



Local Area Research + Intelligence Association

LARIA Newsletter May 2022

LARIA in Scotland – Co-Chair: Erin R. Murray

In May 2022 saw local elections in Scotland, Wales and many parts of England resulting in new and experienced elected members and a reminder that councils everywhere were facing similar challenges. Challenges like:

- Impact of increased 'Costs of living' on local people
- Recovering from the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdowns
- Working toward Net Zero and other climate targets
- Supporting the most vulnerable

The people of LARIA (we) are the ones that bring together the data, analysis, research and insight to inform how Councils and their partners can meet these challenges. It's worth noting the impact Covid- 19 has had on data collection and analysis. In some areas the impact of Covid-19 has accelerated data and information and for other areas we are now playing catch-up. Having relevant, timely and accurate information is essential for all of us to do 'our job'. Let's hope that as things are 'returning to normal' that the delay in data and information is short lived.

The upcoming LARIA Spring Webinar Series in June (7, 8, 14 and 16) will be an opportunity to learn from each other. Hope to see you there.

LARIA Updates

LARIA Spring Webinar Series 2022

We are pleased to announce the [programme](#) for our 2022 Spring Webinar Series. The series is free to attend for Full Individual & Corporate Members and will be hosted via Zoom Meetings.

In Partnership with



The first webinar will be hosted and sponsored by our partners CACI Ltd on **Tuesday 7th June 2022: 11.00-12.00 BST**

Tackling the Cost of Living Crisis with data

Paul Langston, Associate Partner, CACI

8th June 2022 11:00 - 12:00 BST

Giving a voice to survivors of domestic abuse

Poppy Reece, Senior Researcher & Maura O'Malley, Researcher, Essex County Council

Changing the culture: exploring research capacity in local government

Dr Catherine Homer, Senior Research Fellow, Sheffield Hallam University & Dr Susan Hampshaw, Head of Service (Public Health Delivery), Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council

14th June 2022 10:30 - 12:00 BST

Visual Analytics: Targeting Preventative Wellbeing Visits

John Courouble, Head of Data, Analytics, and Visualisation, Oxfordshire County Council

Implementing PowerBi: the essentials

Richard Palmer, Chief Operating Officer, Data Cymru

Tell Me With My Eyes: Using video for impact and influence

Kat Thackray, Lead consultant (user research and service design), Mace & Menter & Nat Robertson, Bristol City Council

16th June 2022 15:00 - 16:00

Adventures in Digital Ethnography

Maresa Beazley, Senior Researcher & Liz Roberts, Researcher, Essex County Council

Capturing urban mobility through mobile phone data

Nick Bailey, Director, Urban Big Data Centre, University of Glasgow

Download the full programme: [Full Programme](#)

If your organisation is interested in sponsoring a webinar, please email admin@laria.org.uk for more information.

[Register Here](#)

LARIA AGM

The LARIA AGM 2022 will take place on Microsoft Teams at 4-5pm, Thursday 16 June.

All LARIA members are invited to join us for the AGM. Full LARIA members may take part in the voting and stand for election to LARIA Council.

To attend, please email Sophie Flood at admin@laria.org.uk for the meeting details.

News

Data Analyst apprenticeships for current Children's Services colleagues

Funded by the government's apprenticeship levy, the children's services Data to Insight network is again offering its 18 month L4 Data Analyst Apprenticeship course, this time commencing in June with an application deadline of 31/05/2022. This year there is also a L3 Data Professional course aimed at data team managers, performance managers, commissioning staff, etc. who would benefit from a broader understanding of how to work with data and data-derived intelligence.

For more information visit: www.datatoinsight.org/apprenticeships

Working to improve a better understanding and use of data in local government

How well does your council use data for decision-making? The LGA is looking for councils to partner with us to trial the use of a data maturity self-assessment tool. We would welcome councils at any stage of maturity from the data unaware to data masters. The results will enable you to assess where you are on your data journey and plan the next steps of your evolution. You will also be able to compare yourself across different functional areas and against other councils. The findings will encourage conversation on the data needs of councils and how we can work collectively to raise standards and to improve cultural and work practices. [More details and how to register your council's interest is available online here.](#)

Census 2021 – UK Armed Forces Veterans data and analysis



cyfrifiad
census
2021

Last year, the Census in England and Wales asked, for the first time, a question about previous service in the UK armed forces (veterans). This question was added to support commitments made by central and local government under the Armed Forces Covenant.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is working alongside the Office for Veterans' Affairs (OVA) to help deliver [the strategy for our veterans](#). The census data and analysis will be a fundamental part of that delivery.

