

# REPORT ON REVIEW OF CASH ALLOWANCE PAID TO ASYLUM SEEKERS: 2017

January 2018 v1.0

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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 and guidance given by the High Court in the case of *R (Refugee Action) v SSHD 2014 EWHC 1033 (Admin)*<sup>1</sup>. The judgment of the High Court in the case of *Sumaya Ghulam, JK, YT and RG v SSHD 2016 EWHC 2639 (Admin)*<sup>2</sup> and of the Court of Appeal in the case of *JK, R (On the Application Of) v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2017] EWCA Civ 433*<sup>3</sup> upheld our approach.

This report sets out the findings of our 2017 review. After careful consideration and for the reasons the report goes on to explain, we have decided that the standard allowance provided in respect to each supported person (asylum seeker or dependant) should rise from £36.95 per week to £37.75 per week. The change is being implemented through an amendment to the Asylum Support Regulations and will take effect from 5 February 2018.

## Consultation

Before commencing the 2017 review, we invited written submissions from external partners and received responses from the following, for which we are grateful:

- Asylum Matters (formerly Still Human Still Here)
- Refugee Action
- Refugee Children's Consortium.

All three responses argued for the cash allowance to be no less than 70% of the allowances provided by the Department of Work and Pensions under the mainstream benefits system. Two of the responses also argued that the allowances provided to families should be restored to the level they were before August 2015. Both of these arguments have been fully considered in previous years and were aired fully in the judicial review cases mentioned above.

Asylum Matters conducted some analysis of the most recent Office of National Statistics data about expenditure on essential items by low income groups and made an assessment of the costs of meeting various essential living needs.

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

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

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWCA/Civ/2017/433.html>

Comments were also made in respect to the length of time asylum seekers spend on asylum support and the perceived impact this may have on their health and well-being. We have taken these comments into consideration, but remain of the view that our review methodology ensures that all asylum seekers and their dependants are provided with sufficient cash to provide for their essential living needs throughout the period they remain on support.

## 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 a good indicator of the likely amount of money people need to meet each of these 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: 2016 which uses data from Living Costs and Food Survey for the financial year 2015/16<sup>4</sup>. The table below illustrates the weekly expenditure by the lowest 10% income group among the UK 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 A6<sup>5</sup> in the survey**

<b>Essential need</b>	<b>Items covered in ONS survey (information taken from table A1<sup>6</sup>)</b>	<b>Expenditure by lowest 10% group adjusted for one person</b>
Food and non-alcoholic drinks	All food and non-alcoholic drinks covered in the survey.	£22.62
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).	£0.92
Household cleaning items	Cleaning material, including detergents, washing up liquid, washing powder, Disinfectants, polishes and other cleaning materials etc.	£0.92

<sup>4</sup> ONS report on Family Spending: 2016: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/familyspendingintheuk2016>

<sup>5</sup> Table A6 at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/expenditure/bulletins/familyspendingintheuk/financialyearendingmarch2016/relateddata>

<sup>6</sup> Table A1 at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/expenditure/bulletins/familyspendingintheuk/financialyearendingmarch2016/relateddata>

The overall position is that expenditure on the four items was £25.46 in the financial year 2015/16 (compared to £25.77 in the 2014 calendar year). Our findings in respect to further analysis of the amounts required to cover each of the four needs are set out below.

## Food and non-alcoholic drinks

The sum of £22.62 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 Households<sup>7</sup> (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 £24.90 each week on food and non-alcoholic drinks. This sum is £2.28 more than the amount set out in Table 1 above (£22.62), 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 £22.62 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 £22.62 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 level of the expenditure is unlikely, however, to relate to more than one takeaway meal per week. The figure of £22.62 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 ( $£22.62/20 = £1.13$ ).

In summary, this means that we assess that around £23.75 (£22.62 plus £1.13) is sufficient to cover the average weekly dietary needs of an adult asylum seeker.

## Toiletries, non-prescription medications and household cleaning items

In previous reviews, we considered that it is reasonable to assume that ONS spending levels in respect of toiletries, household cleaning items and non-prescription medicines are sufficient to meet each of these particular needs. We remain of that view.

As was found in 2016, however, our own analysis suggests that the actual cost of meeting these needs may be lower than the ONS expenditure levels 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 £59 and £66 annually (£1.13 - £1.27 weekly). For a woman, the cost is between £60 and £72 annually (£1.15 - £1.37 weekly). The full findings are set out in Annex A of this paper. The research had of necessity to make some assumptions about

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<sup>7</sup> Table A26 at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/expenditure/bulletins/familyspendingintheuk/financialyearendingmarch2016/relateddata>

the number of items the average person needs to purchase to meet each particular need, which is evident in the analysis. We believe these assumptions are reasonable.

In summary, we consider that the most recent ONS data showing a weekly expenditure of £2.84 (£147.68 annually) is comfortably enough to cover the needs of a single adult asylum seeker (male or female) that relate to toiletries, household cleaning items and non-prescription medication.

We have considered whether it is appropriate to continue to use the ONS data for these items, given that research in both 2016 and 2017 suggests that the actual cost of meeting the particular needs is lower. On balance, we have decided to retain the ONS data as the primary source of evidence about the cost of meeting the needs, but will look at the matter again in 2018, taking account of 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 2015/16 (adjusted for single person)	After Home Office adjustment
Food and non-alcoholic drinks	£22.62	£23.75
Toiletries	£1.00	£1.00
Healthcare	£0.92	£0.92
Household cleaning items	£0.92	£0.92
Subtotal		£26.59
<b>Total - after CPI for the 18 months to October 2017 (3.99%)<sup>8</sup></b>		<b>£27.65</b>

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

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<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/bulletins/consumerpriceinflation/october2017>

Information to arrive at this 18-month inflation rate was taken from the Consumer Prices Index in Annex A of the Statistical Bulletin.

considered later in this report (clothing, travel and communications), as the costs of meeting these needs are assessed through market research undertaken in 2017.



# Costs of meeting needs not assessed by reference to ONS data

## Clothing and footwear

We have not used 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 is in our view excessive in terms of meeting the essential need.

We have therefore continued to follow the practice of previous years by 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 unchanged from last year. 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 a set of nightwear, hat, scarf and gloves, was found to be around £145.67 or £2.80 per week.

We have also refreshed our previous research into the costs of buying clothes in charity shops and this continues to show that one set 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 £2.80 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 accept that 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 life<sup>9</sup>.

Participation in activities associated with interpersonal relationships and social, cultural and religious life, do not always incur a cost. 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).

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<sup>9</sup> 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 accept that it is reasonable to make some allowance for travel in the overall cash allowance provided to asylum seekers to meet these and other occasional incidental travel needs. The sum factored in following the 2016 review was £4 per week, as our survey of the costs of bus travel in the main areas where asylum seekers are accommodated showed this was generally sufficient to cover a return journey (and often multiple journeys by purchasing day tickets).

The survey was refreshed for the purposes of the 2017 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. We now assess that a sum of £4.30 is generally needed to pay for the cost of a return bus journey. 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 has not been factored into the assessment of the appropriate weekly cash allowance as this is met through legal aid.

The costs of travel to other events relating to pursuing an asylum claim are also not factored into the assessment as these are met separately, for example by providing pre-paid tickets to travel to asylum interviews and appeal hearings. Tickets for reporting events are issued if the supported asylum seeker lives more than 3 miles away from the reporting centre or for shorter distances where there are extenuating circumstances, for example if the person has a serious medical condition or is in the late stages of pregnancy.

In respect to communication, the “essential need” is to have the possibility of accessing the means to communicate<sup>10</sup> 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 intake unit in Croydon has shown this to be the case). A mobile phone certainly appears to be the most common means through which asylum seekers communicate and the previous research into the costs of using one has therefore been updated. The full research can be found at Annex D.

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

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<sup>10</sup> 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>

Our conclusion is that the typical cost of meeting needs related to communication still appears to be around £3 per week (unchanged from 2016).

# 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 some important respects. The extent to which this has been 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 recognise that children are not a homogenous group and may therefore have a range of different needs, depending in particular on their age 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 Energy<sup>11</sup>” (“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 appear to require less).

The National Diet and Nutrition Survey (NDNS) results from years 1 to 4 (2008 – 2012) published in 2014<sup>12</sup> 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

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

<sup>12</sup> <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 to be a general indicator that the reasons for the deficit are unlikely to be related to income levels.

The next NDNS report of this kind is due in 2018/19, but an interim report<sup>13</sup> covering years five (2012/13) & six (2013/14) has not highlighted any appreciable differences.

These sources indicate that the amount (£23.75) 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.

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 actual 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 report our reasoning for concluding that the ONS expenditure of £2.84 per week (£147.68 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 £59 and £72 annually (see also Annex A).

