

The Future of the Independent Living Fund

Analysis of the ILF Caseload

Introduction

This document has been produced to provide additional information on the ILF caseload to support the consultation process. All of the analysis is based on data collected by the ILF for administrative purposes and represents the position as at 31 March 2012. In addition to the information presented here, the ILF publishes a regular dataset which includes a breakdown of user numbers and awards for each local authority¹.

User care packages

1988-February 1993: Group 1 Users

The ILF users who started to receive funding between 1988 and when the first fund closed in February 1993 are known as Group 1 users. For these users local authority support is not part of the ILF eligibility criteria. However, some users do have some support from their local authority, either in the form of services or a direct payment. The ILF has some knowledge of the support Group 1 users receive from their local authority, but some users have not consented to the ILF contacting the relevant local authority to secure this information or do not have any dealings with their local authority. Tables 1.1 to 1.3 show the distribution of Group 1 users across the UK, and the size of care packages. All figures for care costs used in this document are for weekly gross awards, so do not take into account user contributions of disability benefits and other sources of income. These figures best represent the actual care needs of users.

¹ <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/user-profiles-1211.pdf>

Table 1.1 Group 1 users with a known local authority contribution to their care packages. Distribution of users and care packages.

		Total Number of Users: 1404					UK (%)
		England	N. Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK	
Total Package Cost	0-£299	24	2	3	0	29	2%
	£300-£499	103	31	31	8	173	12%
	£500-£699	154	38	41	8	241	17%
	£700-£900	164	10	37	12	223	16%
	>£900	536	14	134	54	738	53%
ILF Gross Contribution	£0-99	32	11	7	3	53	4%
	£100-£299	197	53	76	10	336	24%
	£300-£399	121	9	27	6	163	12%
	£400-£499	107	8	32	8	155	11%
	£500-£599	99	1	16	12	128	9%
	>£600	425	13	88	43	569	41%
LA Gross contribution	£100-£299	344	30	69	29	472	34%
	£300-£399	171	42	28	5	246	18%
	£400-£499	125	13	35	12	185	13%
	£500-£599	110	4	25	12	151	11%
	>£600	231	6	89	24	350	25%

Table 1.2: Group 1 users who have a local authority contribution for their care, but about whom the ILF do not have detail of the amount of the contribution. Distribution of users and care packages.

		Total Number of Users: 480					UK (%)
		England	N. Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK	
ILF Gross Contribution	£0-99	33	4	7	2	46	10%
	£100-£299	131	33	43	20	227	47%
	£300-£399	48	7	13	6	74	15%
	£400-£499	37	5	8	2	52	11%
	£500-£599	13	0	7	3	23	5%
	>£600	44	1	8	5	58	12%

Table 1.3 Group 1 users who have no known local authority contribution to their care. Distribution of users and care packages.

		Total Number of Users: 1292					UK (%)
		England	N. Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK	
ILF Gross Contribution	£0-99	52	16	12	4	84	7%
	£100-£299	293	60	155	28	536	41%
	£300-£399	122	11	45	15	193	15%
	£400-£499	112	2	26	10	150	12%
	£500-£599	72	4	20	7	103	8%
	>£600	171	2	36	17	226	17%

The Government is concerned about the number of users who have no known relationship with their local authority, which has a statutory duty to assess and fund their eligible care needs. Those receiving support outside the mainstream system may not be accessing the full range of services they are entitled to. The full integration of the ILF funding within the social care system would ensure the needs of these users are met through a single assessment and funding system.

February 1993-July 2010: Group 2 users

Those users who started to receive ILF funding from February 1993, referred to as Group 2 users, were required to have a minimum local authority contribution of £200 per week to their support package as part of the ILF eligibility criteria. This threshold was not updated, remaining at £200 until 2008, a significant reduction in the level of the threshold in real terms over that 15 year period, significantly increasing the number of users who were eligible for this discretionary funding stream. In 2008 it was increased to £320, and raised again to £340 in 2010. Table 2.1 shows the distribution of this group of users and their care packages across the UK

Table 2.1 Group 2 users. Distribution of users and care packages.

