

Shifting values: how should we care for older people in society?

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Caring for an ageing population: our research

Key questions:

- How should social care be funded?
- How should access to social care be decided?
- How can health and social care expenditure be contained?
- How can health and social care be better coordinated?

Research based on a study visit to Japan and literature review

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Why Japan?

- Japan has the oldest population in the world
- Similar amount spend on health and social care
- By 2025, Japan will need an extra ¥12.1bn to maintain current levels of provision of long-term care, to support the increasing proportion of those over 75 years old
- Increasing numbers of older people living alone
- A fiscal deficit twice its GDP
- Implemented significant reform during a period of slow economic growth

Social care in Japan - Long Term Care Insurance

Introduced in 2000

Approximately 14% of people over 65 receive services

Eligibility

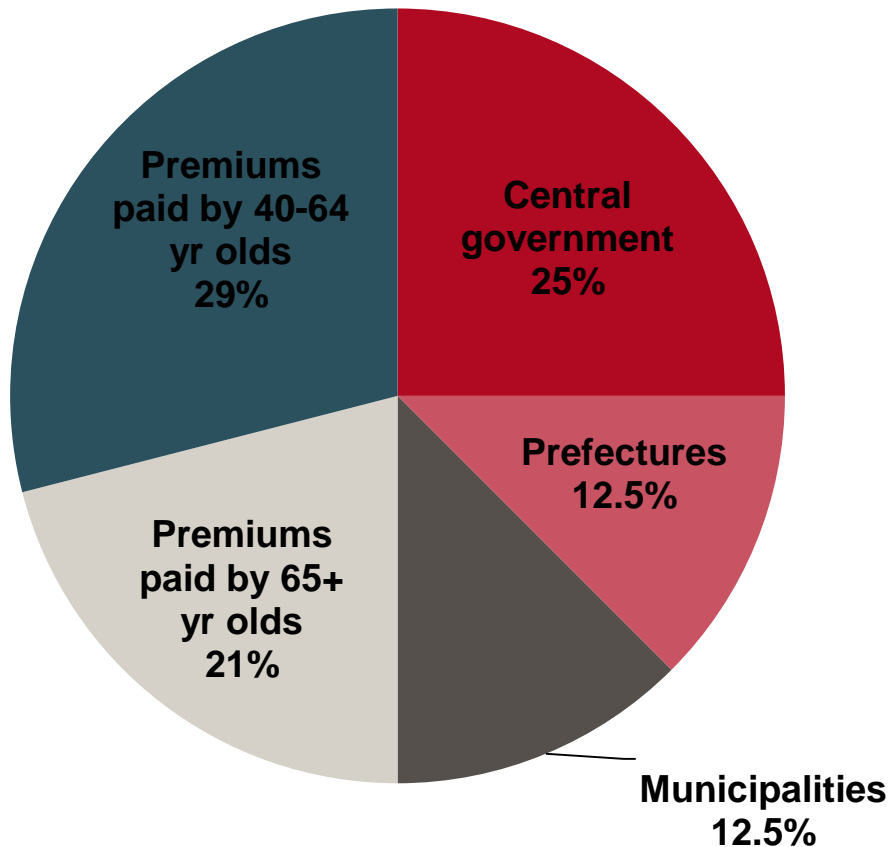
- People over 65 years old and some disabled people over 40 years old
- Access based solely on need

Costs

- Compulsory insurance payments for those over 40 years old - approximately £30 per month
- National and local taxation
- Co-payment of 10 per cent, to a monthly maximum amount

Financing Long Term Care Insurance

50% through national/local taxation, 50% insurance premiums



Premiums paid by those aged 40 and over

Users pay an additional co-payment when they receive services

Social care goals

Japan

- Society as a whole supports those in need of long-term care.
- The relationship between benefits and burdens are made clear.
- Allow service users to receive services from a variety of institutions of their choice.
- Maintaining dignity and independence of older people.

England

- A system for people who need extra care or support - practical or emotional - to lead an active life.
- Enable people to retain their independence and dignity.

Social care in England

Approximately 12% of older people receive *publically-funded* social care. There are other cash benefits available to older people who need support.

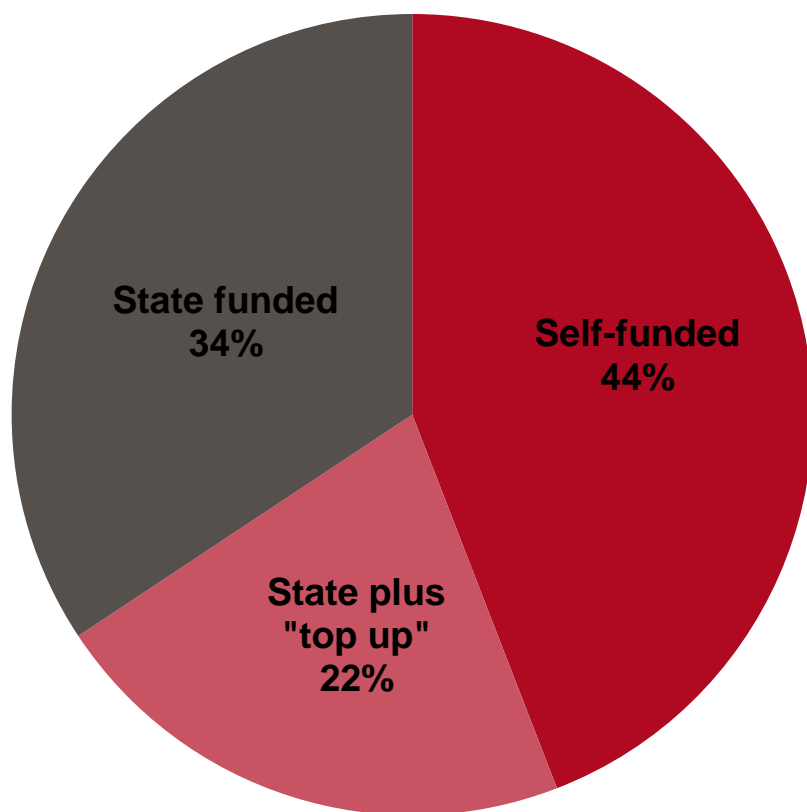
Eligibility is assessed by a needs and means-test

- Need – assessment based on national criteria, locally-defined thresholds for access. Not age related.
- Means – government support only for those with below £23,250 in assets (approx ¥3,653,412). Those with assets over this amount have to pay the full amount.

Options for service users includes cash payments

Costs: funded mainly through national taxation with some local taxation

Paying for social care in England (care homes only)



Estimates from Institute of Public Care (2010)

Reform in Japan and England

Both countries are going through a period of reform

Japan

- Social security reform
 - Long-term care insurance
 - Health insurance
 - VAT

England

- Care Bill
 - Access to and paying for social care

Forthcoming research report