The need for toiletries, households 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 cleaning items in households with young children.

Research was undertaken in respect of child-specific items bought at a variety of stores (Boots, Superdrug, PoundLand and PoundWorld). This shows that, for a baby, the annual cost in respect of buying essential toiletries, household cleaning items and non-prescription medication is between £85 and £102 annually (£1.64 - £1.98 weekly). For a child, the cost is between £94 and £120 annually (£1.81 - £2.32 weekly). The full findings are set out at Annex E.

The research had of necessity to make some assumptions about the number of items that need to be purchased to meet the needs of the average baby or child, which is evident in the analysis. We believe these assumptions are reasonable.

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<sup>13</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/ndns-results-from-years-5-and-6-combined>

In summary, we consider that the most recent ONS data showing a weekly expenditure of £2.84 (£147.68 annually) is comfortably enough to cover needs of babies and children that relate to toiletries, household cleaning items and non-prescription medication.

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”<sup>14</sup>. 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 qualifies for free prescriptions because they are on a low income, which includes asylum seekers, the products are also provided free. The service also runs at pharmacies in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

## Clothing and footwear

The review adopted the same methodology used in the 2016 review and researched the costs in Tesco, Asda, Matalan and Primark of purchasing a full wardrobe of clothes, including a basic school uniform, for three separate age ranges: infants, young children and teenagers. The full research is set out in Annexes F and G and results in costs for the three age ranges of: £2.72, £4.31 and £5.48.

It should be noted that in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, there is provision in some cases for grants for school uniform that may not exist in England. In most cases if a child is entitled to free school meals (as the children of supported asylum seekers are), it is very likely that the child will be entitled to apply for these grants<sup>15</sup>.

## 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 research carried out in previous years 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. This has not changed (see Annex C).

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<sup>14</sup> <http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Pharmacy/Pages/Yourpharmacy.aspx>

<sup>15</sup> England: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-uniform>:

Scotland: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17885>

Wales: <http://www.swansea.gov.uk/schooluniformgrant>

Northern Ireland: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/school-uniform-and-uniform-grants>

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 entitled<sup>16</sup> – they will generally be able to get free school transport if they are:

- Aged 8 to 11 and the school is at least 2 miles away; or
- 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 Transport<sup>17</sup> (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.

This general policy approach is also followed in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland<sup>18</sup>, though appears to be applied more liberally in some areas. Glasgow City Council's website shows that it may provide free transport for primary school children whose home is more than 1.2 miles from school by the recognised shortest safe walking route and 2.2 miles for secondary school children<sup>19</sup>.

We do not therefore consider that any more than an additional £4.30 (the same sum we aside for adults) is necessary to meet the essential travel costs of a child. Indeed, the cost of meeting the need is likely to be less, which would in practice provide the funds to enable other members of the household to make additional journeys if they wish. 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 considered it probable that most children will have their own need to communicate for the purposes of maintaining interpersonal relationships and as part of their general development, but considered it less likely that there would be any specific cost to the household of meeting that 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

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<sup>16</sup> Section 512ZB of the Education Act 1996: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/56/contents>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/home-to-school-travel-and-transport-guidance>

<sup>18</sup> Wales: <http://www.swansea.gov.uk/schooltransport>:

Northern Ireland: <http://www.swansea.gov.uk/schooltransport>

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>

<sup>19</sup> Glasgow: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17882>

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 the purposes of study. Our research (as set out in Annex D) 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 therefore sufficient to meet the need.

## 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 adequate accommodation, 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 different in some respects. Infants, for example, have particular dietary and clothing requirements.

The Money Advice Service (MAS) website contains an annual baby cost calculator<sup>20</sup> 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, initial 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.

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<sup>20</sup> [https://partner-tools.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/baby\\_cost\\_calculator\\_syndicated/index.html](https://partner-tools.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/baby_cost_calculator_syndicated/index.html)



**Table 5: Information from MAS annual baby costs calculator**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Weekly cost</b>
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
<b>Total</b>	<b>£28.94</b>

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.

Additionally, as part of the process of assessing the costs of caring for babies we conducted our own research into the cost of nappies and baby formula milk. The research is based on freely available information about how much baby formula is needed during the first two years of life, as well as the number of nappies needed in that period. It shows that the cost of nappies and formula milk has remained fairly steady (even slightly decreasing) since 2016.

The average weekly cost of nappies and formula milk over the first 24 months of an infant's life is now between £11.71 and £19.41. This research can be found at Annex G.

# Conclusion

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 is higher than the current level of the weekly cash allowance paid to supported asylum seekers of **£36.95**.

For this reason, the allowance will be raised to **£37.75**. We are satisfied that £37.75 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 2015/16 (adjusted for single person)	After Home Office adjustment
Food and non-alcoholic drinks	£22.62	£23.75
Toiletries	£1.00	£1.00
Healthcare	£0.92	£0.92
Household cleaning items	£0.92	£0.92
Subtotal		£26.59
<b>Total - after CPI for the 18 months to October 2017 (3.99%)</b>		<b>£27.65</b>
Clothing		£2.80
Travel		£4.30
Communications		£3.00
Subtotal		£10.10
<b>Overall Total</b>		<b>£37.75</b>

The essential needs of children differ in some important respects to those of their adult parents, but our 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 or lower than the cost to an adult of meeting the same need.

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 £37.75 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 are also in practice 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 other costs will be shared.

Indeed, subsistence payments for asylum seekers in many European countries are based on the general principle that economies of scale are available in multi-person households. 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 A23<sup>21</sup>) confirms that overall expenditure per person reduces with the size of the household. In one parent households, the overall weekly expenditure per person reduces from around £162.45 per week (1 child) to around £116.56 (2 or more children). In two parent households, it reduces from over £210.83 per person (1 child) to around £142.15 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 £21 per week (1 child) to under £17 (2 or more children). In two parent households, it reduces from around £22 per person (1 child) to under £17 per person (3 or more children).

The difference is even greater among low income groups. The ONS survey data<sup>22</sup> shows that average weekly expenditure per person on food and non-alcoholic drink in households in the lowest 20% income bracket is just under £17 per person per week in single parent households and just under £16 per person in two parent households.

These figures are considerably lower than the £23.75 we have assessed as necessary for food and non-alcoholic drink for a single person.

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<sup>21</sup> Table A23 at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/expenditure/bulletins/familyspendingintheuk/financialyearendingmarch2016/relateddata>

<sup>22</sup> Tables A27 and 3.6 and A28 and 3.5 at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/expenditure/bulletins/familyspendingintheuk/financialyearendingmarch2016/relateddata>

The analysis therefore shows that a standard allowance provided for each supported person in a household (now set at £37.75 per week) ensures that parents with children have more than sufficient cash to cover all of the household's essential living needs, whether they are one or two parent households and irrespective of the number of children in the household.

We will keep under consideration whether a different system should be implemented to more accurately reflect the actual costs of meeting the essential living needs of families, especially large families, once economies of scale are factored in to the analysis. We will look again at the issue in 2018, taking account of the views of partner organisations.

# Background research

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

	Results of 2017 research			
<b>Essential Toiletries:</b>	<b>2016 prices</b>	<b>Multiplier</b>	<b>total p.a.</b>	<b>Outlet</b>
Toothpaste x 4	£0.75	4 x 100ml	£3.00	Boots
Toothbrushes x 4	£1.00	2 - 5 brushes	£2.00	PoundLand
Soap x4	£1.05	4 x 100g pack	£1.05	Boots
Shower gel x 4	£1.00	4 x 500ml	£4.00	PoundLand / PoundWorld
Shampoo x 4	£0.75	4 x 500ml	£3.00	Boots
Feminine hygiene items x 13 packs	£0.75 - £1.10	13 packs	£9.75-£14.30	Boots
Male shaving items (disposable razors (R) x 52 and shaving soap (S) x 4)	R-10 x 75p S- 250ml - 98p	R x 6 S x 4	£8.42	Boots/Superdrug
Deodorant (roll on/spray) x 6	£0.75	x6	£3.00	Boots
<b>Subtotals:</b>	<b>Men: = £24.47</b> <b>Women: = £25.80 - £30.35</b>			
<b>Essential cleaning stuffs:</b>				
Bleach x4	£0.75	4 x 750ml	£3.00	PoundWorld
Cleaning fluid (Cif or equivalent) x 4	£1.00	4 x 500ml	£4.00	PoundWorld
Washing up liquid x 4	£1 for pack of 2 x 550ml	2 x two packs	£2.00	PoundLand
Toilet roll - 52 rolls bought in 6s	£1.00	9x6/6x9 rolls	£6 - £9	PoundWorld / PoundLand
Washing powder (5 washes every fortnight), bought in 10 wash packs x 13	£1.00	Powder - 13-15 washes Gel - 15-28 washes	£6 -£10	PoundLand
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>Subtotal = £21 - £28</b>			
<b>Essential generic non-prescription medication:</b>				
Headaches - 2 x 3 packs of 16 tablets each of Paracetamol (P) and Ibuoprofen (I)	P - 24p I - 34p	P - 16 x 3 I - 16 x 3	£1.74	Superdrug
Indigestion - up to 100 tablets	£2.99	pack of 96 tablets	£2.99	Superdrug
cold remedies:				
2 x cough linctus	£1.00	200ml x2	£2.00	PoundLand / PoundWorld
2 boxes of hot drink sachets - 5 sachets each	£0.68	x2	£1.38	Superdrug
Pack of 2 nasal inhalers	£2.99	x2	£2.99	Superdrug
2 boxes of decongestant/cold&flu capsules (Beachams/Lemsip)	£1.00	x2	£2.00	PoundWorld
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>Subtotal = £13.10</b>			