We are keen to reach as many stakeholders as possible who have an interest in, or connection to, the veteran topic and the work that ONS is conducting in that area. Further information on the ONS commitments can be found in the [Veterans' Strategy Action Plan: 2022 to 2024](#).

To help our users stay up to date we would encourage you to sign up to the veterans' mailing list via [GovDelivery](#).

We would be grateful if you could share this information with any colleagues or contacts with an interest in the veteran topic.

If you have any questions, please contact the Veterans Team at veterans@ons.gov.uk.

Population statistics and sources guide

This guide provides a summary of the planned publication dates for population estimates, their different uses and the data sources which underpin them. We will continue to keep this page updated as plans progress.

[Population statistics and sources guide](#).

UK Humanitarian Response Insights Survey

Last month, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) launched a pilot survey of Ukrainians arriving in the UK.

The survey aims to collect information on the opinions, experiences and intentions of Ukrainian nationals who have recently arrived in the UK. It will aid local and national emergency response planning.

The survey will cover a range of topics, including:

- living arrangements
- experience of accessing services and support since arriving in the UK

- plans for finding work, moving to a different area, and accessing services such as schools or housing

This survey is being carried out by the ONS on behalf of the [Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities](#) (DLUHC) and the [Home Office](#).

You can find out more information about the new survey on the [ONS website](#).

The survey will provide anonymised data to Government to aid response planning and decision-making regarding Ukrainians coming to the UK. We will publish findings in due course, the detail of which will depend on data quality and response rates. We will provide further updates as data become available and publications will be announced in the [release calendar](#).

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.

Health Statistics User Group

Ensuring national health and care statistics meet user needs – some current initiatives

Ensuring that national health and care statistics meet user needs is an aim that is shared by all statisticians and analysts involved in the health and sector, whether they are producers or users of these statistics. However, it does require an understanding of not only what needs to be included within national health and care statistics but also who are the users and how to engage with them and understand their needs. There are currently some meetings and other initiatives planned which aim to address some of these issues, and these are outlined below. LARIA members are invited to participate in these or send in their thoughts. Further information about these meetings and initiatives will be posted on the HSUG (Health Statistics User Group) website as it becomes available – see www.hsug.org.uk for how to access this. Any comments or queries on these can either be posted on the website or emailed to dml.healthstats@gmail.com

UK User Engagement Strategy for Statistics

A “[User engagement strategy for statistics – ensuring official statistics meet society’s needs](#)” was published in February 2021.

In the Foreword to this strategy, it states “Statistics are produced across the UK public sector to serve the public good. This ambition is only achieved if our statistics are widely accessed and used, outside government and within.” And, in relation to the strategy itself, it states “This strategy sets out an ambitious plan of action for building a more meaningful and sustained dialogue between producers, users and potential users of statistics and other relevant

stakeholders.”

The publication of the strategy was followed by a review of the current landscape of user engagement and a summary of the findings from this [review](#) was published in November 2021.

Since the publication of the results of the review, there have been further discussions with some representatives of the user community on how the proposals in the strategy will work in practice. In terms of engagement in relation to health and care statistics, the work of EHSSG and the Health and Care Theme groups was mentioned in comments made by HSUG, including mentioning the involvement of other groups such as LARIA, AphA, and FPH. It is not clear, at the moment, what the mechanisms are for linking the existing activities to what is proposed within the Strategy, but discussions are ongoing. It may be possible for an update to be shared at the Health and Care Themes webinar mentioned above. Information on any further updates to the Strategy will be posted on the HSUG website as it becomes available, and also shared with LARIA.

