

**Independent
Living Funds**

User Profile Analysis

30 September 2003



Reg. Charity No. 1019080



Background Information

The Independent Living Funds were originally established in 1988 as a UK wide resource, dedicated to the financial support of disabled people, to enable them to choose to live in the community rather than in residential care.

The Funds are constituted as publicly financed discretionary trusts, and are funded by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) in Great Britain and the Department for Social Development in Northern Ireland. For both Funds, awards are made in the form of regular four-weekly payments to individuals, which are used to buy personal care and/or domestic assistance. Recipients may use care agencies, or employ personal assistants but may not employ relatives who live in the same house.

There are two Funds: the Extension Fund and the 1993 Fund (93 Fund). The Extension Fund was closed to new applications in March 1993 and now continues to assist those people who were ILF users between 1998 and 1993. The 1993 Fund accepts new users and works in partnership with Local Authorities. The 1993 Fund is able to pay up to a maximum of £395 a week, the Extension is able to pay up to a maximum of £665 a week.

Contents

Introduction	4
1 93 Fund Summary	5
2 Extension Fund Summary	7
Facts and Figures at 30 September 2003	9
Status of all current users and outstanding applications	9
Status of applications received since 1 April 2003	9
Reasons for all award cancellations since 1 April 2003	9
Reasons for disallowance of applications received since 1 April 2003	10
Reasons for refusal of applications received since 1 April 2003	10
Current Users:	10
• Gender	10
• Age	10
• Household	10
• Income Support	10
• Carers Allowance	11
• Disability	11
Geographical Distribution of users 30 September 2003	12

Introduction to the September 2003 report

This report provides a profile analysis of our clients, at the quarter ending 30 September 2003.

A summary of statistics has been provided for each of the two Funds detailing the main facts and figures.

Following the summaries, a series of tables provide further statistical information. Every effort has been made to provide as thorough a picture as possible, however, due to the limitations of technology when the original Fund was established, some data for the Extension Fund is unfortunately incomplete.

In order to provide a context for the figures, you may like to know that, a combined administration operates for the two Funds, with 156 staff in Nottingham, and 80 self-employed Visiting Social Workers who carry out assessments throughout the UK.

During the past quarter the Funds' staff received: 22,170 items of incoming post and 38,027 incoming telephone calls. In the same period a total of 49,691 individual user payments were made.

After reading the report, if you would like further information concerning the Fund's work, please contact our Customer Services team on 0845 6018815 or Email them at: funds@if.org.uk. Alternatively our website can be accessed at www.if.org.uk, or you can write to us at the address below:

Independent Living Funds
PO Box 7525
Nottingham
NG2 4ZT

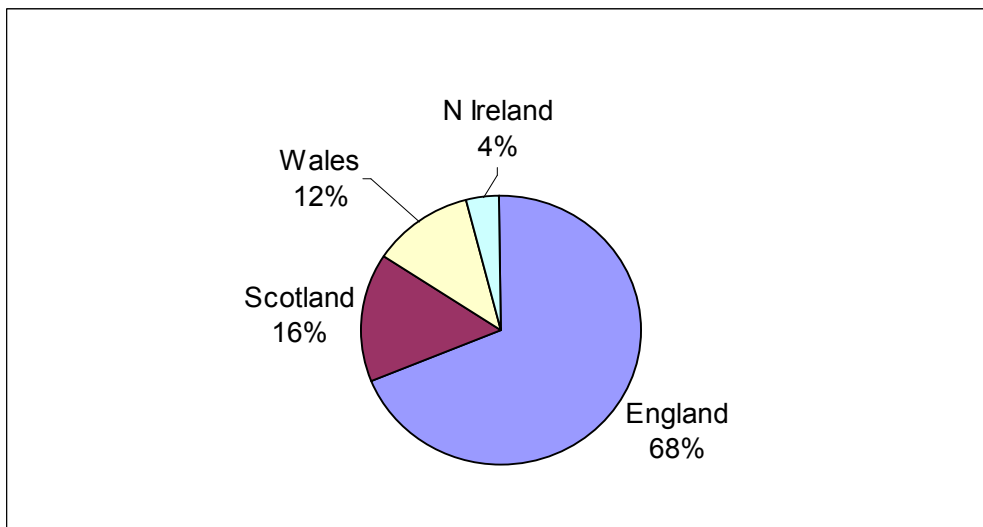
1 93 FUND SUMMARY

- 1.1 By 30 September 2003, there were 9,576 users receiving payment (or with suspended payments), from the 93 Fund, an increase of 1,011 clients or 11.8% since 30 September 2002. In addition, 741 additional offers of funding had been made and were awaiting the user's acceptance, and 1,009 applications were awaiting decision. **(Table 1)**
- 1.2 1,797 applications had been received since 1 April 2003, of which 232 were in payment or suspension, 427 had offers outstanding, and 865 applications were awaiting decision. **(Table 2)**
- 1.3 30.8% of all award cancellations since 1 April 2003 had been because of death, and 21.3% were because of admission to residential care or hospital. **(Table 3)**
- 1.4 Of applications since 1 April 2003 rejected before a VSW assessment visit (i.e. 'disallowed'), 86.9% did not receive higher level DLA **(Table 4)**. For September 2002, 70.6% of the disallowances were for this reason. 9.1% of applications received since 1 April 2003 were rejected or withdrawn following a VSW visit. **(Table 5)**
- 1.5 The average award in payment was £248.53 per week. This had increased by £14.50 since 30 September 2002.
- 1.6 At 30 September 2003 93 Fund users were:
- Evenly divided across gender;
 - 42.1% were under 36 years of age;
 - 40.8% were living with parents, and 27.3% were living alone;
 - 81.4% were in receipt of Income Support, and 28.8% had carers who received Invalid Care Allowance; and
 - 26.6% had a severe learning disability, 15.5% had multiple sclerosis, and 14.6% had cerebral palsy;

