

WELSH INFORMATION STANDARDS BOARD

DSC Notice:	DSCN 2026 / 10
Date of Issue:	8 th May 2026

Welsh Health Circular/Official Letter: None	Subject: Community Nursing Indicators – Retirement
Sponsor: Paul Labourne, Nursing Officer, Health, Social Care and Early Years, Welsh Government	
Implementation Date: 31 st March 2026	

DATA STANDARDS CHANGE NOTICE

A Data Standards Change Notice (DSCN) is an information mandate for a new or revised information standard.

This DSCN was approved by the Welsh Information Standards Board (WISB) at its meeting on 19th March 2026.

WIDG Reference: ISRN 2025 / 025

Summary:

To retire the formal collection of information pertaining Community Nursing Indicators Aggregate Proforma

Data sets / returns affected:

NA

Please address enquiries about this Data Standards Change Notice to the Data Standards Team in Digital Health and Care Wales

E-mail: data.standards@wales.nhs.uk

The Welsh Information Standards Board is responsible for appraising information standards. Submission documents and WIDG Outcomes relating to the approval of this standard can be found at:

https://nhs.wales365.sharepoint.com/sites/DHC_DST/Lists/Information%20Standards%20Assurance%20Submission%20Log/AllItems.aspx

DATA STANDARDS CHANGE NOTICE

Introduction

As part of a review of aggregate proformas within the NHS Wales Data Dictionary, it has been determined that the Community Nursing Indicators dataset is now obsolete.

Although these measures were originally established in 2004 and remain recorded as active, there is no evidence of their continued use or formal reporting within current national processes

Description of Change

To retire the formal collection of information pertaining Community Nursing Indicators Aggregate Proforma

Data Dictionary Version

The current release: version 4.25 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary will be the final version published on the existing platform.

The NHS Wales Data Dictionary will be moved to a new and improved platform. In the interim, please visit [DHCW Data Standards](#) to access notice publications or contact data.standards@wales.nhs.uk

Actions Required

Local Health Boards / Trust:

- To cease the formal submission of the Community Nursing Indicators

Action for the Welsh Government Delivery & Performance Division:

- To cease the formal reporting of the Community Nursing Indicators

Appendix A: Table reflecting areas that are impacted as a result of this DSCN

The following table shows where there are changes to the scope and/or definitions of applicable data sets, data items, terms and other associated areas that are linked with the changes documented within this DSCN.

Each data definition type is listed in alphabetical order and is shown in the sequence in which it appears in this DSCN.

Data Definition Type	Name	New/Retired /Changed	Page Number
Aggregate Proforma	Community Nursing Indicators	Retired	4

Appendix B: Highlighted changes to be made to the NHS Wales Data Dictionary

Changes to the NHS Wales Data Dictionary are detailed below, with new text being highlighted in **blue** and deletions are shown with a ~~strikethrough~~. The text shaded in **grey** shows existing text copied from the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

Community Nursing Indicators from March 2004 – Retired

Change History	
DSCN 02/04 (W)	Collection of Community Nursing Indicators (modified from previous collection as Welsh Core Indicators)

From March 2004 - 8 Community Nursing Indicators, previously collected under WCI (which has been discontinued), will be collected as Community Nursing Indicators.

Five indicators are being collected via a replacement data collection; the remaining 3 are continuing to be collected via other existing data collections.

The 5 Community Nursing Indicators being collected via the new Community Nursing Indicators data collection are: -

Note: old WCI reference numbers from the previous electronic WCI data collection exercise using WCI EIS Software e.g., XX01.1, which is not is use anymore, have been removed from the definitions

Indicator 3	Number of children 'in need' (as defined in 1989 Children's Act – see below) aged under 5 years as % of children under 5 years on Health Visitor caseloads at 31 January
Definition of Terms	<p>Definition of 'children in need', 1989 Children's Act:</p> <p>"he is unlikely to achieve or maintain, or to have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision for him of services by a local authority; his health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, with the provision for him of such a service, or he is disabled." (section 17(10)).</p> <p>Children under 5 years on Health Visitor caseloads: all children under 5 years.</p> <p>Position at 31 January following annual profiling (caseload count).</p>
Indicator Rationale	Indicator of level of need in a defined area. Workload of Health Visitors may be related to social deprivation indices – a social exclusion indicator.
Calculation	<p>Number of children 'in need' aged under 5 years x 100%</p> <p>Number of children under 5 years on Health Visitor caseloads at 31 January</p>
Base Data	<p>Number of children 'in need' aged under 5</p> <p>Number of children under 5 years on Health Visitor caseloads at 31 January (all children under 5 years).</p>