		Total Number of Users: 16714					UK (%)
		England	N. Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK	
Total Package Cost	0-£299	9	0	1	2	12	0%
	£300-£499	804	41	130	79	1054	6%
	£500-£699	3063	221	549	358	4191	25%
	£700-£900	3945	196	814	522	5477	33%
	>£900	3897	90	1281	712	5980	36%
ILF Gross Contribution	£0-99	177	18	23	24	242	1%
	£100-£299	3510	257	694	452	4913	29%
	£300-£399	2809	156	641	367	3973	24%
	£400-£499	3619	93	962	628	5302	32%
	£500-£599	1578	23	452	201	2254	13%
	>£600	25	1	3	1	30	0%
LA Gross Contribution	0-£299	2004	52	355	218	2629	16%
	£300-£399	3633	229	680	441	4983	30%
	£400-£499	2179	141	444	272	3036	18%
	£500-£599	1290	71	309	214	1884	11%
	>£600	2612	55	987	528	4182	25%

Distribution of users and care packages across local authorities

There is a significant variation in the number of ILF users and how access to the ILF has been used by local authorities across the UK. While a degree of variation is expected due to the necessary freedom local authorities have to address the needs of disabled people in each area in a flexible way, the Government does not believe that the current patterns represent the most equitable use of funding. Figures 1.1 and 1.2 show the variation in average ILF care packages in each local authority, with local authorities ranked from that with the lowest average ILF care package to the one with the highest average package.

Figure 1.1 Variation in average ILF contribution for Group 1 users in each local authority.

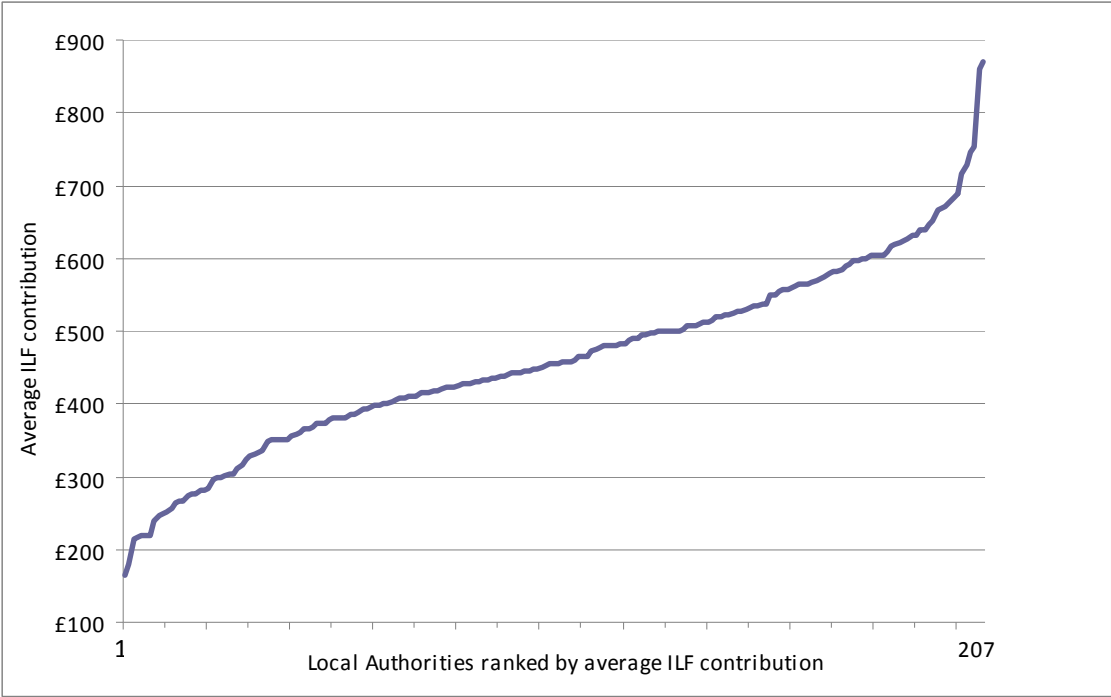
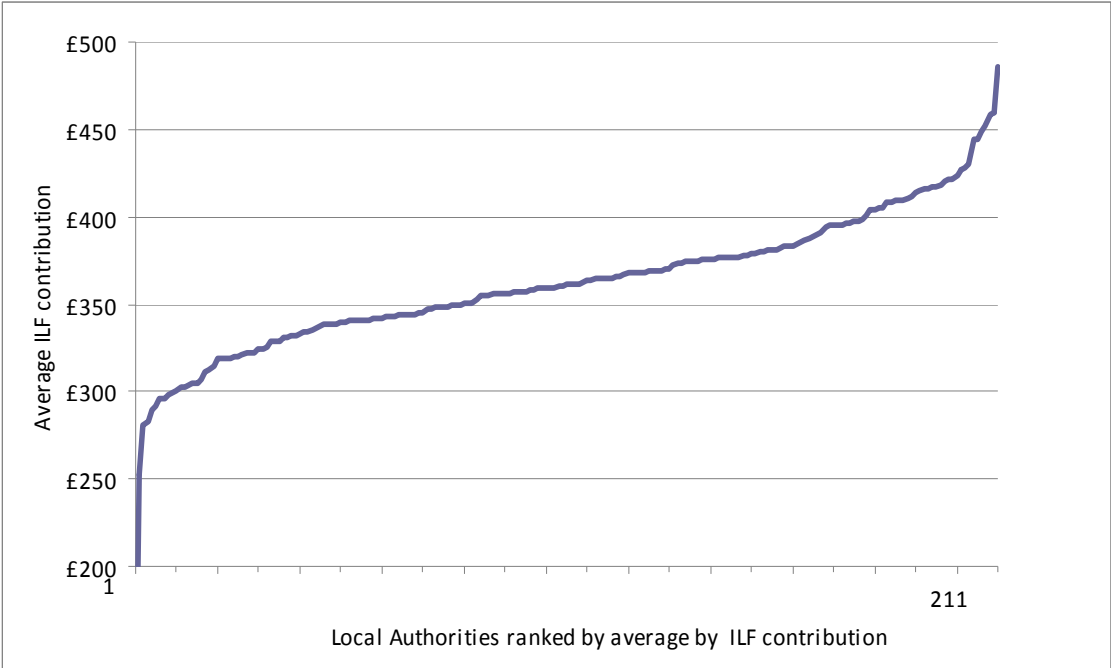


