

LARIA Newsletter April 2022

LARIA Council - Andy Davis

Hello, and welcome to the April edition of the LARIA Newsletter.

We start this edition of the Newsletter sharing some incredibly sad news about LARIA Council member, colleague, and friend Martin Stevens, who passed away towards the end of March.

Martin joined our Council at the time that the Social Services Research Group (SSRG) merged with LARIA around five years ago. I first met Martin whilst he was Chair of SSRG, in the lead up to SSRG joining LARIA where we first started looking at shared areas of work, business models, and opportunities for greater collaboration. Martin was instrumental in helping bring the two organisations together, and since then he had been a committed and enthusiastic member of LARIA Council.

More recently Martin had been working on a project to provide a long-term future solution to host the full library of SSRG's 'Research Policy & Practice' Journal on a new website. Martin had been consulting with the web developer to progress and deliver this. We will launch this resource formally once the work is completed, and it will ensure that all LARIA members have future access to this body of work.

Martin's colleague and friend, Dr. John Woolham, has kindly written an Obituary to share with LARIA members, with personal reflections about Martin, his life, and work. Rest in peace Martin.

Andy Davis

LARIA Treasurer

LARIA Updates

Obituary Dr Martin Stevens



Our friend and colleague Dr Martin Stevens, member of LARIA Council and chair of the Social Services Research Group until it merged with LARIA five years ago has died at the age of 57 after COVID-related complications. Martin was a Senior Research Fellow at the NIHR Policy Research Unit in Health and Social Care Workforce at King's College London, where he was at the heart of the Unit for 18 years.

Martin was educated at the universities of Southampton, where he studied Philosophy as an undergraduate, then Surrey and Portsmouth, where he gained his PhD. He began his career as a Residential Services Officer for Hampshire Social Services, before becoming a Research Officer in 1992. He was subsequently appointed as a Research Fellow at King's College in 2004 and then Senior Fellow in 2014. During his career he chaired the UK Social Services Research Group and the Health Research Authority Social Care Research Ethics Committee and contributed much to developing ethics and governance in social care research. He remained the chair of the Good Mental Health Co-operative Committee and a National Institute for Health Research Design Service Advisor for London until his death.

Martin was loved as well as respected by those who knew him. He was a gifted scholar and researcher who published influential research on learning disability, safeguarding, and personal budgets. With an exceptional ability to analyse complex problems from multiple perspectives, he was able to bring clarity and important new insights as well as an enthusiasm which enabled him to engage practitioners, managers and policymakers with clear and well considered recommendations. His kindness,

generosity, sense of fun and good humour made him a wonderful colleague. Throughout most of his adult life Martin lived with chronic health problems following kidney failure, which led to years of dialysis and three kidney transplants: experiences that led to deep insight and empathy for other health and care service users. His premature death is a huge loss to those who knew him and the wider social care research community, to which he contributed so much.

He is survived by his wife Alison, older sister, Linda, and younger brother, Seb.

News

Digital Inequality Local Government Data Initiative

Digital inequality is not new and was with us long before COVID-19, but the pandemic has put issues within our communities including deprivation, social exclusion and health under a microscope. Data and the insights it provide are crucial if we are to support our most at risk and vulnerable communities now and in the future.

In order to be able to support residents with health challenges, it is essential for central and local government to have access to an up-to-date and reliable source of digital data. This will help to assess need and prioritise the delivery of services to those who really need it at such a pressing time.

For this reason and in association with our partner LARIA, CACI are launching a new Local Government Data Initiative to provide free access to our postcode level Digital Vulnerability Indicators for use to specifically tackle digital inequality until 1st July 2022.

For further information and to register your interest in accessing this data, complete your details using the link below and we'll be in touch walk you through next steps.

*Subject to contract. CACI's Local Government Data Initiative is only available to Public Sector organisations.