(Anything other than this should be provided via GP on free prescriptions).				
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>Grand Total (men) - £58.57-£65.57</b> <b>Grand Total (women) - £59.60-£71.75</b>			

## 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	PoundWorld
<b>Toiletries</b>					
Toothpaste		SD PROcare; 75ml, £1.99	SMILE: 100ml, 75p*	Variety of brands, 100-125ml, £1	Various branded goods, 75-100ml, £1
Toothbrushes		SD single brush - 97p Colgate: 3 brushes - £1.49	Boots single brush - 75p*	Branded: 1-3, £1 Unbranded pack of 5, £1	none available on the day
Soap/shower gel	bars of soap / shower / bath gel / cream	<u>Soap:</u> N/A <u>Shower gel:</u> Women: SD; 250ml 69p Men: SD 2-in-1 (hair&body) 250ml, 89p Various brands, 250ml, 98p - £1.48	<u>Soap:</u> Dove; 2x100g £1.59 Simple;2x125g, £1.35 Boots essentials; 4x100g, £1.05 <u>Shower gel:</u> Therapy range:250ml, 75p* Zingy range: 250ml, 75p* Boots basic: 250ml, 59p	<u>Soap:</u> Simple/Dove: 2x100g, £1 Palmolive/Radox: 3x100g, £1 <u>Shower gel:</u> Variety of branded goods, 250-500ml, £1	<u>Soap:</u> Imperial leather 3x100g - £1 Dove/Simple 2x100g: £1 <u>Shower gel:</u> variety of branded goods for men & women, 250ml- 500ml - £1
Shampoo		SD Active range:250ml, £1.45 SD Extracts range: 400ml, 95p Range of branded goods: 250 - 500ml, £1.49-£2.99	Anti-dandruff range:400ml, £2.49 Fresh range: 500ml, 75p* Range of branded deals: 400ml, £1.50- £2.00	Various branded varieties 250- 500ml for £1	Various branded varieties for men & women: 200-400ml for £1 Alberto Balsam: 750ml - £1.50
Conditioner (for information only)		SD Active range:250ml, £1.45 SD Extracts range: 400ml, 95p Range of branded goods: 250 - 500ml, £1.49-£2.99	Fresh range: 500ml, 75p* Range of branded deals: 400ml, £1.50- £2.00	Various branded varieties 250- 500ml for £2	Various branded varieties 200-350ml for £1

products for black hair (for information only)	shampoo and conditioner	ORS Olive Oil range: Shampoo - 370ml, £3.49 Conditioner: 362ml, £4.05 Cantu range slightly more expensive at around £6 each	ORS Olive Oil range: Shampoo - 370ml, £3.49 Conditioner: 362ml, £4.05 L'Oreal Elvive, extraordinary oil range; shampoo and conditioner, 400ml, £4.49 each	N/A	N/A
Feminine hygiene items	tampons / towels / pantyliners	<u>Tampons:</u> SD; x16, 99p - £1.19 <u>Towel:</u> SD: x10-16, normal thru to night, 79p. Double packs - £1.50. <u>Pantyliners:</u> SD; x32, 89p	<u>Tampons:</u> Boots Libelle: x20, £1.10 <u>Towel:</u> Boots Libelle: Day x12-16, 75p Night x10, 85p <u>Pantyliners</u> Boots Libelle: x20-30, 80p Bladder control: x20-28, £1.59	<u>Tampons:</u> Tampax: x8, £1 Lilleys: x12, £1 <u>Towel:</u> <u>Day:</u> Bodyform x10-16, £1 Always x11-16, £1 <u>Night:</u> Bodyform x10, £1 Always x8, £1: Kotex x16, £1 <u>Pantyliners</u> Bodyform:x24-28, £1 Tena: x8-14 - £1	<u>Tampons:</u> Tampax: x8 - £12; x20 - £2; x48 - £3 <u>Towel:</u> Day: various brands x10 - £1 Night: Ultrex x 8 - £0.50 Bodyform x10 - £1 <u>Pantyliners</u> N/A
Male shaving items	disposable razors / shaving foam	<u>Razors:</u> BIC; 10s, £1 SD; 10s 99p <u>S/Foam:</u> SD 250ml 98p <u>S/Gel:</u> SD; 200ml, £1.48	<u>Razors:</u> BIC; 10s, £1.45 - £2 Boots: 10s, 75p <u>S/Foam:</u> Boots essentials range: 250ml, £1 <u>S/Gel:</u> Boots essentials range: 200ml, £1	<u>Razors:</u> BIC; 10s, £1 <u>S/Foam:</u> Gillette: 200ml, £1 <u>S/Gel:</u> Gillette: 75ml, £1	<u>Razors:</u> BIC; 10s, £1 <u>S/Foam:</u> Gillette: 200ml, £1 <u>S/Gel:</u> Gillette: 75ml, £1 Tru: 200ml, £1
Deodorant	spray or roll-on	<u>Spray:</u> SD; 250ml, £1.79 <u>Roll-on:</u> Sure: 50ml, 98p SD: 50mlm 99p	<u>Spray:</u> Branded; 150-250ml, £1-£2 <u>Roll-on:</u> Boots; 50ml, 75p*	<u>Spray:</u> Branded; 150ml, £1 <u>Roll-on:</u> Branded; 50ml, £1	<u>Spray:</u> Branded; 150ml, £1 <u>Roll-on:</u> Branded; 50ml, £1
<b>cleaning stuff</b>					
Bleach		Domestos, 750ml, £1	N/A	Domestos/Harpic: 700ml, £1	Parazone and other less well known brands: 750ml, 60p - 75p Domestos: 700 - 850ml, £1



Cleaning fluid (Cif or equivalent)		N/A	N/A	Cif - 450ml - £1	Various cleaning fluids: 500ml - £1 - £2
Washing up liquid		Cussons, 675ml, £1.49	N/A	Fairy - 3-500ml - £1 Others brands, including pack of 2 x 550ml for £1	Fairy: 433 - 520ml, - £1 Other brands: 2x500ml - £1
Toilet roll		N/A	N/A	6 rolls for £1	6 - 9 rolls - £1
Washing powder		N/A	N/A	<u>Powder</u> : 13-15 washes £1 <u>Laundry gel</u> : 28 washes - £1	<u>Powder</u> : Daz/Surf x6 washes - £1 Other brands x13-16 washes = £1 <u>Laundry gel</u> : N/A
<b>non-prescription medication</b>					
Headache tablets		SD Paracetamol x16 - 99p Alexander's x 16 - 24p SD Ibuprofen x16 - 99p Alexander's x19 - 34p	Boots Value health brand: Paracetamol x16s: 25p Ibuprofen x16s: 35p	Paracetamol tablets 3 x pack of 16 - £1 Ibuprofen 3 x pack of 16 - £1	Paracetamol tablets: 16s - £0.40 3 x 16s - £1 Ibuprofen: 16s - £0.60 2 x 16s - £1
Indigestion tablets		SD: x96, £2.99	Boots own x24 for £1.79	Setlers x 36, £1 Rennies x12, £1	Rennies x12, £1

## Annex B: Adult Clothing.

### General:

In the 2014 review of payment rates, in addition to the clothes they were wearing, 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

It was later agreed that other items should be added to this basic wardrobe:

- Nightwear; and
- Hat, gloves and scarf

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 2017.

Overall, the figures show that the cost of the clothing items in the stores is higher than in previous years. Male clothing items is again marginally more expensive than female items; the annual cost of male items is £145.67 (using an average of the middle range costs in the stores), and £138.31 for women. Taking the higher of the two, the weekly cost is £2.80.

