

Annex 1 – Ministerial Paper on wider ‘at risk’ / vulnerable groups

Note on the table below: The table below shows the numbers of people covered in each of the vulnerable/at risk groups. Where possible we have been able to remove those aged over 70. However there remains potential for significant overlap across the different groups of the population, for example, people in poverty with chronic health conditions may fall under groups 1 and 2.

Not all of those people in these groups will require additional support. We don’t have data for Wales, but the ONS Opinions and Lifestyle survey provides data for GB as a whole. 83 per cent of those aged 70 or over, 62 per cent of adults who are disabled, and 60 per cent of adults with an underlying health condition stated they had someone who had offered to organise or bring them food and other essentials if they self-isolated or became unwell. For all adults, the figure was 50.6 per cent.

Summary

We estimate just under a million people in the first group (stringent social distancing), with 432,100 in the 70+ group and 558,200 below that age. We estimate around 284,800 people in the second group (disadvantaged) but this group is less easy to define and measure, plus there may be significant overlaps with group 1. An approximate maximum of these two groups is 1,275,100. Applying the relevant ONS estimates of people who may require additional support to the different categories of people suggests a figure of around 440,000. **Our estimates are therefore up to 1.2M people in these groups, of which around 400-500,000 may be without additional support.**

| Definition of Vulnerable / At Risk Groups who may require support | Estimate | Adjusted estimate (where possible) |
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| <p>1. People ‘following enhanced social distancing’ This includes people outside the shielded group but with pre-existing health conditions or circumstances which mean they are at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19¹. These people require additional protection from infection and therefore possibly support accessing food, medicines and social care until the highest infection risk has passed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Aged 70 or older b. Pregnant (but with other conditions too?) c. Have one of the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Lung conditions, such as asthma, COPD, emphysema or bronchitis ii. Heart disease, such as heart failure iii. Chronic kidney disease | <p>Shielded population is 86,400. Of those 35,700 are aged 70 or over.</p> <p>Mid year estimates for 2018 show 467,800 are 70 or over.</p> <p>Shielded population includes some pregnant women, acute COPD and some other categories but we cannot identify how many, therefore not possible to avoid double counting.</p> <p>Estimated to be 22,500 pregnant women.</p> <p>Estimate of those Eligible for Flu Vaccine because of medical need = 535,700.²</p> | <p>Those aged 70 or over (not in shielded population): 432,100.</p> <p>22,500 pregnant women.</p> <p>Those aged under 70 eligible for Flu Vaccine because of medical need = 535,700.</p> <p>Approx. total: 990,300</p> |

¹ GOV.UK Guidance on protecting older people and vulnerable adults

² This is the whole of the <65 years group eligible plus half of the 65 to 74 yrs group eligible.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv. Liver disease, such as hepatitis v. Conditions affecting the brain and nerves, such as Parkinson's disease, motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis (MS), a learning disability or cerebral palsy vi. Diabetes vii. Problems with your spleen – for example, sickle cell disease, or if you've had your spleen removed viii. A weakened immune system as the result of conditions such as HIV and AIDS, or medicines such as steroid tablets or chemotherapy ix. Being very overweight (having a BMI of 40 or above) | | |
| <p>2. People who are unable to manage on their own as a result of Covid-19 owing to poverty/disadvantage</p> <p>This group may include any of the following, and some will be included in the first category although we have excluded over 70s. There is a significant amount of overlap across the groups below.</p> | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who require support beyond just money, food and medicines, e.g. those trapped in abusive households, those with mental health conditions who need advice, social support and accommodation. | <p>Disability register shows 7,500 physical/sensory disabled persons aged under 65 (as of 31 March 2019). Of those 2,000 are severely sight impaired.</p> <p>Learning disability register data shows 11,900 aged under 65.</p> <p>22,900 are on the dementia register with GPs, around 1,700 are under 70.</p> <p>130,000 is the estimate of number of domestic abuse victims.</p> <p>31,700 appear on the mental health disease register which counts patients with schizophrenia, Bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses classed as</p> | <p>Approx. total: 177,300 (but likely to include overlaps)</p> |

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| | <p>“severe mental health conditions”. Of those 26,200 are under 70.</p> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those moderately and severely food insecure who may already struggle to buy food and who need support from foodbanks / charities or who may find themselves now unable to buy food because of COVID-19 related job loss, etc. These people may require interim support accessing food until the economic situation has stabilised or benefit interventions are in place and accessible. | <p>National survey estimates shows 3% received food from a food bank in 18-19, with 4% 16-44 year olds, 3% for 45-64 year olds and 1% 65+. Applied to the population (and excluding 65+) is approx. 60,700 using foodbanks over 18-19.</p> <p>New universal credit claimants in Wales was 59,200 as of 1st April.</p> <p>There is considerable uncertainty around quantifying this group (and likely overlaps in the above), so we have used the typical volume accessing food banks over the course of a year (60,700) as an estimate.</p> | <p>Approx total: 60,700</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who currently receive care packages. | <p>75,700 adults (18+) receiving social care services. Of those 47,000 aged 75+ and 9,900 aged 65-74</p> <p>Excluding those over 70 (estimated*): 23,800 for 18+</p> <p>*assume half of the 65-74 group.</p> | <p>Approx. total: 23,800 adults</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other groups – e.g. those in refuges, homeless people, newly released prisoners | <p>Local authorities estimated that 405 persons were sleeping rough across Wales over 2 weeks between 14th and 27th October 2019</p> <p>2,262 households were in temporary accommodation on 31 December 2019. Of these, 885 (39%) were families with children.</p> | <p>Approx. total: 23,000</p> |

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| | <p>Average household size is around 2.27 (note higher % of families in temp accommodation than overall population -27%), giving an estimated 5,000-5,500 people in temporary accommodation</p> <p>Prison population is 5,190, not clear how many will be released early, but normally around 1,000 each quarter.</p> <p>Around 16,000 started treated for substance misuse in 2018/19.</p> | |
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Contextual survey data

The below provides some contextual survey data, and there will be significant overlaps between the groups quantified in the table above and the estimated volumes below.

- IPSOS Mori Poll (2-4 Apr) shows 32% of Welsh population are 'extremely or very concerned' that by beginning of May they will not be able to provide for their family; 31% are concerned they will not be able to pay their bills; 27% are concerned about whether they will have a job.
- National Survey estimates (2017-18) show two thirds of those under 65 have plenty of people to rely on, which rises for those who are older. Estimated 33,500 over 70 year olds who say they do not have plenty of people to rely on; 216,000 of those aged 16-69.
- National Survey estimates for the digitally excluded: Around 75,000 under 65s have not used the internet.