Better signposting of community services

The UK Government Data Standards Authority has endorsed the new Open Referral UK standard for data describing local services to which councils might point people from online services directories. The goal of the standard is to allow information to be gathered once to a high standard and be shared efficiently across multiple community resources. The standard was developed as part of recent LGA work for the Department for Digital Culture Media and Sport to help address loneliness and other social prescribing. It is being adopted by a growing community of public organisations and commercial suppliers in the UK. Participation means that citizens and their carers can receive more listings of services from public sector organisations and their partners in a consistent format in future. The LGA is holding a free [online 'Introduction to Open Referral UK' event](#) for councils on 21 April 2022.



Location intelligence, what is it and what's its value?

A partnership of the LGA, Socitm, ConsultingWhere



and GeoPlace has released a series of videos showcasing how location intelligence is being used to better understand the characteristics of communities, infrastructure and places, and when and where they need particular services

The work that local authority Address and Street Custodians do every day creates location intelligence. Location intelligence drastically transforms the way in which public services can be delivered, facilitating the creation of insights and intelligence on where and why services should be more focussed. The local address and street gazetteers maintained by Custodians provides the engine for location intelligence.

Find out more at [here](#).

One population – five billion statistics

In his recent blog, [One population - five billion statistics](#), Pete Benton, Deputy National Statistician for Health, Population and Methods, looks at the work that is taking place

around the processing and quality assurance of census data. He talks about what has happened since Census Day and also mentions how provisional census data has helped with understanding vaccination rates and has informed emergency response planning in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

He also talks about the second episode of the new Office for National Statistics (ONS) Statistically Speaking podcast, "[Counting a nation: the story of the UK's once-a-decade census](#)" in which he describes what it was like to run the census operation. The episode includes an account of how one of our census Community Advisers, Sanjay Jagatia, found his experience of working with Indian communities life changing.



Census 2021 outputs consultation response: part two

On 31 March we published [part two of our response to the feedback we received during the Census 2021 outputs consultation](#) that took place in summer 2021.

In the consultation, we asked users for feedback on our proposals for the content design and release of Census 2021 data and analysis for England and Wales.

In total there were 312 individuals and organisations who took part. 126 were completed on behalf of local government organisations, including 116 from local authorities. Thank you to everyone who took part.

Respondents shared their views on our proposals to release census data in a phased approach and the analysis we plan to conduct to draw insights from that data. The consultation covered all phases of the release schedule, including:

- Phase one: population estimates cross tabulated by age and sex, household estimates, and other univariate data published as part of topic summaries or area profiles
- Phase two: multivariate data for the usual resident, household, and communal establishment population bases
- Phase three: alternative population bases, small populations, origin-destination and microdata
- Beyond 2023: UK data, and more complex analysis

We published part one of our response to the consultation feedback in December 2021. In it we shared the feedback respondents gave us about our phase one proposals.

In the second and final report, we focus on feedback about our phase two, phase three and beyond 2023 proposals. In response to this feedback, we also discuss which proposals we are changing or considering further.

For further information on census outputs please get in touch with census.outputs@ons.gov.uk.

Making everybody count: How we're transforming the Labour Force Survey

The Labour Force Survey has, for many years, been the cornerstone of ONS statistics on UK employment. While now complemented by other, often faster sources of information like real-time PAYE data, it remains the richest source of data on many aspects of the world of work and wider society. Darren Morgan, Director of Economic Statistics Production and Analysis, discusses the challenges this survey faced during the pandemic and how we now plan to transform it.

[Read the blog - Making everybody count: How we're transforming the Labour Force Survey](#)

The blog contains a link to a survey where you can give the ONS your views on what impacts users might have and what we can do to support you through the changes. **The deadline for this survey is 29 June 2022.**

Admin-based accommodation type statistics for England and Wales, feasibility research: 2011

On 10 March [we published our latest research](#) that shows the improved potential of Valuation Office Agency (VOA) data to produce more detailed information on accommodation type for England and Wales. Building on our [previous research](#) comparing VOA and 2011 Census data, we're interested in your feedback on these statistics.

