



Local Area Research + Intelligence Association

## **LARIA Newsletter March 2022**

### **LARIA Newsletter March 2022 – Kate Waterhouse**

This week in Bury we held our first “in-person” Community Safety Partnership meeting since the start of the pandemic. Whilst that was a momentous enough event itself, it also marked the launch of our new three-year community safety plan. For me this was an opportunity to reflect on the progress we have made as a partnership and the extent to which this has been dependent on the quality of the data and intelligence we have been able to access.

For those of you who don't follow events in Greater Manchester you may not be aware of the challenges our Police Force have been facing since the introduction of a new IT system several years ago. Due to persistent problems with the implementation we have not been able to have regular reporting on crime rates and as a Partnership that has made monitoring progress incredibly difficult. It has also prevented us from being able to share information with the public about community safety and so in that void there have been misrepresentations of the state of crime in the borough, leading to community tensions and feelings of anxiety about how safe our neighbourhoods really are.

In turn this has led to a lack of confidence in the Police and the local authority which then exacerbates the problem due to under reporting and a breakdown in communication with our residents, just at a time when we need to work together to strengthen community resilience to recover from the pandemic and its impact.

For me this was a timely reminder of the importance of data in shaping evidence-based priorities and being able to measure success so that we can learn from what works, as well as responding reactively to events. However, it has also demonstrated the resourcefulness of the

partnership – “Never let a good crisis go to waste”!

Whilst we may not have been able to access the official crime and disorder data we have found other sources of information to make sure that the Partnership has been able to continue its work. Across Greater Manchester we have reinstated the Police and Crime Survey with residents in order to keep a temperature check on public sentiment, supplemented with our own local consultations. We have used national datasets which include modelled data for local authorities and tested this against provider data to see if it provides an accurate picture for our locality.

Using a combination of alternative data, and thankfully an increasing amount of Police data as the system issues are resolved, we have a new three-year plan that we are really proud of as it has come from genuine engagement with our communities and a thorough review of the evidence available to help set our priorities.

I hope other LARIA partners are also having the opportunity to get back to business as usual and building on all the great partnership work we have seen throughout the pandemic which hopefully has set a new benchmark for our contribution to local area working.

## LARIA Updates

### **Spring Webinar Series - Doing research: What can we learn from each other?**

#### **Call for Presentations**

**Deadline: Friday 1 April 2022**

As a community, we work tirelessly to make the best use of research and data. But do we always stop to reflect and share with colleagues? Our spring seminar series focuses on this key element of our charter – to support each other as research and intelligence professionals by sharing best practice and offering advice.

We are looking to bring together a multitude of perspective and techniques to help others to move forwards in their professional lives. You may be at the start of your career or the most experienced member of your team. Do you have tips to share for improving our research

strategies or incorporating new ways of working? Perhaps there are some time-honoured techniques others would find useful.

We would welcome presentations on:

- Getting the most from the tools – your tips for using analytical tools: from getting started to honing skills
- Presenting for impact – getting outcomes from your analyses using visualisations
- Peer-to-peer learning
- Ways to evolve as a research professional
- Career dilemmas – deciding what path to take and the result
- Continuous professional development and the sources you use
- Development pathways – the options available
- Building specialisms and what are the most important to have
- Transitioning to being a manager or how you manage your team of analysts
- Maximising the benefits of partnership working
- New ways of working or new methodologies due to the pandemic

These don't need to be finished projects or even projects at all. What we're really looking for is how you get things done and your experiences – good and not so good – so that we can all learn from each other as a LARIA community.

For full details and to submit a presentation please download the [submission form](#) and return to [admin@laria.org.uk](mailto:admin@laria.org.uk)

### **LARIA Regional Group's**

If you are interested in attending a regional meeting, you can find information about your local group and point of contact on the [LARIA website](#).

We are currently looking for Regional Representatives for the following areas:

- North West
- Yorkshire and the Humber
- East Midlands
- South East

- South West

Please email [admin@laria.org.uk](mailto:admin@laria.org.uk) if you would like more information on volunteering for this role.

## News

### Introducing CACI's Address Spine

CACI has brought together a number of public and private address level datasets to create a single factual view of the nation's property market, to create our newest dataset, Address Spine.



This property level information provides valuable insight enabling data-driven decisions across your organisation. With a better understanding of the properties your residents live in, you can effectively identify and prioritise the delivery of services to meet demand.