<b>Men</b>				
<b>Shops</b>	<b>Primark</b>	<b>Matalan</b>	<b>Tesco</b>	<b>Asda</b>
<b>Underwear</b>				
Pants (x3)	Briefs: £4.50(5) Boxers: £7 (3)	Briefs: £5 (4) Boxers: £5 (3)	Briefs: £5 (5) Boxers: £5 (3)	Briefs: £5 (5) Boxers: £8 (3)
Socks(x3)	£2 (5) - £5 (7)	£3 (5)	£2.50 (4) – £5 (5)	£4 (5)
vests (x2)	3-pack - £6	2-pack - £6	2-pack - £8	2-pack - £5 3-pack - £8
<b>Outerwear</b>				
Tops/shirts (x2)	£2 - £10 (1)	£3 - £7 (1)	£1.99 - £8 (1)	£4.50 - £6 T-Shirts 2 for £7 Shirts/Polo shirts: 2 for £10
Trousers (x2)	£5 - £15 (1)	£10 - £14 (1)	£10 - £15 (1) 2 pairs Chinos - £25	£6 - £15 (1)
Sweatshirts / jumpers / cardigans (x2)	£8 - £12 (1)	£12 (1)	£9 - £12 (1)	£8 - £12 (1)
Coat (x1)	£14 - £20 (1)	£18 - £30 (1)	£24 - £36 (1)	£29 - £35 (1)
Shoes (x2)	£6 - £28 (1)	£10 - £18 (1)	£28 (1)	£8 - £25 (1)
Nightwear (1) (pyjama/lounge wear sets- short/long sleeve/leg)	£6 (shorts) - £13 (winter weight) (1)	£9 (shorts) – £10 (long) (1)	£9 (shorts) – £12 (long) (1)	£8 (shorts) – £12 (long) (1)
Hat (1)	£2 - £5 (1)	£3 (1)	£3.99 - £4.99 (1)	£2.50 - £3 (1)
Gloves (1)	£1 (2) - £3 (1)	£5 (1)	£4.99 - £6.95 (1)	£3 (1)
Scarf (1)	£4 - £5	£4 - £5 (1)	£3.99 (1)	£3 - £6 (1)
<b>Range totals</b>	<b>£81.50-£174</b>	<b>£123 - £169</b>	<b>£131.45- £179.93</b>	<b>£112.50 - £195</b>
<b>Middle ground</b>	<b>£127.75</b>	<b>£146</b>	<b>£155.19</b>	<b>£153.75</b>

<b>Women</b>				
<b>Shops</b>	<b>Primark</b>	<b>Matalan</b>	<b>Tesco</b>	<b>Asda</b>
<b>Underwear</b>				
Pants (x3)	£2 - £4.50 (4)	£5 (5)	£4 (4)	£4 (4)
Socks (x3), or tights (x3)	£1.50 (5) - £5 (3)	£4 (5) - £6 (3)	£2.50 - £5 packs of 3 – 5	£2.50 - £4 packs of 3 – 5
Bras (x2)	£2 - £8 each 3-pack: £8 2-pack: £9	£7 - £8 each 2-pack: £7-£10	£7 each 2-pack: £9	£4 - £6 each 2-pack: £5-£10
<b>Outerwear</b>				
Tops/shirts (x2)	£2.50 - £10(1)	£4 - £6 (1)	£3 - £16 (1)	£4 - £14 (1) 2 x t-shirts £6
Trousers/skirts(x2)	£5 - £15 (1)	£6 - £18 (1)	£5 - £12(1)	£6 – 14 (1)
Sweatshirts / jumpers / cardigans (x2)	£5-£10 (1)	£10 - £16 (1)	£10 - £12(1)	£8 - £14 (1)
Coat (x1)	£14 - £25(1)	£25 - £30 (1)	£21 - £35(1)	£22 - £30 (1)
Shoes (x2)	£3 - £12(1)	£8 - £14 (1)	£7 - £16(1)	£6 - £16 (1)
Nightwear (1) (pyjama/lounge wear sets-short/long sleeve/leg)	£4.50 - £10(1)	£6- £10 (1)	£7 - £10 (1)	£6 - £10 (1) 2 nighties for £10
Hat (1)	£3 - £4(1)	£6(1)	£1.99 - £9.99(1)	£6 (1)
Gloves (1)	£1 (2 pairs)	£4 - £5(1)	£2 (1)	£1.50 (1)
Scarf (1)	£4 (1)	£3 - £6(1)	£4 - £5 (1)	£3 (1)
<b>Range totals</b>	<b>£65 - £163.50</b>	<b>£116 - £192</b>	<b>£101.49-£196.99</b>	<b>£101 - £174.50</b>
<b>Middle ground</b>	<b>£114.25</b>	<b>£154</b>	<b>£149.24</b>	<b>£137.75</b>

## Costs at Charity Stores

A survey of charity shops was carried out in Croydon, including:- The Salvation Army (TSA), Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSCPA), MIND, Scope and St. Christopher's Hospice (SCH). All of the shops are able to process card payments and thus are able to take payment via ASPEN card

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. The research was conducted in June 2017, but 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.

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 £19.65 for a woman (using an average of the middle range costs in the stores) and £21.98 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 (2017 figures):

SHOPS	TSA	MIND	RSCPA	SCOPE	SCH
Coat / Jacket	£1 - £8	£4 -£9.50	£5.50-£10	£4 - £8.50	£4.50 - £15
Trousers / jean / skirt	£2-£6	£2.50-£8.50	£3.50 - £4.50	£4 - £8.50	£2.50-£6
Top	£1-£3	£3-£4.50	£1-£4	£4 - £5.50	£2.50-£5
Cardigan	£2.99-£4	£3.50-£8	£3-£6	£4 - £5.50	£4-£5
<b>Total</b>	<b>£6.99-£21</b>	<b>£13-£29.50</b>	<b>£13-£24.50</b>	<b>£16 - £28</b>	<b>£13.50-£31</b>
<b>Middle Ground</b>	<b>£14</b>	<b>£21.25</b>	<b>£18.75</b>	<b>£22</b>	<b>£22.25</b>

### Men's Clothing (2017 figures):

SHOPS	TSA	MIND	RSCPA	SCOPE	SCH
Coat / Jacket	£1 - £12	£5-£8	£4-£5.50	£4.50 - £10	£5.50-£7.50
Trousers / jean /	£2 - £7	£3-£7.40	£2.50-£10	£5-£10	£4-£7.50
Top	£3 - £4	£1-£5.50	£2-£6	£3-£7	£3-£6
Cardigan	£3 - £9	£2.50-£6.90	£2.50 -£6	£5-£8	£5-£10
<b>Total</b>	<b>£9- £32</b>	<b>£11.50 - £27.80</b>	<b>£11-£27.50</b>	<b>£17.50-£35</b>	<b>£17.50-£31</b>
<b>Middle Ground</b>	<b>£20.50</b>	<b>£19.65</b>	<b>£19.25</b>	<b>£26.25</b>	<b>£24.25</b>

# Annex C: Travel

## General

A large number of supported asylum seeker are housed in various towns & cities in the UK. In June 2017, research was undertaken into the cost of travel and availability of concessions in 23 of these cities.

Analysis of the results of this research is contained in the first table. The second table contains the results of the research itself.

## Conclusions

- As at December 2016, around 70% of the supported asylum seeker population lived in the 23 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 just 48% of the towns and cities – a very small difference from the level recorded in December 2015, when the proportion was 50%.
- It is possible to obtain multiple journey tickets for £4.50 or less in 100% of these towns and cities.
- It is also possible to make a return journey for £4.30 or less (using either 2 singles, a return or multiple journey ticket) in 100% of the towns and cities
- In all towns and cities in England, those who are registered disabled and/or of pension age may qualify for free off peak travel on local buses with a national concessionary card. This may depend upon residence in the area.
- In Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, this generally applies to those who are 60+ years, though there may be local difference regarding age and residence qualification.
- 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 June 2017:

Town	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2016	2 singles / a return for £3.50 or less	2 singles / a return for £4 or less	2 singles / a return for £4.50 or less	multiple journey ticket for £3.50 or less	multiple journey ticket for £4 or less	multiple journey ticket for £4.50 or less
<b>Scotland</b>							
<b>Glasgow</b>	3311	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>Northern Ireland</b>							
<b>Belfast</b>	636	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<b>Wales</b>							
<b>Cardiff</b>	1409	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
<b>Swansea city</b>	923	N/Known	N/Known	N/Known	N	N	Y
<b>England</b>							
<b>London</b>	4324	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>Derby</b>	714	N/Known	N/Known	N/Known	N	N	Y
<b>Nottingham</b>	985	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
<b>Leicester</b>	926	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>Newcastle</b>	797	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<b>Stockton-on-Tees</b>	867	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>Manchester</b>	1177	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>Liverpool</b>	1517	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
<b>Rochdale</b>	1061	y	y	y	N	N	Y
<b>Wigan</b>	885	N/Known	N/Known	N/Known	N	N	Y
<b>Bolton</b>	1083	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>Salford</b>	749	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>Birmingham</b>	1598	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
<b>Sandwell</b>	880	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<b>Stoke-on-Trent</b>	828	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y

