereal with milk	Chickpea curry with vegetable rice	Chicken noodle soup with shredded cabbage & carrots
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Whipped chocolate mouse	Fruit
	Tea/ Coffee		
	Fruit		
Saturday	Cereal with milk	Red lentil and carrot soup	Chilli beef curry and rice
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Stewed fruit with custard
	Orange juice		
Sunday	Scrambled eggs on toast	Vegetable curry and rice	Roast chicken with roast potato & vegetables
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Banana with custard	Ice cream
	Tea/ Coffee/ Orange juice		
	Fruit		

Week 4	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner
Monday	Cereal with milk	Baked potatoes with cheese & coleslaw	Minced beef with vegetables and rice & peas
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Baked apple	Angel delight
	Tea/ Coffee/ Orange juice		
	Fruit		
Tuesday	Cereal with milk	Liver curry with rice	Vegetable casserole with mashed potato
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Stewed apples / pears
	Tea/ Coffee		
	Orange juice		
Wednesday	Cereal with milk	Chickpea curry and rice	Spaghetti Bolognese
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Whipped chocolate mouse
	Tea/ Coffee/ Orange juice		
	Fruit		
Thursday	Cereal with milk	Bean salad	Beef casserole with vegetables and rice
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Fruit salad
	Orange juice		
Friday	Cereal with milk	Omelette with salad	Fish and leek pie with peas
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Yoghurt	Stewed fruit
	Tea/ Coffee/ Orange juice		
	Fruit		
Saturday	Cereal with milk	Red lentil & carrot soup	Egg fried rice with shredded cabbage & carrots
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Rice pudding	Fruit salad
	Orange juice		
Sunday	Scramble eggs on toast	Pasta bake with tuna & sweetcorn	Roast chicken with roast potato & vegetables
	Toast with butter & marmalade	Fruit	Ice cream
	Tea/ Coffee		
	Orange juice		

Shopping Lists

Week One:

Item	Price in £
Angel Delight - Butterscotch,	£0.32
Asda Cheese and Onion Pasty x 4	£1.20
Asda Chosen by you Bolognese pasta sauce 500g	£0.84
Asda Chosen by you British Mature Cheese 500g	£2.74
Asda Chosen by you freshly frozen mixed vegetable 1kg	£0.98
Asda Smart price battered fish portions 400g	£0.85
Asda Smartprice beef and pork mince 500g x 3 packs @ £1.81 per pack	£5.43
Asda Smartprice cheese pasta sauce & other flavours 110g x 2 @ £0.22 per pack	£0.44
Asda Smart price Chicken breast fillets 1kg	£3.82
Asda Smart price Chips - 1.5kg	£0.75
Asda Smartprice coleslaw x 2 tubs @ 0.33p	£0.66
Asda Smart price Eggs X 15	£1.20
Asda Smart price Pasta shapes - 500g	£0.29
Asda Smart price Peas - 1kg	£0.78
Asda Smart price spaghetti 500g	£0.20
Asda Smart price soft scoop Vanilla ice cream 2 Litres Tub	£0.89
Asda Smartprice value tuna chunks in brine 160g x 2	£1.06
Baking potatoes sold loose @ Tesco £0.30 each	£1.20
Baked beans Sainsbury's own brand x 6 tins	£1.20
Bowl of fruit bought in local market: Satsumas(15)/Banana/Apples/Pears £1 per bowl	£6.00
Bowl of tomatoes bought in local market	£1.00
Box of cereals x 2 Weetabix 72 biscuits @ Tesco	£8.00
I Can't Believe Its Not Butter! Light Spread 500g- Sainsbury's	£1.00
Lettuce and cucumber bought in local market @ 0.50p per item	£1.00
Loaf of bread- White/Wholemeal Sainsbury's Basic 800g x2 @ 0.40p per loaf	£0.80
Milk: Waitrose 6pints x 2	£2.98
Saxa fine sea salt 65g Asda	£0.80
Tesco carrots 1kg	£0.60
Tesco chickpea in water 210g x 2 tins @ 0.45p per tin	£0.90
Tesco Delight Strawberry / Chocolate&Banana flavour x 2 packs @ £0.29 per pack	£0.58
Tesco Everyday Value Teabags 40s	£0.50
Tesco Everyday Value Instant Coffee 100g	£0.33
Tesco Every day marmalade- 454g	£0.89
Tesco Every day orange juice 1.5 lt @ £0.68p per pack x 3	£2.04
Tesco everyday value passata 500g x 2 packets @ £0.35 per pack	£0.70
Tesco Everyday Value long grain rice - 1Kg	£0.45
Tesco everyday onions - 1kg	£0.60
Tesco everyday value low fat yoghurt, 4x125g x 1 pack @ 0.33p per pack	£0.33
Tesco Everyday Value ready to serve custard 385g (also available @ Asda £0.17)	£0.34
Tesco Everyday Value mixed herbs 30g	£0.85
TRS hot Madras curry powder 400g Asda x 2	£1.20
Tesco Lambs Liver 600g	£1.33