If you would like to speak to one of CACI's experts about the Address Spine, simply contact [info@caci.co.uk](mailto:info@caci.co.uk).

[Find out more](#)



### Census 2021 – Quality Assurance and Outputs

To produce census statistics that we can all use, a huge amount of work is undertaken [to](#)

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[compile, clean, complete, cross-check, ensure confidentiality and continue consultations](#) with users. We recently announced an [update on progress](#) towards publishing Census 2021 results.

Our census quality assurance process is the most comprehensive ever using the widest range of alternative and complementary data sources. For the first time, we are drawing on the unique insight and expertise of local authorities to ensure we produce the best possible statistics for every area. We want to take into account every piece of insight, where supported by evidence, from those involved. All local authorities, county councils and combined authorities in England and Wales were invited to take part. The provisional data will be sent to nominated representatives, who have signed a non-disclosure agreement (NDA), in April.

To allow this valuable work to take place, we now aim to publish the first Census 2021 results in early summer and all other main Census 2021 data within two years of the census. Our proposed outputs and analysis [release plans are detailed on this page](#).

Wider than Census, our [Population statistics and sources guide](#) shows the different types of population estimate that are planned for publication in 2022 and early 2023. It includes information about whether these are official estimates of the population or for wider research, as well as the sources, coverage and main uses and comparability issues for the estimates.

### **Local Authority Data Explorer**

We've published an interactive tool to help citizens [find out more about their local authority area](#) and how it compares with others across the UK against a range of indicators.

This is a first iteration, and it covers a core set of indicators grouped in three broad categories: boosting living standards; spreading opportunity and improving public services; restoring local pride.

We hope this is a valuable resource for you, and most importantly citizens in your local area.

We're keen to get feedback so please do [let us know](#).

We have designed the tool so it can be embedded easily on your own website – so you can put it in front of your citizens directly. We've [written some step-by-step instructions](#) on how to do that but if you need some direct help please do contact [digitalcontent@ons.gov.uk](mailto:digitalcontent@ons.gov.uk)

If you have any questions about any of the topics above, please get in touch with the Local Authority Partnership Team at [2021Census.LA.Liaison@ons.gov.uk](mailto:2021Census.LA.Liaison@ons.gov.uk).

## Data Cymru have launched their new online training programme

Data Cymru are really excited as they've launched a range of training opportunities as part of their capacity building programme.

Their training courses are led by experts in their field and will be delivered online.

Take your time to explore the [training courses](#), which focus on:

- [Summary statistics](#)
- [Presenting data](#)
- [Survey design and analysis](#)
- [Planning and delivering focus groups.](#)

To accompany this training, they will also release a series of guides.

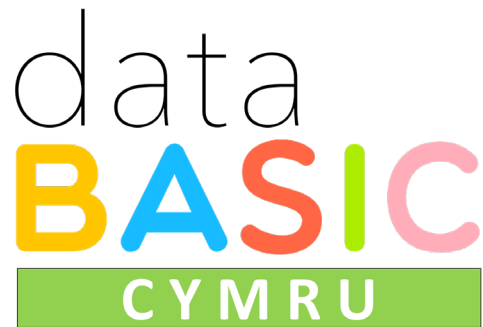
You can book onto one of their courses via [Tocyn Cymru](#). Alternatively, if you've four people or more from one organisation that are interested in attending a course then it may be more convenient and cost effective for Data Cymru to deliver it for you at a time and date that suits you.

Please get in touch with [Sam Sullivan](#) if you'd like to discuss your requirements in more detail.

## DataBasicCymru+ - update

Data Cymru continue to run their DataBasicCymru+ training with local authorities in Wales. This bespoke course is adapted from material developed at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). It helps organisations to develop a data culture by improving the confidence of staff to handle, analyse and use data across all service areas. Data Cymru now have facilitators trained to deliver the course in both Welsh and English and they are keen to spread delivery across all public and voluntary sector organisations in Wales. The course includes nine modules which can be delivered online or in person. Delivery is flexible and can be completed in any number of sessions to suit your needs.

You can find more details on their [website](#) or by contacting [Suzanne Draper](#).



## GeoPlace

### **Integrating addressing throughout Walsall Council**



Walsall Council is integrating its LLPG throughout the authority. It believes that Integrating this data into business systems organisation-wide guarantees that a council can lower costs and see better results for its customers; enabling teams to work in harmony, improving services to people and businesses for whom they're working. They aim to have all systems integrated and have enforced standard implementation of the UPRNs into their tender process. Find out [more](#).