<b>Wolverhampton</b>		772	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
<b>Bradford</b>		818	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>Sheffield</b>		842	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
<b>Bristol</b>		315	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
<b>Towns / Cities</b>	Yes	16 (70%)	19 (83%)	19 (83%)	3 (13%)	11 (49%)	23 (100%)	
	No	4 (17%)	1 (4%)	1 (4%)	20 (87%)	12 (51%)		0
	Not Known	3 (13%)	3 (13%)	3 (13%)	0	0		0
<b>Asylum Seekers</b>	Yes	21,019 (77%)	23,378 (85%)	23,378 (85%)	2,313 (13%)	10,579 (39%)	27,417 (100%)	
	No	3,876 (14%)	1,517 (6%)	1,517 (6%)	25,104 (87%)	16,838 (61%)		0
	Not Known	2,522 (9%)	2,522 (9%)	2,522 (9%)	0	0		0

27417



## Research conducted in June 2017

City	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2016	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
<b>Scotland</b>						
<b>Glasgow</b>	3311	SPT, First & some other operators, run the subway and bus services in Glasgow/local area. Average single bus/subway fare: £1.40 - £2.20. For any journey, children pay 70-85p.	Can be obtained on buses, but no Information available online	One day card which covers travel around greater Glasgow (zones 1&2): £4.50	<5years free. <u>Young Scot card</u> : 16-18 (& 19-25 if a fulltime volunteer) can get 1/3 of bus and rail fares. <u>Unirider</u> - the flexible college and university student bus ticket. <u>National Entitlement Card</u> for the disabled and those 60+. Eligible for free bus travel in Scotland and concession fares on the subway and rail - generally half fare.	16+

City	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2016	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
<b>Northern Ireland</b>						
<b>Belfast</b>	636	Full single fares range from £1.60 - £2.30. Children's fare range is 80p - £1.15. Reduced by 1/3 by buying multi-journey (5/10/20/30/40) w/free smartlink card. Adult range: £1.10-£1.60 Child range: £0.55-£0.80	Can be obtained on buses, but no Information available online	Metro day tickets: peak: £3.90 Off-peak: £3.40  Using a Metro Daylink smart card: Adult Peak: 3.50 Adult off-peak: £3.00 Child Peak: £1.75 Child off-peak: £1.50	<5 travel free <u>yLink card</u> : 16-23. Third off bus and rail travel in NI. Card costs £8 and may be valid for up to 8 years. <u>Metro Daylink smart card</u> : One off charge of £1 <u>Half fare Smartpass</u> - for the disabled. <u>60+ Smartpass</u> : free travel for those aged 60-64 who are permanent residents of NI. <u>Senior Smartpass</u> : free travel for those aged 65+ who are resident in NI and have been so for at least 3 months.	16+

City	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2016	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
<b>Wales</b>						
<b>Cardiff</b>	1409	Adult single fare £1.80, young person (YP) single fare £1.30. Short hop fares valid within the boundaries in the city centre, Canton, Roath, Llanrumney & St. Mellons, cost: Adult: £1 YP(5-18yrs): 70p	Can be obtained on buses, but no information available online	Day to go ticket - Adult: £3.60 YP(5-18yrs): £2.40	<5 travel free, if accompanied. 6-60 may use an "iff card" to obtain cheaper fares. Card free, replacements - £5, e.g.: YP (5-15) - reduced fares with or w/o iff card. YP (16-18) - reduced fares <u>only</u> with iff card/Travel pass (from 1/7/17). Adults:10xsingle tickets for £15; day to go ticket for £3.50; YP:12xsingle tickets for £9.50; day to go ticket for £2.30 Welsh 60+ bus pass (and Scottish/English equivalents) enables free travel on local buses.	on 19th birthday
<b>Swansea (City)</b>	923	Can be obtained on buses, but no Information available online	Can be obtained on buses, but no Information available online	Day to go tickets: Swansea city - Adult: £4.30 YP(5-18yrs): £3	<5 travel free, YP (16-18): 1/3 discount off bus travel with the mytravelpass (card free). Welsh 60+ bus pass (and Scottish/English equivalents) enables free travel on local buses.	on 19th birthday

City	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2016	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
<b>England</b>						
<b>London</b>	4324	Pay as you go: £1.50 with a contactless payment or Oyster card on all buses trams in London.	N/A	Oyster Card daily limit on bus and tram travel - £4.50	Information from TfL website: <b>Under 11s:</b> travel free on buses/trams. No Oyster photocard needed. <b>11-15:</b> travel free on buses / trams with 11-15 Zip Oyster photocard. <b>16+:</b> If not eligible for free bus / tram travel, need a 16+Zip Oyster photocard to get age 16+ fares or half adult-rate Bus & Tram Passes. <b>18+ Student:</b> Apply for an 18+Student Oyster photocard & get 30% off 7 Day, Monthly etc Bus & Tram Passes. <b>Apprentice:</b> Apply for an Apprentice Oyster photocard & get 30% off 7 Day, Monthly etc Bus & Tram Passes. Apprentice Oyster photocard / Oyster card needed to use PAYG and benefit from daily capping (adult rate) NB. Zip Oyster photocards are subject to an admin charge at time of application.	18years +

City	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2016	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
<b>Derby</b>	714	Can be obtained on buses, but no Information available online	Can be obtained on buses, but no Information available online	Arriva: Adult: £4.20 Child: £3.50	<5 years free 5-14 - child fares Seniors: free bus travel with National Concessionary Travel Passes England / Scotland / Wales):	14+
<b>Nottingham</b>	985	Adult: £2 5-19: £1 Short Hop: single wholly within 1 of 11 local zones: £1.30	Inner city return: £2.40	All day: Adult - £3.70 5-19 - £2.50	Nottingham City Transport: <5 years free 5-19 - reduced child rates Seniors: free local off-peak bus travel (9.30am-11pm) with English National Concessionary Travel Pass. Robin Hood smart card provides possibility of lower single fare costs for adults - £1.90	19+
<b>Leicester</b>	926	First: Adult: £1.60 5-15: from £1.10	First: 5-15: £2.70	Arriva Day ticket: Adult: £4.20 Child: £3.50 First Day tickets: Adult: £4.20 Child: £3.50	<5 years free Arriva (5-16) / First (5-15) - child rates Seniors - free local off-peak bus travel (9.30am - 11pm) if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass. Half fare at other times.	16+

City	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2016	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
<b>Newcastle</b>	797	Singles cash fares vary to the length of the journey from £1.80 - £3.40	Can be obtained on buses, but no information available online	One day travel ticket £7.70 valid all regions of North East. Go North East: Daysaver - £3.50 Transfare: 1, 2 or 3 zones range from £2.70-£7.60	<5 years free. <16 Pop Card: single bus journey (any time/any day) - £0.60p. U16 Child All-day Ticket - anywhere for £1.10/day. Seniors: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.	16+
<b>Stockton-on-Tees</b>	867	Arriva NE adult singles range from 90p to £7.30 for longer journeys	Can be obtained on buses, but no information available online	Arriva: Adult: £4.50 Child: £2.90	<5 years free. Arriva Teen card (5-18): max single fare £1. Pathfinder 16-19 bus pass (Stockton BC - unlimited half price travel) Seniors: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.	18+

City	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2016	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
<b>Liverpool</b>	1517	Arriva Merseyside "flat fare": Adult: £2.30 5-18: £1.20	Can be obtained on buses, but no information available online	1 day Saveaway fares (buses trains & ferries): 1 zone/all zones: Adult: £3.90-£5.20 5-18: £2.30-£2.70 1 day Solo ticket (buses only): Adults - £4.70 5-18 - MyTicket - all day travel on buses for £2.	<5 years free Seniors/disabled: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.	18+
<b>Rochdale</b>	1061	Rosso adult single fares range from: £1 - £4.90	Can be obtained on buses, but no information available online	FirstDay ticket: Adult: £4.50 Child: £2 - £2.10 Adult System One travel card (bus only): Off peak - £5.20 Peak - £5.60 Child System One travel card (bus only): £2.80	<5 years free, if accompanied 5-16 - Apply for "igo pass" for low-cost bus tickets in GM area (NB. igo passes are compulsory for 11-16 to get concessionary travel). Seniors/disabled: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass	16+