Tesco pure sunflower oil 3Lt	£3.00
Tesco white potatoes 2.5kg	£1.75
Asda smart price tin of sweetcorn - 326g	£0.35
Tesco sweetheart cabbage	£0.50
Total	£63.67

Week Two

Item	Price in £
Asda Cheese and Onion Pasty x 4	£1.20
Asda Chosen by you x 3 packets casserole mixes for £1	£1.00
Asda Smart price chocolate mousse x 6	£0.27
Asda Smartprice coleslaw x 2 tubs @ £0.30 per tub	£0.60
Asda Smart price Eggs X 15	£1.20
Asda Smart price Orange juice 1 Lt x 4 @ £0.55 each	£2.20
Asda sweet pickle 290g	£0.24
Asda Smartprice beef and pork mince 500g	£1.81
Asda Smartprice red kidney beans x 2 tins 400g @ £0.30p per tin	£0.60
Baked beans Sainsbury's own brand x 6 tins	£1.20
Bowl of tomatoes bought in local market	£1.00
Bowls of fruit bought in local market: Satsumas(15)/Bananas/Apples £1 per bowl	£6.00
Lettuce and cucumber bought in local market @ 0.40p per item	£1.00
Loaf of bread- White/Wholemeal Sainsbury's Basic 800g x2 loaves @ £0.40p per loaf	£0.80
Milk- Waitrose 6pints x 1	£1.48
Tesco everyday value onions - 1kg	£0.60
Tesco Everyday Value White Fish Fillets 520g	£1.70
Tesco carrots 1kg	£0.60
Tesco chickpea in water 210g x 2tins @ 0.45p per tin	£0.90
Tesco Delight: Strawberry/Chocolate& Banana flavour x 1 pack @ 0.29p per pack	£0.29
Tesco white potatoes 2.5kg	£1.75
Tesco everyday value long grain rice X 2 packets @ 0.45 p (pp)	£0.90
Tesco everyday value passata 500g X 4 packets @ 0.35 p (pp)	£1.40
Tesco Everyday Value ready to serve custard 385g (& available @ Asda £0.17)	£0.34
Tesco Every day orange juice 1.5 lt @ £0.68p per pack x 3	£2.04
Tesco Everyday Value 12 Pollock fish cakes 504g	£1.00
Tesco diced beef 400g X 3 packets (buy 3 packs for £10)	£10.00
TRS Red Split Lentils 2kg Asda	£3.00
Tesco Everyday Value low fat fruit yoghurt x 4 pots	£0.27
Tesco ground black pepper 100g	£1.50
Tesco sweetheart cabbage	£0.50
Total	£47.39

Week Three

Items	Price in £
Asda Chosen by you freshly frozen mixed vegetable 1kg	£0.98
Asda Smartprice beef and pork mince 500g	£1.81
Asda Smart price Chicken breast fillets 1kg	£3.82
Asda Smart price Chips - 1.5kg	£0.75
Asda Smart price chocolate mousse x 6	£0.27
Asda Smart price Coleslaw 300g x 2 tubs @ £0.33 per tub	£0.66
Asda Smart price Orange juice 1Lt x 4 cartons £0.55p each	£2.20
Asda Smart price Peas - 1kg	£0.78
Baked beans Sainsbury's own brand x 6 tins	£1.20
Beef Bourguignon Recipe Mix & Chicken & leek @ £0.85p each	£1.70
Blue Dragon Medium Noodles 300g	£1.39
I Can't Believe Its Not Butter! Light Spread 500g- Sainsbury's	£1.00
Bowl of tomatoes bought in local market - £1 per bowl	£1.00
Bowl of fruit bought in local market: Satsumas(15)/Bananas/Apples - £1 per bowl	£6.00
Jus- Rol puff pastry block 500g	£1.25
Lettuce and cucumber bought in local market @ £0.50p per item	£1.00
Loaf of bread- White/Wholemeal Sainsbury's Basic 800g x 2 loaves @ £0.40p per loaf	£0.80
Milk- Waitrose 6pints x 2	£2.98
Tesco Baby button mushrooms 200g	£0.90
Tesco carrots 1kg	£0.60
Tesco chickpea in water 210g x 2 tins @ £0.45p per tin	£0.90
Tesco Delight: Strawberry/Chocolate & Banana flavour x 0.29p each	£0.29
Tesco Every day marmalade- 454 g	£0.89
Tesco everyday value onions - 1kg	£0.60
Tesco Sliced Leeks 700g (frozen)	£1.00
Tesco Everyday Value ready to serve custard 385g (& available @ Asda £0.17)	£0.68
Tesco Everyday Value Instant Coffee 100g	£0.33
Tesco Everyday Value low fat fruit yoghurt x 4 pots	£0.27
Tesco Every day orange juice 1.5 lt @ £0.68p per pack x 3	£2.04
Tesco everyday value passata 500g x 4 packets @ £0.35 per pack	£1.40
Tesco everyday value rice x 2 packets @ £0.45 per pack	£0.90
Tesco Everyday Value Teabags 40s	£0.50
Tesco Everyday Quiche (cheese & onion) 400 g	£2.00
Tesco Lambs Liver 600g	£1.33
Total	£44.22