### **Gwent Police geocodes it workforce**

Gwent Police have connected their data to make better use of officers' time and more efficient on the ground decisions. This was achieved by geocoding its workforce to their home addresses – putting information into their systems that correlate where officers live, to deploy new technology to support them most efficiently. As the force modernises and rationalises its estate, this leads to a more agile way of working: staff will be able to use agile spaces closer to home rather than travelling further afield. [Find out more here](#).

### **National Fraud Initiative specified UPRNs**

The National Fraud Initiative (NFI) is a data matching exercise that compares information held by and between around 1,300 organisations including councils, the police, hospitals and almost 100 private sector companies. This helps to identify fraud, errors and overpayments. The Cabinet Office has set out the [dataset specifications](#) for the NFI 2020 to 2021 national exercise and NFI council tax single person discount 2020 to 2021 and 2021 to 2022 exercises. The dataset specifications range from pensions to housing, from payroll to electoral registration all specify that UPRNs should be included.

## Jobs

### **Warwickshire County Council - Business Intelligence Delivery Lead (Population Health & Economy)**

Location: Warwick, Warwickshire

Salary: £43,380 – £49,163 per annum

Contract Type: Permanent

Hours: Full-Time

Closes: 28 Mar 2022



We are looking for a Population Health and Economy Business Intelligence Delivery Lead to form part of our service management team with responsibility for delivering high quality analytics to decision-makers across the organisation and the wider health and care system in Warwickshire.

As the head of our Business Intelligence (Population Health & Economy) team, you will be managing a team of analysts to provide engaging, insightful analysis relating to the health and wellbeing of our residents and the state of our local economy. This includes working closely with Warwickshire County Council's Public Health and Economy & Skills teams and ensuring the delivery of the Warwickshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment programme of work.

You will need a blend of different strengths, including but not limited to:

Leading a team with purpose and energy, providing clarity in terms of prioritisation and standards of delivery.

Translating business requirements into effective intelligence outputs, providing advice and challenge to ensure the service delivers clear, actionable insight.

Working with colleagues across the organisation to promote strong data principles, including helping to influence the design of information systems so that the right data is collected at source.

Contributing to the overall direction of travel for the Business Intelligence service, driving continuous improvements in our operating model.

If successful, you will be joining a highly effective and motivated Business Intelligence service within an organisation that puts insight and evidence at the heart of decision-making. You will have the opportunity to make a real difference to the way the organisation works, helping to deliver our Council Plan.

You will also play an important role in leading and contributing to work across organisations in the emerging Integrated Care System, using your expertise to support the development of Population Health Management (PHM) tools and approaches.

It is an exciting time to be joining our team. We have implemented a new Data & Analytics Platform, bringing the organisation's data into a central repository for the first time and enabling the Business Intelligence service to deliver high quality, automated reporting through the use of Power BI. Ideally, the successful candidate will have experience of working with the Microsoft Power Platform, particularly Power BI, and the ability to operate as a lead practitioner in this technology.

We have a brilliant opportunity to achieve a step-change in the way the organisation accesses and uses business intelligence. The postholder will be central to this transformation. If you have the drive, leadership ability and technical skills to take on this challenge, we would love to hear from you.

For more information about this position and for application details, please see the [job advert](#).

To submit a job advert to appear in the newsletter or on the LARIA website, please download and complete this [form](#) (Full Corporate and Corporate Members only). You can also post Job Vacancies on the Jobs Board in the LARIA [Members' Area](#).

The next newsletter submission deadline is [Tuesday 19th April](#).

## Courses, Training Events and Webinars

### **MSc in Social Research Methods and Statistics (FT/PT)**

#### **University of Manchester**

The MSc programme provides a firm grounding in advanced quantitative methods, taught within an applied framework. The programme is designed to be accessible to people without a statistical background. It includes training in: survey design, statistics, how to analyse data and how to



The University of Manchester

use statistical analysis software such as R, SPSS, Stata and MLwiN. The MSc modules are taught with an emphasis on hands-on training in the application of methods and software. Modules include: Statistical Foundations, Introduction to Statistical Modelling, Survey Research, Demographic Analysis, Social Network Analysis and Longitudinal Data Analysis. The MSc includes a series of pre-sessional training courses before the MSc starts. It is available full-time over one year or part-time over two years.

