

CRITICAL REVIEW & IMMEDIATE ACTIONS: ADASS SPRING SURVEY 2024

By 2iC-Care

The Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) Spring Survey 2024 paints a stark picture of a sector under immense strain. This critical review examines the key findings, compares them to previous years, and proposes immediate actions focusing on preventative technology as a crucial part of the solution.

KEY CONCERNS IN 2024

"The message from this year's Spring Survey is clear, more of the same is not an option. We need a change of approach, or the challenges set out in this report will continue to intensify to the detriment of people's lives."

- Sarah McClinton, previous ADASS President

Increasing Financial Pressure

£586 million

was overspent on adult social care budgets this year, this is the highest in a decade! 76% 90%
2023 2024
of Directors lack confidence in meeting their statutory duties.

More Complex Needs



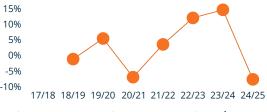
increases in care package sizes for new funded care recipients.

Too Many on Waiting Lists

400,000+

people are still waiting for essential assessment, care services, or review.

Less Prevention Investment



investment in prevention has fallen by - 7.7%.

Ongoing Workforce Shortage

1/2 million+

hours of homecare were unable to be delivered due to staff shortages.

COMMENTARY

The 2024 ADASS Spring Survey reveals a sector in crisis, with unprecedented financial pressures, eroding confidence among Directors, and an inability to meet statutory duties. The complexity of care needs continues to rise, straining an already overstretched system, while waiting lists remain high despite some improvements. These issues underscore the urgent need for comprehensive reform in adult social care funding and delivery models.

Of particular concern is the decrease in prevention investment, contradicting the widely acknowledged need for proactive approaches. This regression, coupled with persistent workforce shortages, highlights the critical need for innovative, efficient solutions. The sector must prioritise preventative measures and embrace technological advancements to address these challenges effectively, ensuring sustainable, high-quality care for vulnerable adults while optimising resource allocation in an increasingly complex care landscape.

THE NEED FOR PREVENTATIVE TECHNOLOGY

The 2024 ADASS Spring Survey underscores the urgent need for innovative solutions, particularly in preventative care. Directors identified several critical priorities for upscaling digital technology use in adult social care:

- 1. Ensuring staff skills and confidence with digital tools
- 2. Supporting users and families to understand and feel confident about digital tools
- 3. Improving interoperability across different services
- 4. Providing personalised information and advice
- 5. Ensuring data security and effective use

"The ADASS Spring Survey 2024 clearly shows that the sector understands the transformative potential of preventative technology. However, understanding alone is not enough. We need immediate, concrete action to implement these solutions at scale. This means not just deploying the technology, but also investing in the skills and cultural changes needed to make it truly effective. These priorities highlight the focus on staff skills, user understanding, and system integration suggests a holistic approach is needed - one that considers not just the technology itself, but how it fits into the broader care ecosystem."

HOW CAN ANDI HELP?

Andi's preventative technology can address these challenges in several ways:

- Andi can help optimise resource allocation and potentially reduce the need for expensive interventions ultimately controlling budgets.
- 24/7 monitoring and data for early intervention can help local authorities fulfill their obligations more effectively.
- Andi's interoperable solution allows for personalised care package prescription, potentially reducing package sizes while maintaining quality.
- Andi's insights can streamline the assessment process, potentially reducing waiting times and ensuring earlier interventions.
- Andi represents a cost-effective way to invest in prevention, providing continuous monitoring and early alerts, to help control cost efficiencies
- While not replacing human carers, Andi can support them by automating tasks, providing real-time relevent insights, and enabling more efficient care delivery to inform better conversations.



"The 2024 ADASS Spring Survey shows a sector at a critical juncture. At 2iC-Care, we've developed Andi to address a number of these challenges head-on. The time for hesitation is over - we must act boldly to harness the full potential of preventative technology in adult social care. The technology is ready - we just need the sector's commitment to transform care delivery for generations to come."

Richard Keyse, CEO of 2iC-Care



IMMEDIATE ACTION RECOMMENDATIONS

- **1. Rapid Deployment of Preventative Technology**: Implement solutions like Andi across all local authorities within next 12 months.
- **2. Digital Skills Training:** Launch national initiative to upskill care staff and educate service users on digital care within the next 6 months.
- **3. Interoperability Standards:** Establish and enforce interoperability standards for all digital social care systems within the next 18 months.
- **4. Data-Driven Care Planning:** Mandate use of data analytics in care and resource planning across local authorities within next 12 months.
- **5. Digital-First Assessment:** Implement a digital-first approach to care needs assessments within the next six months to reduce waiting lists.
- **6. Preventative Technology Fund:** Establish a dedicated fund to support the adoption of preventative technologies in adult social care.



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