Week Four:

Item	Price in £
Asda chosen by you freshly frozen mixed vegetables 1kg	£0.98
Asda Chosen by you x 3 packets casserole mixes for £1	£1.00
Asda Chosen by you British Mature Cheese 500g	£2.74
Asda Smartprice beef and pork mince 500g x 2 packs @ £1.81 per pack	£3.62
Asda Smartprice coleslaw x 2 tubs @ £0.30 per pack	£0.60
Asda Smart price Eggs x 15	£1.00
Asda Smart price Orange juice 1 Lt x 4 cartons @ £0.55p each	£2.20
Asda Smart price Pasta shapes - 500g	£0.29
Asda Smartprice value tuna chunks in brine 160g x 2 tins	£0.53
Baking potatoes sold loose @ Tesco £0.30p each	£1.20
I Can't Believe Its Not Butter! Light Spread 500g- Sainsbury's	£1.00
Bowl of tomatoes bought in local market - £1 per bowl	£1.00
Bowls of fruit bought in local market: Satsumas(15)/Bananas/Apples @ £1 per bowl	£6.00
Hellmann's fat free Vinaigrette dressing 235mls	£1.29
Lettuce and cucumber bought in local market @ 0.50p per item	£0.50
Loaf of bread- White/Wholemeal Sainsbury's Basic 800g x 2 loaves @ £0.40p per loaf	£0.80
Milk- Waitrose 6pints x 1	£1.48
Tesco beans- Butter, Borlotti, Black eyed, Cannellini & Haricot Beans (any 5 for £2)	£2.00
Tesco carrots 1kg	£0.60
Tesco chickpea in water 210g x 2 tins @ £0.45 per tin	£0.90
Tesco Cornflakes 750g x 2 packets @ £1.45 per pack	£2.90
Tesco Delight: Strawberry / Chocolate & Banana flavour at £0.29	£0.29
Tesco Everyday Value Chocolate Mousse x 4 pots	£0.20
Tesco Whole Chicken Extra Large 2.00-2.30kg	£5.00
Tesco Everyday Value low fat fruit yoghurt x 4 pots	£0.27
Tesco everyday value onions - 1kg	£0.60
Tesco Sliced Leeks 700g (frozen)	£1.00
Tesco everyday value rice x 2 packets @ £0.45 per pack	£0.90
Tesco Everyday Value Rice Pudding 400g x 2	£0.30
Tesco Everyday Value White Fish Fillets 520g	£1.70
Asda smart price tin of sweetcorn - 326g	£0.35
Tesco/ Asda white potatoes 2.5kg	£1.75
Tesco Lambs Liver 600g	£1.33
TRS Red Split Lentils 2kg - Asda	£3.00
Tesco sweetheart cabbage	£0.50
Total	£49.82
Total expenditure for the period	£205.10
Average expenditure per week	£51.28

Annex F: Children's Clothing

This research approaches the issue of costing a child's wardrobe of essential clothes by looking at three age groups: infants (0-24 months), young children (3-12yrs) and teenagers (13yrs+).

The contents of the wardrobe, for each of the age groups, was suggested by the reference to a list of children's clothing items set out in the Plymouth City Council Foster Care Guidance, cited by the Welfare Reform Club report "An Analysis of Asylum Support Rates in Respect of Children". School uniform has been added to the Council's list.