City	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2016	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
<b>Wigan</b>	885	Can be obtained on buses, but no Information available online	Can be obtained on buses, but no information available online	Arriva Dayticket (covering bus journeys across an area including Wigan, Bolton, Bury Rochdale and Oldham): Adult: £4.20 Adult System One travel card (bus only): Off peak - £5.20 Peak - £5.60 Child System One travel card (bus only): £2.80	<5 years free 11-16 IGO pass: £5 & valid to end of the school year. [N.B. 6-11 need IGO pass to get concessionary child fares across GM area] 16-21 IGO pas: £5 for concessionary fare travel from college to home Mon-Fri during term time (half adult-rate Bus & Metro tickets) 63+: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.	16+
<b>Salford</b>	749	First: Adult: £1.30 - £1.50 Child: £0.65 - £0.75	Can be obtained on buses, but no information available online	Day tickets for the GM area: Adult: £4.20 - £4.50 Child: £2 - £2.10 Adult System One travel card (bus only): Off peak - £5.20 Peak - £5.60 Child System One travel card (bus only): £2.80	<5 years free, if accompanied 5-16 - Apply for "igo pass" for low-cost bus tickets in GM area (NB. igo passes are compulsory for 11-16 to get concessionary travel). Seniors/disabled: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass	16+



City	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2016	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
<b>Birmingham</b>	1598	Adult single fare range: £1-£2.40 Child single: £1.20	Adult: Can be obtained on buses, but no information available online Child return: £2	Adult 1 day ticket: £3.80 - £4.30 Child 1 day ticket: £2.70 - £3.40	<5 years free <16 photocard - child fares 16-18 photocard £10 per academic year (child fares). Swift card (smart card) enables other discounts. 63+: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.	16+
<b>Sandwell</b>	880	Adult single fare range: £1-£2.40 Child single: £1.20	Adult: Can be obtained on buses, but no information available online Child return: £2	Adult 1 day ticket: £3.80 - £4.30 Child 1 day ticket: £2.70 - £3.40 Daytickets in Sandwell/Dudley zone: adult - £3 child: £1.50	<5 years free <16 photocard - child fares 16-18 photocard £10 per academic year (child fares). Swift card (smart card) enables other discounts. 63+: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.	16+
<b>Wolverhampton</b>	772	nxbus singles: Adult: £1.50-£2.40 Child: £1.20	Can be obtained on buses, but no information available online	nxbus day tickets: Adult:£4(offPeak) £4.60 (peak) Child: £3.10 Arriva (Black country): Adult: £4 Child: £2	<5 years free 5-15 - child fares. Seniors/Disabled: free local off-peak (9.30am - 11pm) bus travel if hold a English National Concessionary Travel Pass.	16+

City	Supported Asylum seeker population @31.12.2016	Single Bus Journey	Return Bus Journey	Multiple journey day tickets	Ages for free travel	Ages for full fare
<b>Bradford</b>	818	First adult single: £1.10	Can be obtained on buses, but no information available online	First adult day ticket: £4.20	<5 years free 5-11 - half adult fare 11-18 - half adult fare with 11-16 and 16-18 photocards. Seniors/Disabled: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass (English).	19
<b>Sheffield</b>	842	First South Yorkshire: Adult £1 - £1.50 Child single: 80p	Can be obtained on buses, but no information available online	First South Yorkshire day tickets: Adult: £4 Adult citybus: £4.30 (wider area) Child: £2	<5 years free Child fares: 5-11, 11-16 Mega travel Pass & 16-18 (if in FTE) Student Pass. [NB. No Pass - pay full fare.] Seniors/Disabled: free local off-peak (9.30am-11pm bus travel if hold a English National Concessionary Travel Pass.	19
<b>Bristol</b>	315	First, Bristol Inner Zone, depending on length of trip: Adult: £1-£3 Child (5-15): £0.50-£1.50 YP (16-21): £0.70-£2.10	Can be obtained on buses, but no information available online	First Bristol Inner Zone Day ticket: Adult: £4 Child (5-15): £2 YP (16-21): £3	<5 years free if accompanied 5-15: child fare. those who look older should obtain First Photo ID. 16-21 (YP): Concessions with a First Photo ID. Senior/Disabled: free local off-peak bus travel if hold a National Concessionary Travel Pass.	16 if no ID card 21 if ID card held.

## Annex D: Communications 2017

### Writing materials for communication and for education of children

A 300 sheet 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. The very young may prefer the slate and chalk option available at £2.

### Contract Phones (mobile phonechecker.co.uk @ 3/7/2017)

The cheapest contracts found (including handset and allowing for 150-300 minutes/5000-unlimited texts/250-500MB of data per month) were around £4.99-£7.00 per calendar month, based on a two-year contract, which is typical. That is £60-£84 p.a. over the term of the contract, or **£1.15 - £1.62 per week**.

### SIM Free mobile phones (via: mobile phonechecker.co.uk @ 3/7/2017)

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. Basic mobile phones can be purchased for as little as £20 or £30. For example:

SIM free phone	Cost of phone (£)	Where:
Alba 2.8" mobile phone	£19.99	Argos
Nokia 222	£29.99	Buymobiles.net
Nokia 216	£30	Tesco

### SIM only deals (via: mobile phonechecker.co.uk @ 3/7/2017)

Company	SIM only 1 month contract deals	Cost:	Weekly cost
TPO (the People's Operator)	1. 200mins / 500 txts / 500MB	1. £3.99	1. £0.92
	2. 600mins / unlimited txts / 2GB	2. 6.99	2. £1.61
ID mobile	1. 250mins / 5000txts / 250MB	1. £4	1. £0.92
	2. 250mins / 5000txts / 1.5GB	2. £5	2. £1.15
Plusnet	500mins / 1000 txts / 1GB	£5	£1.15

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.

### Pay-As-You-Go (via: mobile phonechecker.co.uk @ 3/7/2017)

There are PAYG deals including the phone, but these will link to a network, such as the following O2 network deals:

- Alcatel 20.45X phone for £5.99, when bought with a £20 "big bundle".
- Same phone for £9.99, with a free £10 web top up voucher.

Big bundles:

- £10 – 250mins / 1000txts / 500MB
- £15 - 750mins / 2000txts / 2GB:
- £20 - 1500mins / 4000txts / 4GB

If you are already in possession of a mobile phone, it is further possible to 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 when you buy a certain amount of credit (usually £10 - £15).

For example, Lebara offers a free SIM when bought with a £15 top-up (1000 UK minutes, 1000 international minutes, unlimited texts, and 1GB data). This deal would cost £3.46 per week. In additions, calls on the Lebara network are free and there is currently £5 free with a £20 top-up.

Other basic PAYG deals are as follows:

Company	Cost	deal:	Weekly cost:
ASDA	£7 for bundle (over EE network)	300mins/unlimited txts/500MB	£1.61
GiffGaff	£7.50 for bundles (over 02 network) + £5 free credit	250mins/unlimited txts/750MB	£1.73
TPO	£7.50	200mins / 500 txts / 500MB	£1.73
Tesco	£10 (over 02 network)	500mins / 5000 txts / 1GB	£2.31

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

### International calling cards

Tesco calling cards are typical (<https://www.tescointernationalcalling.com/>). The data below is taken from their website on 3/07/2017. However, it is always prudent to shop around and both 02 (<https://www.o2.co.uk/shop/international/calling-card/>) and Lyca (<http://www.lycatalk.co.uk/en/international-calling-cards>) also had competitive rates for the countries below:

Top 10 supported nationalities (@31.12.16)	Landline cost	Mobile cost	SMS	connection fee p. call
Iran (4648)	18	14	0	4
Pakistan (4478)	4	4	0	4
Iraq (3761)	12	18	0	4
China (3129)	0.5	0.5	0	4
Nigeria (2932)	8	6	0	4
Afghanistan (2467)	16	16	0	4
Albania (2331)	12	32	0	4
Eritrea (1880)	22	24	0	4
Sri Lanka (1543)	14	14	0	4
Sudan (1063)	8	12	0	4

Thus, more than 72% of all currently supported persons (28,232/39,389) can make an international call for on average 12 – 14 pence per minute, plus a 4p connection fee, as well as being able to text for free. Even cheaper if the user shopped around for the best deal. Also, given that access to the internet at libraries is free, communication via Skype is cheaper still.