We know from the [Census 2021 outputs consultation](#) that our users want more detailed and frequent information on property type to understand more about the characteristics of housing stock, for use in local and central government for planning and policy development.

In this research we also:

- Show how we have used VOA dwelling code to identify 73% of ‘flats above/within commercial buildings’, where we were previously unable to identify any
- Explore the differences between the data sources
- Demonstrate that we can impute missing or discontinued property types in VOA data from historical census records
- Propose to introduce a new category for annexes, which is not available using census data

Please email your feedback to admin.based.characteristics@ons.gov.uk including “Housing” in the subject line.

Overview of the UK population: 2020

We have recently published our annual Overview of the UK population. The overview provides a summary of the UK population in 2020, highlighting the changes and the factors which contribute to this. It focuses on the components of population change over time, including fertility, migration and mortality.

[Overview of the UK population: 2020](#)

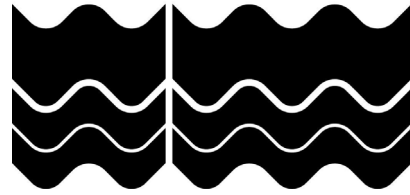
If you have any questions about any of the topics above, please get in touch with the Local Authority Partnership Team at 2021Census.LA.Liaison@ons.gov.uk.

Jobs

East Sussex County Council - Job Opportunities

East Sussex
County Council

For an informal discussion about either position, please contact Kim Bloxham - Team Manager Research and Intelligence on 07701 394471.



Senior Research and Intelligence Analyst

Location: Lewes

Salary: £33,725 to £36,429

Closing date: 1 May 2022

Department: Governance Services

Contract type: Permanent

Work pattern: Full Time

Hours: 37

Are you an experienced analyst with a proven ability to use data to make an impact?

We are looking for someone that can spot trends and patterns in data, using a range of analytical tools to provide insight for colleagues, especially those working with communities, transport planning and economic development. Someone who is experienced in translating data into useful information for decision makers, helping to get key messages to the right stakeholders in order to influence policies and service planning.

As a Senior Research and Intelligence Analyst you will be:

preparing demographic projections and testing scenarios

producing briefings and reports

contributing to strategic needs assessments and evidence bases

managing projects – understanding customers' needs, working with minimal supervision, delivering accurate and attractive insight on time

helping to oversee our East Sussex in Figures website

You'll be part of a small, supportive team with a blend of office based and home

working.

For more information about this position, and to apply, please see the [job advert](#).

Senior Research and Intelligence Analyst, Census

Location: Lewes

Salary: £33,725 to £36,429

Closing date: 1 May 2022

Organisation: East Sussex County Council

Department: Governance Services

Contract type: Fixed Term

Work pattern: Full Time

Hours: 37

Are you an inquisitive storyteller that can analyse and visualise large datasets?

Come and join the Research & Intelligence Team to explore and share insights from the Census 2021. Results are due to be released from early Summer 2022 and we need someone to help us reveal how the characteristics of East Sussex's communities has changed overtime as well as understand differences between neighbourhoods.

We need to get key messages to the right stakeholders to influence future policy making, and service planning to ensure resources go to the right places and people.

You'll be experienced in communicating and presenting complex information to a range of audiences and will have excellent analytical skills.

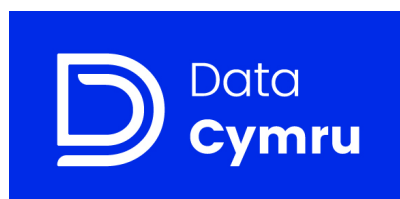
You'll be part of a small, supportive team with a blend of office based and home working.

For more information about this position, and to apply, please see the [job advert](#).

Various job opportunities at Data Cymru

Data Cymru was established in 2001 as a wholly owned local government company to work with and for local government in Wales on data and statistical issues. We are responsible for collecting, collating,

analysing and disseminating a wide range of data in support of local government. We offer advice, training and guidance on a range of topics relating to the use of data.