The costing for the wardrobe of clothes was based on online research at Tesco, Matalan and Asda, which took place between 4 to 9 May 2016 and in person at Primark on 8 May 2016. The costings for each group were based on the cost of clothing for the eldest person within each age group, which may mean that the actual costs for younger children within each age group are less.

Infants (0-24mth)

Item	Tesco	Asda	Matalan	Primark
3 pairs pyjamas	£8.00	£7.00	£12.00	£6.50
6 baby grows	£16.00	£14.00	£24.00	£13.00
1 zip-through suit (for outdoor)	£6.00	£8.00	£8.00	£8.00
6 vests	£6.00	£6.00	£6.00	£6.00
total	£36.00	£35.00	£50.00	£33.50
total (renewed every 3 months)	£144.00	£140.00	£200.00	£134.00
weekly	£2.77	£2.69	£3.85	£2.58

Child (3-12 years)

Item	Tesco**	Asda	Matalan	Primark
Basic wardrobe				
7 sets of underwear	£9.00	£9.00	£10.00	£8.10
7 pairs of sock/tights	£4.00	£2.50	£6.50	£3.50
3 pairs of pyjamas	£30.00	£19.50	£15.00	£22.00
1 dressing gown	£13.00	£9.00	£8.00	£10.00
3 pairs of trousers/skirts	£15.00	£21.00	£23.00	£17.00
4 shirts/blouses	£20.00	£20.00	£20.00	£24.00
2 T-shirts	£4.00	£4.00	£5.00	£4.00
2 sweater/sweatshirt/cardigan	£10.00	£10.00	£12.00	£11.50
1 pair wellies	£6.00	£7.00	£8.00	£10.00
1 pair trainer	£9.00	£10.00	£8.00	£10.00
1 pair slippers	£7.00	£7.00	£7.00	£4.00
1 coat	£20.00	£18.00	£20.00	£25.00
Subtotal	£147.00	£137.00	£142.50	£149.10

School uniform				
2 trousers/skirts	£8.00	£11.00	£14.00	N/A
2 polo shirts/blouses/shirts	£3.50	£3.50	£5.00	N/A
1 school jumper	£5.00	£5.00	£7.00	N/A
pair shoes(for school)	£10.00	£8.00	£10.00	£10.00
1 school bag	£7.00	£4.00	£2.50	£6.00
Subtotal	£33.50	£31.50	£38.50	£16.00
Annual total (inc school wear)	£180.50	£168.50	£181.00	£165.10
Weekly total	£3.47	£3.24	£3.48	£3.18
Annual total (excl school wear)	£147.00	£137.00	£142.50	£149.10
Weekly total	£2.83	£2.63	£2.74	£2.87

Teenager (13years +)

Item	Tesco	Asda	Matalan	Primark
Underwear				
7 socks tights	£4.00	£6.00	£7.50	£5.00
7 boxers/knickers	£12.00	£10.00	£9.50	£9.00
3 bras/vests	£18.00	£15.00	£12.00	£15.00
2 pair pyjamas	£22.00	£20.00	£13.00	£16.00
<u>Out of school wear</u>				
3 trousers/skirts	£45.00	£30.00	£35.00	£27.00
3 tops	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£18.00
2 sweaters/tracksuit tops	£30.00	£20.00	£20.00	£15.00
Outerwear				
coat	£20.00	£20.00	£25.00	£23.00
1 pair boots (optional)	£22.00	£22.00	£20.00	£16.00
1 pair trainers	£10.00	£10.00	£12.00	£2.50
1 pair slippers	£4.00	£6.00	£4.00	£4.00
School uniform				
2 trousers/skirts	£12.00	£13.00	£18.00	N/A
2 polo shirts/blouses/shirts	£5.00	£4.00	£6.00	N/A
1 school jumper	£5.00	£6.00	£12.00	N/A
pair shoes(for school)	£14.00	£17.00	£15.00	£12.00
Sports top	£6.00	£3.50	£4.00	£5.00
tracksuit bottoms	£10.00	£10.00	£8.00	£5.00
shorts/skirt	£12.00	£6.00	£6.00	£5.00
1 school bag	£7.00	£8.00	£10.00	£7.00
Total (inc schoolwear)	£288.00	£256.50	£267.00	£184.50
Weekly	£5.54	£4.93	£5.13	£3.55
Total (excl schoolwear)	£217.00	£189.00	£188.00	£150.50
Weekly	£4.17	£3.63	£3.62	£2.89

The overall outcome of the research is set out in the table below. The average weekly costs in the retail stores of providing adequate clothing for infants (and renewing the wardrobe every 3 months) is £2.97. The average costs for the other two groups are £3.40 and £5.20 respectively).