Figure 1.2 Variation in average ILF contribution for Group 2 users in each local authority.



Figures 2.1 and 2.2 show the number of ILF users in each local authority plotted against the average ILF contribution to care packages in that local authority. They show that, while there is a considerable concentration around average figures, there are a number of LAs with either a very high number of users or ILF payments well above the typical average amount for local authorities.

Figure 2.1 The number of Group 1 users in each local authority with the average ILF contribution to their care packages. Each point represents a local authority.

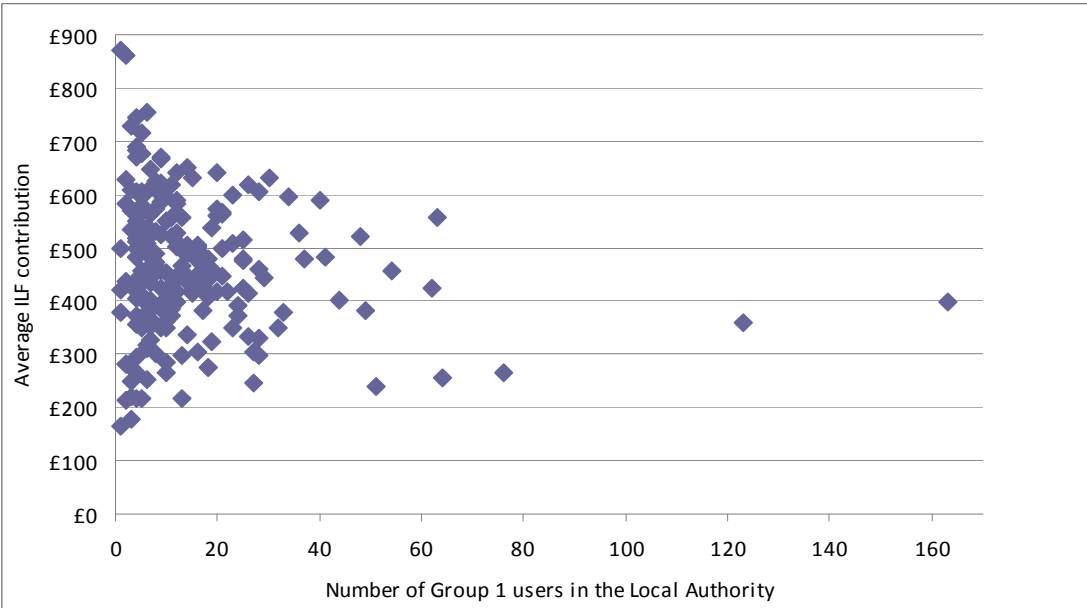
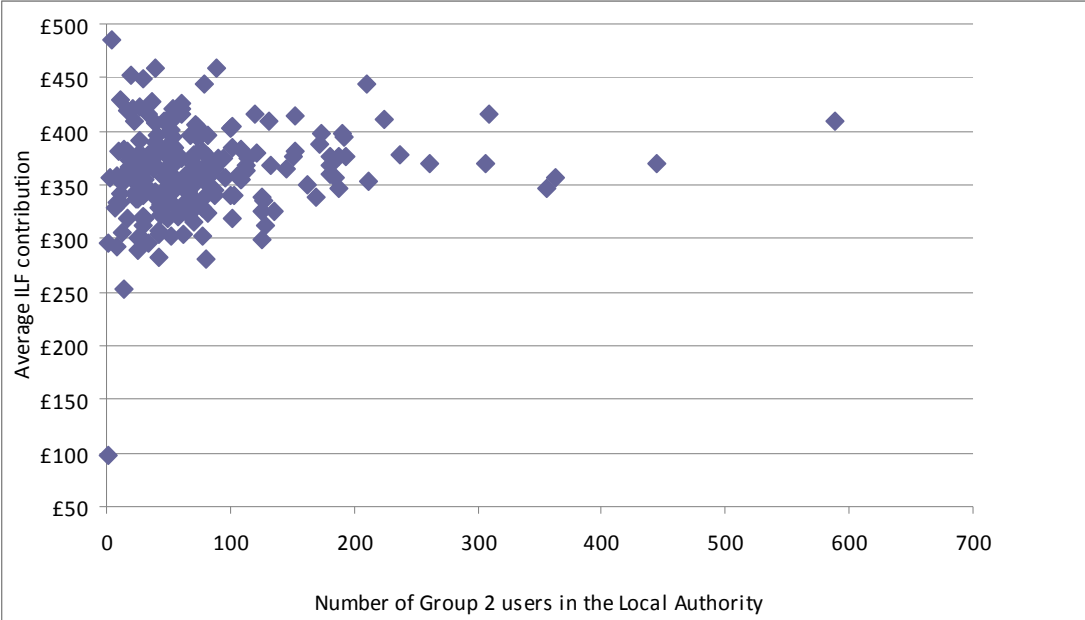