### [Course overview](#)

The MSc course offers relevant and marketable skills for a career in research and consultancy and is recognised for PhD training by the Economic and Social Research Council. Many SRMS MSc graduates often go on to study for a PhD.

Advanced skills in data analysis and research are at the heart of social research and policy making across government and consultancy. [Graduates of the MSc](#) are in a good position to obtain jobs in government, the academic sector, local government and within the commercial research sector around the world. See

Social Statistics and the School of Social Sciences at the University of Manchester are home to [world leading academics](#).

### [How to apply](#)

**Application Enquiries:** Please email [pg-soss@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:pg-soss@manchester.ac.uk)

**Course Content Enquiries:** Please email the PGT Programme Recruitment Director:

Dr. K. Purdam. Email: [kingsley.purdam@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:kingsley.purdam@manchester.ac.uk)

### **Statistical Methods for Covid-19:**

**Webinar Series Organised by RSS Official Statistics Section in collaboration with the Health Statistics User Group**

### **Webinar on Mortality Statistics**

**Wednesday 23 March 2022 12:00 to 13:30**

Registration for this webinar is [now open](#)

### **Aims of the Webinar Series**

The aims of the webinars in this series are to provide an opportunity for:

- people across the UK involved in producing statistics relating to COVID-19, and other forms of insight, to share their experiences and exchange ideas,
- people using the statistics to pose questions and make comments,
- members of the audience to contribute insights to the analysis and interpretation based on work they are doing.

### **Rationale for this webinar**

The aim of this webinar is to present and discuss the work that has been carried out across the 4 Nations on mortality relating to COVID-19. This is a suitable time to do this, now we can look back over data during the different stages of the pandemic. This webinar will look at mortality overall – including deaths higher than expected and also deaths lower than expected for any cause, not just those classified as deaths directly due to COVID. The presentations will also consider factors affecting mortality, including deaths by age, by socioeconomic category, by occupation, by ethnicity and by geography, and the relationship between these factors.

### **Speakers**

**Vahe Nafilyan** – Statistician at ONS and Research Fellow at LSHTM (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine)

**Ronan Lyons** - Professor of Public Health at Swansea University

**Tom Hennell** - Principal Public Health Intelligence Analyst, Local Knowledge and Intelligence Service North West, Office for Health Improvement and Disparities

This presentation will discuss work carried out in support of the NWest Mortality Cell, and how those analyses use the mortality data generated by ONS, UKSHA and other national bodies to inform local actions.

**Dr Jos Ijpelaar:** Researcher at the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) Administrative Research Unit and has been working on Covid-19 deaths in Northern Ireland, reporting on age-standardised mortality rates, excess mortality, pre-existing conditions of

Covid-19 deaths, and equality/socio-demographic characteristics of Covid-19 deaths. [Details of these publications.](#)

## **Statistical Methods for COVID-19**

### **Webinar Series Organised by RSS Official Statistics Section in collaboration with the Health Statistics User Group**

The Health Statistics Users' Group (HSUG) is a group that brings together producers and users of health and care statistics from across the UK to discuss issues of common interest. The HSUG website can be found within the StatsUserNet website, and holds a range of historical information about its activities, and as well as updates on meetings and consultations.

Over the last two years, the HSUG, in conjunction with the Royal Statistical Society Official Statistics Section, has been running a series of webinars on 'Statistical Methods for COVID-19'. For each event a report, Q&A, presentations and useful links have been posted on the site. Topics have included mortality, modelling, Test and Trace, vaccinations, Long COVID, and monitoring the pandemic - and focus on local as well as national work. To make this material easier to access, it has now been pulled together into a single section of the website entitled 'Webinar Material'.

For information on how to access the website please go to [www.hsug.org.uk](http://www.hsug.org.uk). HSUG material can be found within StatsUserNet under the 'Health and Care Statistics' category. "Webinar Material" is now in a separate section within this category. General HSUG material can be found in the "Health Statistics User Group" section in this category. StatsUserNet also provides access to material about other areas of official statistics.

### **Are you a Corporate or Full Corporate Member?**

Your LARIA Corporate Membership entitles you to submit content to the monthly LARIA newsletter, if you have any research, events, job adverts, resources or news which you would us to include please send it to [admin@laria.org.uk](mailto:admin@laria.org.uk).



The next newsletter submission deadline is **Tuesday 19th April**

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