# Annex E - Cost of Children's toiletries, non-prescription medication and household cleaning items

		Results of 2017 research			
<b>Essential Toiletries:</b>		prices	Multiplier	total p.a.	Outlet
Baby/Kids	Toothpaste x 4	£0.89	4 x 75ml	£3.56	Superdrug
Baby/Kids	Toothbrushes x 4	£1.00	4 brushes	£4.00	Boots/PoundLand
Baby/Kids	Boots / Johnson's Soap x4	£1.00	4 x 100g pack	£1.00	Boots/PoundLand / PoundWorld
Baby/Kids	Johnson's baby bath: 4 x 500ml	£2.79	4 x 500ml	£11.16	Superdrug
Baby/Kids	Boots baby bath: 4 x 500ml	£1.29	4 x 500ml	£5.16	Boots
Baby	Johnson's Baby Shampoo: 4 x 500ml	£2.29	4 x 500ml	£9.16	Boots
Baby	SD Baby Shampoo: 4 x 500ml	£0.99	7 x 300ml	£6.93	Superdrug
Kids	Johnson's Kids Shampoo: 4 x 500ml	£3.49	4 x 500ml	£13.96	Boots
Baby/Kids	Johnson's Baby lotion: 4 x 500ml	£1.00	7 x 300ml	£7.00	Poundland
Baby/Kids	SD Baby lotion: 4 x 500ml	£0.99	7 x 300ml	£6.93	Superdrug
Baby/Kids	Johnson's Baby Oil: 4 x 300ml	£1.00	6 x 200ml	£6.00	Poundland / PoundWorld
Baby/Kids	SD Baby Oil: 4 x 300ml	£0.99	5 x 250ml	£4.95	Superdrug
Baby/Kids	Johnson's Baby powder: 4 x 500g	£2.29	4 x 500g	£9.16	Superdrug
<b>Subtotals:</b>		<b>Babies = £41.69 (alternates)- £51.04 (Johnson's)</b>			
		<b>Kids = £50.45 (alternates) - £69.80 (Johnson's)</b>			
<b>Essential cleaning stuffs (costs taken from Annex A:</b>					
Baby/Kids	Bleach x4	£0.75	4 x 750ml	£3.00	PoundWorld
Baby/Kids	Cleaning fluid (Cif or equivalent) x 4	£1.00	4 x 500ml	£4.00	PoundWorld
Baby/Kids	Washing up liquid x 4	£1 for pack of 2 x 550ml	2 x two packs	£2.00	PoundLand
Baby/Kids	Toilet roll - 52 rolls bought in 6s	£1.00	9x6/6x9 rolls	£6 - £9	PoundLand / PoundWorld
Baby/Kids	Washing powder (5 washes every fortnight), bought in 10 wash packs x 13	£1.00	Powder – 13 - 15 washes Gel - 15-28 washes	£6 -£10	Poundland
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>Subtotal = £21 - £28</b>			
<b>Essential generic non-prescription medication:</b>					
Baby/Kids	Calpol - 200ml p.a.	£5.89	1 x 200ml	£5.89	Superdrug
Baby	Teething gel: 6 x 15ml (one every two months)	£1.29	6 x 15ml	£7.74	Boots
Baby	Sudacreme: 1x400g	£5.99	1 x 400g	£5.99	Boots
Baby/Kids	petroleum jelly: 1 x 250g (Vaseline or own/other brand)	£1.00	1 x 375g	£1.00	Poundland
Baby	Nappy cream: 2 x 125g	£1.00	2 x 125g	£2.00	Poundland
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>Subtotal = £22.62</b>			
(Anything other than this should be provided via GP on free prescriptions).					
<b>Grand Totals</b>		<b>Babies: £85.31 - £101.66</b>			
		<b>Kids: £94.07 - £120.42</b>			

## Background Research:

Toiletries / non-prescription medication research for babies and children:

- For household cleaning items, please see adult research set out in Annex A.
- Instore research done in Superdrug / Boots / Poundland on 20/6/17
- Instore research done in PoundWorld on 26/6/17
- Unless stated otherwise for Boots/Superdrug, items are their own branded goods

items	description	Superdrug	Boots	PoundLand	PoundWorld
<b>Toiletries</b>					
Toothbrushes	babies and kids	SD kids, £1.05 a brush	for 0-2yrs, £1 a brush	for babies, 0-2yrs, and 2-4yrs, £1 each	for children (Kidz): pack of 5 for £1
Toothpaste	babies and kids	SD Kids, (for all babies / children) 75ml, 89p	Boots Kids, (for all babies and children) 50ml, £1	Colgate for kids, (3-5yrs), 50 ml, £1	Colgate for 3-5yrs, 50ml, £2
Soap/shower gel	babies	<u>Soap:</u> N/A <u>Baby bath:</u> Johnson's: 500ml, £2.79 SD: 300ml, 99p	<u>Soap:</u> Boots baby soap: 4x100g, £1 <u>Baby bath:</u> Johnson's: 500ml, £2.89 Boots: 500ml, £1.29	<u>Soap:</u> Johnson's baby soap: 4x100g, £1	<u>Soap:</u> Johnson's baby soap: 4x100g, £1 <u>Baby bath:</u> Johnson's: 500ml, £2 <u>Shower gel for kids:</u> Paw Patrol/Jelly Belly, 400ml £1
Shampoo [and conditioner - for information only]	babies [and kids]	<u>Shampoo:</u> Johnson's Baby, 500ml, £2.99 SD: 300ml, 99p	<u>Shampoo:</u> Johnson's Baby, 500ml, £2.29 Johnson's Kids, 500ml, £3.49 <u>Conditioner</u> Johnson's Kids, 500ml, £3.49	<u>Shampoo:</u> Johnson's Baby, 200ml, £1	<u>Shampoo:</u> Johnson's bedtime baby, 500ml, £2
Skincare	for babies -	<u>Lotion:</u> Johnson's: 500ml, £2.79 SD: 300ml, 99p <u>Oil:</u> Johnson's 300ml, £2.49 SD: 250, 99p <u>Baby Powder:</u> Johnson's 500g, £2.29 SD: 250ml £1.29	<u>Lotion:</u> Johnson's: 400ml, £2.29 <u>Oil:</u> Johnson's 300ml, £2.09 <u>Baby Powder:</u> Johnson's 500g, £2.29	<u>Lotion:</u> Johnson's: 300ml, £1 <u>Oil:</u> Johnson's 200ml, £1 <u>Baby Powder:</u> Johnson's 200g, £1	<u>Lotion:</u> Johnson's bedtime: 300ml, £2 <u>Oil:</u> Johnson's baby, 200ml, £1 Johnson's bedtime baby, 200ml, £1.50 <u>Baby Powder:</u> Johnson's baby 200g, £1 Johnson's bedtime baby, 400g, £2
<b>Non-prescription medication</b>					
painkillers etc	babies and kids	Calpol, 200ml, £5.89	Calpol, 100ml, £3.50 Boots Ibuprofen (3mths+), 100ml, £2.65 Boots paracetamol (6yrs+), 100ml, £2.65	Parapaed (6yrs+), paracetamol suspension, 80ml, £1 Children vaporub: (6mth+), 50g, £1	n/a

<b>Items</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b><u>Superdrug</u></b>	<b><u>Boots</u></b>	<b><u>PoundLand</u></b>	<b><u>Poundworld</u></b>
sudacreme / vaseline / nappy cream	babies	<u>Sudacreme:</u> 125g, £2.99 <u>Petroleum Jelly:</u> Vaseline, 250ml, £2.59 SD, 100ml, 99p	<u>Sudacreme:</u> 400g, £5.99 <u>Petroleum Jelly:</u> Vaseline, 100ml, £2.09 Boots, 250ml, £1.99	<u>Petroleum Jelly:</u> non-branded, 375g, £1 <u>Nappy cream:</u> Healthpoint, 125g, £1	<u>Petroleum Jelly:</u> Vaseline, 50ml, £1 non-branded: 284g £1 <u>Nappy cream:</u> Healthpoint, 30g, £1
teething gel	babies	Bongela, 15ml, £3.59	Bongela, 15ml, £2.99 Dentinox: 15ml, £1.50, Boots, 15ml, £1.29	Dentinox: 10ml, £1	Dentinox: 10ml, £1

## Annex F: Children's Clothing

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

The costing for the wardrobe of clothes was based on online research at Tesco, Matalan and Asda, which took place between 23 – 27 October 2017 and in store at Primark on 31 October 2017. 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
<b>3 pairs pyjamas</b>	£5.50	£5.00	£13.00	£4.80
<b>6 baby grows</b>	£12.00	£6.50	£7.50	£6.60
<b>1 zip-through suit (for outdoor)</b>	£15.00	£14.00	£15.00	£12.00
<b>6 vests</b>	£6.50	£6.00	£5.00	£7.00
<b>total</b>	£39.00	£31.50	£40.50	£30.40
<b>total (renewed every 3 months)</b>	£156.00	£126.00	£162.00	£121.60
<b>weekly</b>	£3.00	£2.42	£3.12	£2.34