Public Statistics

In addition to the activities mentioned above, the RSS's National Statistics Advisory Group (NSAG) is seeking to promote discussion of the concept of *public statistics*. This starts from understanding the needs for statistics arising from questions to be answered for the public good. These questions could be raised by individuals, government, businesses, third sector organisations, or the media. The idea is to shift the focus from the status of various sets of statistics to the role that they perform, especially that it is *official statistics* alone that can have the function of supporting the public good.

Interest in public statistics has emerged in various contexts, including statistics about the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as monitoring progress towards the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. It also reflects the long-held recognition that statistics beyond those produced as official statistics can help paint a fuller picture of society, the economy, and the environment. Indeed, this is already being put increasingly into practice.

NSAG is organising a number of events to discuss how a system of public statistics would operate to greater benefit nowadays, and the role that the official statistics system would play in delivering public statistics. For more information, please contact Paul Allin, the RSS's honorary officer for National Statistics p.allin@imperial.ac.uk.

AnalystX Community

Another initiative that arose during the pandemic, was the establishment of the AnalystX community. Originally intended to be an internal forum for analysts working at NHS England

and Improvement hosted on the FutureNHS platform, AnalystX has grown, and now involves 17,000 data professionals, analysts or those who have an interest in these disciplines.

The community's mission is 'to connect and empower the data and analytics community' and its vision from the outset has been 'to create a thriving community leading the movement for data driven, evidence-based decision making by sharing learning across health and social care beyond typical organisational and geographic boundaries'.

Their activities include 'huddles' and 'mini-huddles' on specific topics, which are effectively mini webinars. This seems to complement what HSUG is doing in the webinar series, and provides an opportunity to connect with, and get feedback from, the wider analyst community. It has therefore been suggested that it would be helpful to have a shared webinar to discuss what is being done and exchange ideas – with the focus on how we can best work together, building on what we have learnt during the pandemic. Thoughts on this are still in the early stages but a webinar along these lines could fit well with the Health and Care Themes webinar mentioned above since both are looking at how we can work together. However, the Health and Care Themes one is top down, although intending to bring in users, whereas the activities of the AnalystX community are driven by the user community.

Comments or suggestions on any of the activities mentioned in this note are welcome. These can be sent to dml.healthstats@gmail.com

Deana Leadbeter, Chair, Health Statistics User Group

Courses, Training Events and Webinars

ONS Economic Forum – Glasgow

Date & Time: 24 May 2022, 13:30 – 16:15

Location: Technology and Innovation Centre (TIC),
University of Strathclyde



ONS Regional Economic Forum will present the current state of the UK economy and present data and analysis for your area at a local level.

ONS will welcome Sandy Stewart and Sharada Davidson as our guest speakers. Sandy is the Head of National Accounts at the Scottish Government. Sharada is a lecturer in the Department

of Economics at the University of Strathclyde.

Presentations will also include:

- Understanding the UK Economy
- Picture of the Scottish Economy
- ONS plans for subnational statistics
- Economic Statistics Centre of Excellence (ESCoE) analysis on Building a Suite of Subnational Socioeconomic Indicators for the UK: Opportunities, Challenges and Recommendations

There will be an opportunity for participants to join a Q&A session at the end of the presentations. You can also interact with us throughout the event via **#economicforum** [Register here](#)

To keep updated on future events and webinars please visit: ons.gov.uk/economicevents

Mapping crime data in R workshops

The UK Data Service is holding two free online workshops on mapping crime data in R on **7 and 8 June**. The workshops are now fully booked but you can watch the livestreams on the UK Data Service [YouTube Channel](#).



Do you want to display crime data on maps but don't know how? Crime data often contains spatial components. As a result, analyses of crime data can create patterns that are clearly linked to geography. Naturally, putting the data or analysis on a map makes a lot of sense. Unfortunately, if you have never matched statistical data to spatial data then you may not know how easy it can be to make beautiful data maps! That's where these workshops come in.

The first workshop, [Mapping crime data in R: An Introduction to GIS and spatial data](#), is on 7 June and will cover some fundamental theories and concepts surrounding GIS and spatial data.

The second workshop, [Mapping crime data in R: Live code demonstration](#), is on 8 June and will be a live code demonstration using R to explore these concepts.