Indicator 5	% of leg ulcers treated by RGNs in the District Nurse team where treatment commenced during period 1 April to 30 June which healed within 6 months of treatment starting.
Definition of Terms	Include venous ulcers only. Include each separate ulcer. RGNs in District Nurse team: include all RGNs and DNS.
Indicator Rationale	Application of research based diagnosis and treatment methods demonstrate improved healing rates. Value for Money indicator.
Calculation	Number of leg ulcers (treatment commenced 1.4 – 30.6) which healed within 6 months x 100% Number of leg ulcers where treatment commenced during period 1 April to 30 June
Base Data	Number of leg ulcers treated by RGNs in the District Nurse team where treatment commenced during period 1 April to 30 June which healed within 6 months of treatment Number of leg ulcers treated by RGNs in the District Nurse team where treatment commenced during period 1 April to 30 June
Indicators 6	Number of patients requiring more than 1 visit per day by District Nursing service during month of January as a % of total number of patients on District Nursing caseload during the month of January.
Definition of Terms	DN service: include all staff in DN service – both qualified and unqualified. District Nurse caseload: number of patients seen by the District Nursing service (both qualified and unqualified nurses). Exclude patients requiring more than 1 visit per day solely for the purposes of administering eye drops.
Indicator Rationale	Indicator of dependency levels of patients, workload and/or choice of patients to remain in their own homes rather than be admitted into residential/ hospital/ nursing home.
Calculation	Number of patients requiring more than 1 visit per day by DN service during January x 100% Total number of patients on DN caseload during January
Base Data	Number of patients requiring more than 1 visit per day by DN service during January Total number of patients on DN caseload during January
Indicator 7	Number of patients with pressure sores grade III/IV during January as a % of total number of patients on District Nursing caseload during the month of January.
Definition of Terms	District Nurse caseload: number of patients seen by the District Nursing service (both qualified and unqualified nurses). Pressure sore grading system is system used locally.

Indicator Rationale	Indicator of quality of care (although not absolute).
Calculation	$\frac{\text{Number of patients with pressure sores grade III/IV during January}}{\text{Total number of patients on DN caseload during January}} \times 100\%$
Base Data	<p>Number of patients requiring more than 1 visit per day by DN service during month of January</p> <p>Total number of patients on DN caseload during the month of January</p>

Note: the denominators of indicator 6 and indicator 7 are the same

Indicator 8	Number of patients discharged home from hospital care for care by District Nursing service with inadequate discharge care packages during the month of January as a % of total number of patients discharged from hospital care into the care of DN service during the month of January.
Definition of Terms	Care package – resources identified to maintain patient at home. May include home adaptations, equipment, drugs, health or SSD home care staff time, carer time. Inadequate – where resources, identified above, are needed to meet the full care needs of a patient discharged home, have either; 1. Not been identified at all prior to discharge, or 2. Have been underestimated, or, 3. Have been identified but are not available on discharge.
Indicator Rationale	Inadequate discharge arrangements may lead to inappropriate re-admission to acute care and delayed discharge. Indicator of poor interagency or inter/intra Trust partnerships.
Calculation	$\frac{\text{Number of patients discharged home from hospital care for care by DN service with inadequate discharge care packages during the month of January}}{\text{Total number of patients discharged from hospital care into the care of DN service during the month of January}} \times 100\%$
Base Data	<p>Number of patients discharged home from hospital care for care by DN service with inadequate discharge care packages during the month of January</p> <p>Total number of patients discharged from hospital care into the care of DN service during the month of January</p>

The remaining 3 Community Nursing Indicators which will continue to be collected via other data collections are:-

Indicator 1	Percentage of births to women resident in Wales where mother expressed intention at birth to breastfeed
Definition of Terms	Number of births to women resident in Wales between 1 April and 31 March where mother expressed an intention to

	breastfeed (wholly or partially) as a % of all births to women resident in Wales between 1 April and 31 March
Indicator 2	Percentage of babies breastfed at age 2 months or at first immunisation
Definition of Terms	Number of babies breastfed (wholly or partially) at age 2 months post-natal or at first immunisation of baby as a % of all babies age 2 months at some time during the year 1 April to 31 March. Includes partial breast-feeders i.e. any breast-feeding or the giving of breast milk to infants.
Indicator 4	Percentage of people seen (first contacts) who are 65 years or over seen by Health Visitors
Definition of Terms	Number of first contacts aged 65+ with HVs 1 April to 31 March as a % of all first contacts with HVs 1 April to 31 March