Compared with 30 September 2002 there had been little variation in these figures. **(Tables: 6.1-6.6)**

1.7 Distribution of current users by region:

Region	Number of Clients	Number per 100,000	Ave award £ per week
England	6580	13.3	250.81
Scotland	1487	29.8	255.78
Wales	1126	39.1	252.83
N Ireland	383	24.4	168.71
UK	9576	16.3	248.53



1.8 Current users by local authority: **(Table 7)**

All local authorities had 93 Fund users. The average density of users was 16.3 per 100,000 of the population, an increase of 1.3 since 30 September 2002.

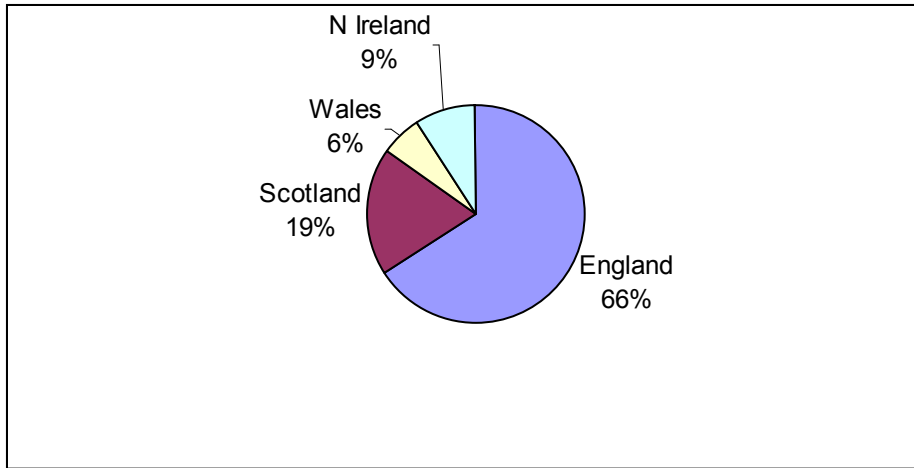
The 20 LAs with the highest densities of users are detailed below; 11 are in Wales, 7 in Scotland and 2 in England:

1	Torfaen	75.2	11	Glasgow	48.5
2	Wrexham	71.8	12	North Lanarkshire	47.1
3	Merthyr Tydfil	69.1	13	Clackmannanshire	46.8
4	Liverpool	58.8	14	Argyll & Bute	46.6
5	East Renfrewshire	55.1	15	Coventry	45.3
6	South Lanarkshire	54.9	16	Denbighshire	44.8
7	Pembrokeshire	54.6	17	Neath & Port Talbot	42.7
8	Conwy	49.5	18	Cardiff	42.4
9	Carmarthenshire	49.1	19	Gwynedd	40.8
10	Orkney Isles	48.6	20	Flintshire	39.8

2 EXTENSION FUND SUMMARY

- 2.1** By 30 September 2003, there were 6,463 Extension Fund users receiving payment (or with suspended payments), a decrease of 970 users since 30 September 2002. **(Table 1)**
- 2.2** The average award in payment was £218 per week. This had increased by £28.00 since 30 September 2002.
- 2.3** 30.2% of all award cancellations since 1 April 2003 had been because of death, and 12.1% were because of admission to residential care or hospital. **(Table 3)**
- 2.4** At 30 September 2003:
- 55.9% of users were female;
 - 26.7% were under 36 years of age and 17.3% were over 65;
 - 36.8% were living with parents and 28.5% were living alone;
 - 89.7% were in receipt of Income Support and 30.8% had carers who receive carers allowance; and
 - 17.9% had a severe learning disability, 14.5% had cerebral palsy and 11.9% had multiple sclerosis.
- 2.6** Distribution of users clients by region

Region	Number of Clients	Number per 100,000	Ave award £ per week
England	4211	8.5	238.54
Scotland	1265	25.4	194.38
Wales	391	13.5	248.20
N Ireland	596	37.9	103.83
UK	6463	11.0	218.06



2.7 Distribution of current users by local authority: (Table 7)

The maximum density of Extension Fund users in any single authority was 73.3 clients per 100,000 of the population, and the average was 11.4. The 20 Local authorities with the highest densities of users are detailed below. 3 Northern Ireland Boards, 9 Scottish, 5 English and 3 Welsh authorities make up the 20.

1	North Lanarkshire	71.2	11	North Lincolnshire	30.7
2	Western Board N I	70.2	12	East Ayrshire	30.6
3	South Lanarkshire	52.4	13	West Dumbartonshire	28.9
4	Glasgow	52.3	14	Knowsley	27.9
5	Southern Board N I	51.7	15	Wolverhampton	26.5
6	Telford and Wrekin	42.3	16	Clackmannanshire	25.5
7	Western Isles	39.3	17	West Lothian	23.8
8	Wrexham	35.9	18	Liverpool	23.1
9	Northern Board N I	33.1	19	Bridgend	23.1
10	Midlothian	32.5	20	Flintshire	23.0