Figure 2.2 The number of Group 2 users in each local authority with the average ILF contribution to their care packages. Each point represents a local authority.



Balance between ILF and local authority contributions to user care packages

For Group 1 users, where no local authority contribution to care packages is required, there is, as might be expected, a significant variation in the balance between ILF and local authority contributions to user care packages across different local authorities. This is illustrated in Figure 3.1. For Group 2 users, as shown in Figure 3.2, where ILF funding is part of a combined care package agreed with the local authority, the majority of local authorities contribute on average between 50% and 65% of funding in user care packages. There are, however, a small number of local authorities where on average the ILF is contributing more than the local authority. The local authority has the statutory duty to meet eligible care needs of these users as opposed to the ILF which has since 1993 been intended to supplement local authority provision.

Figure 3.1 Balance between average ILF and local authority contributions in each local authority for Group 1 users with a known local authority contribution.

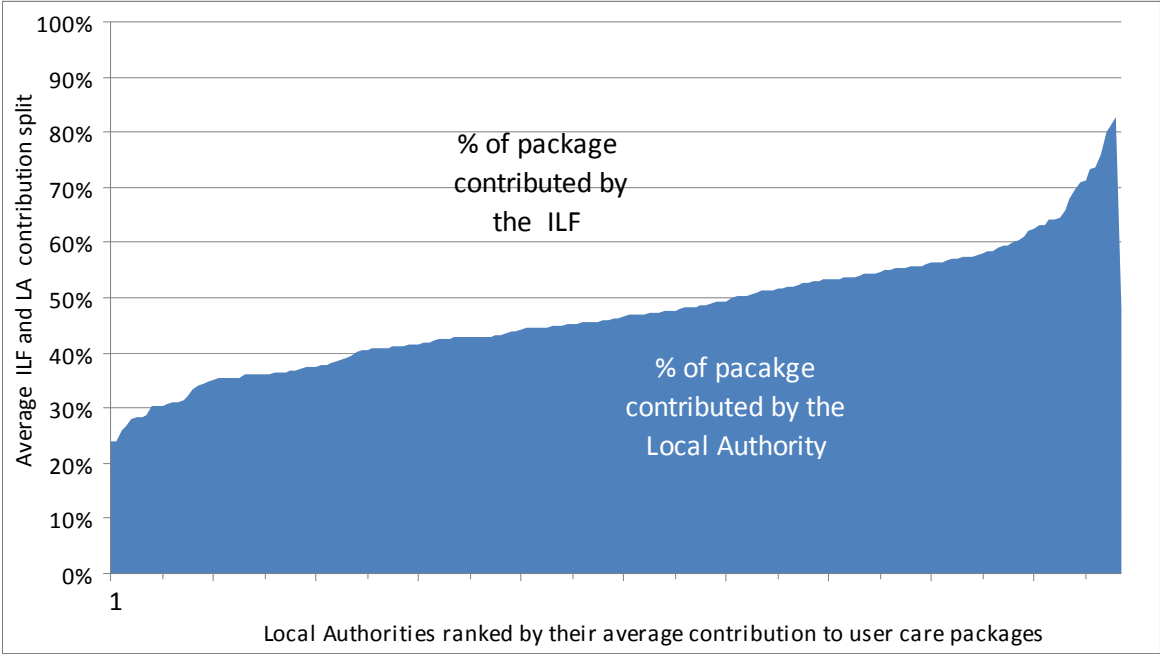


Figure 3.2 Balance between average ILF and local authority contributions in each local authority for Group 2 users