Basic wardrobe - weekly cost					
Age range	Tesco	Asda	Matalan	Primark	average
Infant	£2.77	£2.69	£3.85	£2.58	£2.97
Child	£2.83	£2.63	£2.74	£2.87	£2.77
Teenager	£4.17	£3.63	£3.62	£2.98	£3.60

With school wear - weekly cost					
Age range	Tesco	Asda	Matalan	Primark	average
Infant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Child	£3.47	£3.24	£3.48	N/A	£3.40
Teenager	£5.54	£4.93	£5.13	N/A	£5.20

Annex G: Research on nappies and formula milk

Table 1 sets out the combined cost per week for nappies and formula milk at a range of stores based on research in May 2016.

Table 1: combined prices

Approx. age	0-2 weeks	2-4 weeks	4-8 weeks	8-12 weeks	3-4 months
Approx. Weekly cost for milk	£5.70	£6.44	£8.05	£9.66	£9.66
Average weekly cost for nappies	£10.92	£10.92	£10.92	£10.92	£10.92
Total	£16.62	£17.36	£18.97	£20.58	£20.58
Approx. age	4-5 months	5-6 months	7-12 months	12-18 months	18-24 months
Approx weekly cost for milk	£11.27	£11.27	£6.77	£7.77	£7.77
Average weekly cost for nappies	£11.20	£11.20	£9.80	£7.98	£6.16
Total	£22.47	£22.47	£16.57	£15.75	£13.93

Nappies

The information on the numbers of nappies required by babies in Tables 2 and 3 below was taken from the internet (www.whatprice.co.uk/health/parent/nappies.html). The cost of nappies taken from research conducted on 7 May 2016.

Table 2: Own branded nappies (cheapest found)

Age group of wearer	Nappies used per day	Total nappies used in age group	average cost per nappy	Total Cost of Nappies	divisor	per week
0-2 weeks	12	168	£0.12	£20.16	2 weeks	£10.08
0-4 months	12	1260	£0.08	£100.80	15 weeks	£6.72
4-6 months	10	630	£0.14	£88.20	9 weeks	£9.80
6-12 months	8	1456	£0.13	£189.28	26 weeks	£7.28
12-18 months	6	1092	£0.14	£152.88	26 weeks	£5.88
18-24 months	4	728	£0.15	£109.20	26 weeks	£4.20

Table 3: Branded nappies (dearest found)

Age group of wearer	Nappies used per day	Total nappies used in age group	average cost per nappy	Total Cost of Nappies	divisor	per week
0-2 weeks	12	168	£0.14	£23.52	2 weeks	£11.76
0-4 months	12	1260	£0.18	£226.80	15 weeks	£15.12
4-6 months	10	630	£0.18	£113.40	9 weeks	£12.60
6-12 months	8	1456	£0.22	£320.32	26 weeks	£12.32
12-18 months	6	1092	£0.24	£262.08	26 weeks	£10.08
18-24 months	4	728	£0.29	£211.12	26 weeks	£8.12

The branded nappies could be purchased for less in one of the two stores researched and larger packs were also available that reduced the price further.

Formula milk

The information on how much formula milk is required in Table 3 below was taken from the internet (www.aptaclub.co.uk/bottlefeeding/article/how-much-and-how-often). The average cost of a 900gm box of baby formula is between £8.50 and £10 – in-store research conducted on 7 May 2016.

Table 4: average price per week for formula milk

Approximate age	0-2 wks	2-4 wks	4-8 wks	8-12 wks	3-4 mths	4-5 mths	5-6 mths	7-12 mths	12-18 mths	18-24 mths
approximate weight - kgs	3.5	3.9	4.7	5.4	6.2	6.9	7.6			
approximate weight - lbs	7 3/4	8 1/2	10 1/2	12	13 3/4	15 3/4	16 3/4			
Feeds per 24 hour period	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	3
level scoops per feed (1 scoop=4.6g)	3	4	5	6	6	7	7	7	7	7
Quantity of Water - ml	90	120	150	180	180	210	210	210	210	210
Quantity of Water - fl oz	3	4	5	6	6	7	7	7	7	7
grams of formula per 24 hrs	82.8	92	115	138	138	161	161	96.6	96.6	96.6
grams per week	579.6	644	805	966	966	1127	1127	676.2	676.2	676.2
Kind of milk	first milk	first milk	first milk	first milk	first milk	first milk	follow-on milk	Growing up milk	Infant	Infant
Approx. Cost per week	£5.70	£6.44	£8.05	£9.66	£9.66	£11.27	£11.27	£6.77	£7.77	£7.77