We are currently looking for additional people to help deliver our work programme.

We are looking to fill **five** posts:

- Data Analyst / Researcher – Grade 4 (£29,586 - £36,370)
- Dewis Cymru / CCSR Project Lead – Grade 4 (£29,586 - £36,370)
- Assistant Statistician / Researcher – Grade 3 (£22,645 - £28,227)
- Part-time Language Services / Digital Content Coordinator (3 days per week) - Grade 3 - £22,645 - £28,227 Pro rata (£13,587 - £16,936) – Welsh essential
- Part-time Admin Officer (3 days per week) – Grade 2 (£19,003 - £21,518 pro rata (£11,402 - £12,911) – Welsh essential

Closing date Friday 29 April 2022. Please visit our [website](#) for further information including job descriptions and how to apply.

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 [Monday 16th May](#).

Courses, Training Events and Webinars

Data Cymru 'Inform and Inspire' webinars



Our Data to Inspire webinar '*Doing data differently: developing data skills across the public sector*'

will be held on **Wednesday 27 April 2022** from 12:00 – 13:00.

What does this webinar offer?

Since 2001, one of our fundamental principles has been to "do with, not for". We want to build skills and knowledge across the public sector; to empower individuals and, in turn, organisations to be able to use data effectively. And we are not the only ones!

Knowing how to understand and use data is as important now as it ever was. Perhaps more so. So, whether you are interested in your own personal development or want to build skills across your organisation, we are here to help.

In this webinar, you'll hear how we, and our colleagues from Social Care Wales (SCW), can help you do data differently. So, join us for what is sure to be a valuable learning experience!

Click the link below to book your free place. Registration closes on **Tuesday 26 April 2022**.

<https://tocyn.cymru/en/event/e2aad536-e4dc-4f54-ba08-8e742cc27a3b>

If you'd like to be the first to hear about our future webinars, training sessions or events then please sign up to our [mailing list](#).

Connecting People with Places

GeoPlace's free to register annual conference takes place on 10th and 11th May on a purpose built live streaming platform.



Is you want to find out how UPRNs and USRNs are used in:

- Warmer, more sustainable homes
- Stronger British infrastructure
- Improving the property chain
- Safer, more secure buildings

Or if you'd like to find out more about:

- Your data, supporting local public services
- From planning to maintenance to demolition, the lifecycle of address and street data
- Using UPRNs and USRNs to integrate the data in your authority

Then do come along. We have 38 speakers over the two days, including from several local authorities. Claire Holloway, Head of Corporate Services & Company Secretary at the LGA is speaking on day 2 of the conference, alongside Dr Catherine Howe, Chief Executive of Adur & Worthing Councils on the need to understand location in order to deliver front-line services ever more efficiently.

Find out more, and register at <https://www.geoplace.co.uk/news-events/events/conference>

UK Data Service Spring Training Series

The UK Data Service provides access to a wide range of social science data for reuse. To help you get the most from our service, we run free introductory level online workshops every spring and autumn to introduce different aspects of the Service.



There is still time to book for our remaining training events in spring 2022. These are listed below and you can also [browse our events pages](#) for a full list of what is available:

- [Data Management Basics: Introduction to data management and sharing](#), 28 April, 11.00 – 12.00.
- [Data Management Basics: Ethical and legal issues in data sharing](#), 29 April, 10.00 – 11.00.
- [Depositing your data with ReShare](#), 5 May, 11.00 – 12.00.
- [Consent issues in data sharing](#), 13 May, 10.00 – 11.00.
- [How to become a Computational Social Scientist](#), 19 May, 11.00 – 12.30.
- [Introduction to copyright: Copyright and publishing](#), 20 May, 10.00 – 11.30.
- [Getting Started with Secondary Analysis](#), 24 May, 10.00 – 11.30.
- [Introduction to copyright: Copyright and secondary data use](#), 27 May, 10 – 11.30.

[#UKDSTraining](#)

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.

The next newsletter submission deadline is **Monday 16th May**.

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