

# 3. FUNDING



Nearly **4 out of 5** **refuge** services were **commissioned by their local authorities** for all of their bedspaces in 2023-24 (79.6%). However, having

local authority commissioning does not mean that this funding is sufficient to cover all the costs associated with running a refuge service, and providers often need to source additional funding in order to continue to provide their services.



Around a **third** of annual survey respondents running refuge services, reported that their **funding had either stayed the same** (36.7%) or **increased** (33.3%) over the past two years.



However, almost a **fifth** (15.0%) of respondents to the annual survey **had to close or reduce an area of work** in their service over the past financial year.



Just over a **third** (35.0%) of respondents to the annual survey **ran an area of their domestic abuse service without dedicated funding** during 2023-24.



The most common area of service that organisations were running without dedicated funding, **domestic abuse prevention or educational work**,

has increased this year from 41.2% in 2022-23 to 60.0% in 2023-24.



The proportion of organisations that were running **children and young people's domestic abuse services** in the community **without dedicated**

**funding** also **doubled** this year, from 15.7% to 31.4% of those running a service without dedicated funds. For children and young people's domestic abuse services in refuge, this stayed consistent at 22.9% in 2023-24, compared to 23.5% in 2022-23.



Almost **three quarters** (71.4%)

of domestic abuse organisations responding to the annual survey who were running a service without dedicated funding **used reserves to cover the costs**.