### Child (3-12 years)

Item	Tesco	Asda	Matalan	Primark
<b>Basic wardrobe</b>				
<b>7 sets of underwear</b>	£16.50	£9.00	£16.00	£9.30
<b>7 pairs of sock/tights</b>	£9.00	£6.75	£9.50	£5.80
<b>3 pairs of pyjamas</b>	£23.00	£15.00	£21.00	£17.00
<b>1 dressing gown</b>	£12.00	£11.00	£10.00	£10.00
<b>3 pairs of trousers/skirts</b>	£28.00	£22.00	£26.00	£24.00
<b>4 shirts/blouses</b>	£21.50	£22.50	£27.00	£27.00
<b>2 T-shirts</b>	£4.00	£6.50	£9.00	£4.00
<b>2 sweater/sweatshirt/cardigan</b>	£16.00	£15.50	£20.00	£13.00
<b>1 pair wellies</b>	£10.00	£10.00	£11.00	£10.00
<b>1 pair trainer</b>	£10.00	£11.00	£13.00	£10.00
<b>1 pair slippers</b>	£4.00	£8.00	£4.00	£4.00
<b>1 coat</b>	£22.00	£22.00	£30.00	£18.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	£176.00	£159.25	£196.50	£156.10
<b>School uniform</b>				
<b>2 trousers/skirts</b>	£12.50	£14.00	£16.00	N/A
<b>2 polo shirts/blouses/shirts</b>	£5.50	£5.50	£7.00	N/A
<b>1 school jumper</b>	£5.00	£5.00	£5.00	N/A
<b>pair shoes (for school)</b>	£19.00	£14.00	£14.00	N/A
<b>1 school bag</b>	£6.00	£6.00	£6.00	N/A



<b>Subtotal</b>	£48.00	£44.50	£48.00	N/A
<b>Annual total (inc schoolwear)</b>	£224.00	£203.75	£244.50	N/A
<b>weekly total</b>	£4.31	£3.92	£4.70	N/A
<b>Annual total (exc schoolwear)</b>	£176.00	£159.25	£196.50	£156.10
<b>weekly total</b>	£3.38	£3.06	£3.78	£3.00

## Teenager (13years +)

Item	Tesco	Asda	Matalan	Primark
<b><u>Underwear</u></b>				
<b>7 socks tights</b>	£9.50	£6.00	£7.50	£7.50
<b>7 boxers/knickers</b>	£20.00	£10.00	£11.00	£9.00
<b>3 bras/vests</b>	£18.00	£9.00	£13.00	£8.00
<b>2 pair pyjamas</b>	£14.00	£20.00	£20.00	£22.00
<b><u>Out of school wear</u></b>				
<b>3 trousers/skirts</b>	£34.00	£32.00	£29.00	£21.00
<b>3 tops</b>	£23.00	£16.50	£19.00	£17.00
<b>2 sweaters/tracksuit tops</b>	£24.00	£20.50	£24.00	£18.00
<b><u>Outerwear</u></b>				
<b>coat</b>	£35.00	£25.00	£35.00	£35.00
<b>1 pair boots (optional)</b>	£20.00	£22.00	£22.00	£16.00
<b>1 pair trainers</b>	£11.99	£12.50	£18.00	£14.00
<b>1 pair slippers</b>	£6.00	£6.00	£6.00	£4.00
<b><u>School uniform</u></b>				
<b>2 trousers/skirts</b>	£16.00	£16.00	£18.00	N/A
<b>2 polo shirts/blouses/shirts</b>	£6.50	£16.00	£14.00	N/A
<b>1 school jumper</b>	£5.00	£6.00	£12.00	N/A
<b>pair shoes (for school)</b>	£17.00	£18.00	£28.00	N/A
<b>Sports top</b>	£5.00	£3.50	£8.00	N/A
<b>tracksuit bottoms</b>	£7.00	£10.00	£10.00	N/A
<b>shorts/skirt</b>	£7.00	£7.00	£8.00	N/A
<b>1 school bag</b>	£6.00	£6.00	£6.00	N/A
<b>total (inc schoolwear)</b>	£284.99	£262.00	£308.50	N/A
<b>weekly</b>	£5.48	£5.04	£5.93	N/A
<b>total (exc schoolwear)</b>	£215.49	£179.50	£204.50	£171.50
<b>weekly</b>	£4.14	£3.45	£3.93	£3.30

## Charity Shops

In June 2017, research was conducted on what was available in charity shops for children, not only in respect to clothing (outerwear only, not underwear) but also books, toys etc.

All of the outlets visited had some items of school uniform (unbadged only), but one features unbadged school uniform items for all ages every August. All of the outlets

advise donors that they are unable to take badged items, which should instead be taken to the school for sale in their market place.

All of the outlets had items of outerwear for babies and children available for between £1 - £5 an item. Some also stocked some fancy-dress items, as well as a range of games, puzzles, toys and books for £1 - £4.50.

All of the outlets are able to process card payments and thus are able to take payment via ASPEN card.

## Conclusions:

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). These costs could be even lower if some items are sourced in charity shops

<b>Basic wardrobe - weekly cost</b>					
<b>Age range</b>	<b>Tesco</b>	<b>Asda</b>	<b>Matalan</b>	<b>Primark</b>	<b>average</b>
Infant	£3.00	£2.42	£2.54	£2.34	<b>£2.72</b>
Child	£3.38	£3.06	£3.78	£3.00	<b>£3.31</b>
Teenager	£4.14	£3.45	£3.93	£3.30	<b>£3.71</b>

<b>With school wear - weekly cost</b>					
<b>Age range</b>	<b>Tesco</b>	<b>Asda</b>	<b>Matalan</b>	<b>Primark</b>	<b>average</b>
Infant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<b>N/A</b>
Child	£4.31	£3.92	£4.70	N/A	<b>£4.31</b>
Teenager	£5.48	£5.04	£5.93	N/A	<b>£5.48</b>

## 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 30 November 2016.

**Table 1: Combined prices:**

<b>Approx. age</b>	<b>0-2 weeks</b>	<b>2-4 weeks</b>	<b>4-8 weeks</b>	<b>8-12 weeks</b>	<b>3-4 months</b>
<b>Approx. weekly cost for milk</b>	£5.80	£6.44	£8.05	£9.66	£9.66
<b>Average weekly cost for nappies</b>	£9.84	£8.83	£8.83	£8.83	£8.83
<b>Total</b>	<b>£15.64</b>	<b>£15.27</b>	<b>£16.88</b>	<b>£18.49</b>	<b>£18.49</b>
<b>Approx. age</b>	<b>4-5 months</b>	<b>5-6 months</b>	<b>7-12 months</b>	<b>12-18 months</b>	<b>18-24 months</b>
<b>Approx. weekly cost for milk</b>	£11.27	£11.27	£6.77	£6.77	£6.77
<b>Average weekly cost for nappies</b>	£8.14	£8.14	£8.12	£6.67	£4.94
<b>Total</b>	<b>£19.41</b>	<b>£19.41</b>	<b>£14.89</b>	<b>£13.44</b>	<b>£11.71</b>

### Nappies:

The information on 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](http://www.whatprice.co.uk/health/parent/nappies.html)). The cost of nappies is taken from in-store research conducted on 30 November 2017:

**Table 2: Own branded nappies (Cheapest out of 5 stores)**

<b>Age group of wearer</b>	<b>Nappies used per day</b>	<b>Total nappies used in age group</b>	<b>average cost per nappy</b>	<b>Total Cost of Nappies</b>	<b>divisor</b>	<b>per week</b>
<b>0-2 weeks</b>	12	168	£0.05	£8.40	2 weeks	£4.20
<b>0-4 months</b>	12	1260	£0.05	£63.00	15 weeks	£4.20
<b>4-6 months</b>	10	630	£0.06	£37.80	9 weeks	£4.20
<b>6-12 months</b>	8	1456	£0.07	£101.92	26 weeks	£3.92
<b>12-18 months</b>	6	1092	£0.08	£87.36	26 weeks	£3.36
<b>18-24 months</b>	4	728	£0.11	£80.08	26 weeks	£3.08

**Table 3: Branded nappies (Dearest found out of three stores)**

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	£30.24	2 weeks	£15.12
0-4 months	12	1260	£0.18	£201.60	15 weeks	£13.44
4-6 months	10	630	£0.18	£107.10	9 weeks	£11.90
6-12 months	8	1456	£0.22	£305.76	26 weeks	£11.76
12-18 months	6	1092	£0.24	£262.08	26 weeks	£10.78
18-24 months	4	728	£0.26	£189.28	26 weeks	£7.28

The branded nappies could be purchased in three of the five stores researched or and was considerably cheaper in one of the two other stores.

### **Formula milk:**

The information on how much formula milk is required set out in Table 4 below was taken from the internet ([www.aptaclub.co.uk/bottlefeeding/article/how-much-and-how-often](http://www.aptaclub.co.uk/bottlefeeding/article/how-much-and-how-often)).

The average cost of a 900mg box of baby formula is between £8.50 - £11 (an average of £0.01 per gram) – in-store research conducted on 30 November 2017:

**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 pwk	£5.80	£6.44	£8.05	£9.66	£9.66	£11.27	£11.27	£6.77	£6.77	£6.77