The aim of these workshops are to teach participants to use the R statistical and graphical

environment to map open-source police recorded crime statistics onto geographic representations.

**Research into Gambling Harms Webinar Series:
Women and Gambling Harms.**

Wednesday 8th June 1-2pm

Women and Gambling Harms



Our fourth Research on Gambling Harms Seminar will take place, via Zoom, on Wednesday 8th June from 1-2pm.

This webinar is part of a NIHR-funded study which is developing a screening question for identifying gambling harms to individuals and affected others and piloting it in three local authorities.

Our presenters are:

Kelsey Beninger, Director, from independent social research agency, IFF Research and Professor Sharon Collard, Director of University of Bristol's Personal Finance Research Centre who will discuss early findings from their current research about why women in Britain take part in different types of gambling, the effect this has on them and their lives, and their experience of support and treatment services.

Dominique Webb, Head of Programmes at Gamcare will be presenting the learning gained from three years of operation of GamCare's Women's Programme, how gambling harms relate to safeguarding issues, and how they can be linked to other issues such as domestic abuse, financial and coercive control, mental health and carers/cared-for people, and addictions co-morbidities.

The webinar will be Chaired by Dr Emily Finch, Clinical Director for Addictions, South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust.

If you would like to attend, please register your place via [Eventbrite](#) or email catherine.forward@kcl.ac.uk.

Event [flyer](#)

Joining details will be sent in advance of the meeting.

Mailing List: If you would like to be added to our webinar mailing list and be kept up to date with details of forthcoming webinars or our study on screening for Gambling Harms in local authorities, please email Cat Forward at: catherine.forward@kcl.ac.uk. (our [Privacy Notice](#))

Health and Social Care Workforce Research Unit

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people with learning disabilities

14 June 2022, 2 – 3pm, online

In this seminar in the Learning Disability Services Series, Professor Chris Hatton will discuss what we know about the early and ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people with learning disabilities, focusing mainly but not exclusively on the UK. Chris will also share the implications of what we know for policy and practice, from the perspectives of different groups of people.

Any questions, please contact emily.4.thomas@kcl.ac.uk.

For more information and to register, see the [Eventbrite](#) event page.

Learning from people with lived experience of homelessness and adult safeguarding

23 June 2022, 10 – 11am

Online via zoom

The event will focus on learning from lived experience, and be led by Carl Price, co-author of one of the book chapters. Carl works as a recovery coordinator for Change, Grow, Live, a national drug treatment charity. He has used his own lived experience of homelessness to champion co-production and trauma-informed practice in his professional work. In 2019, he won a Charity Film Award for his video '[Carl's Story](#)':

For more information and to register see the [Eventbrite](#) event page.

Census 2021: What to expect and when

14 June 2022, 10:00 am - 11:00 am

2021 census data will start to be released in summer 2022. Join our webinar to find out what will be available and when.



The webinar is intended for those interested in using data from the 2021 census. It will provide a timeline for the availability of aggregate data tables and the geographical boundaries to map them, and summarise the planned releases of flow data and census microdata products in 2023. We will outline our proposed training events, resources, and materials to support the 2021 census and welcome your feedback on what would be useful to you.

This free webinar will consist of an interactive presentation, with activities throughout to help attendees get to grips with the 2021 census data from the UK Data Service.

[More information and booking](#)

Margaret Butterworth Care Home Forum

Personal Interventions in Care Homes (webinar)

Margaret Butterworth Care Home Forum

Wednesday the 22nd of June 2022, from 2.00-4.00

After a successful webinar in March, our second Margaret Butterworth Care Home Forum of the year will have the theme Personal interventions in care homes. MBCHF is a forum for discussion and learning focused on dementia care in communal settings such as nursing homes, care homes and extra care housing.

The webinar will include two speakers:

Dr Sue Woodward, senior lecturer in Adult Nursing at King's College London, will be presenting on "Preventing Incontinence Associated Dermatitis – an overview of current research".

Katy Kerr, Associate Postgraduate Dental Dean Workforce Health Education England SE, will present on "Oral health and dementia for people living in care homes"

We will have time for questions and discussions after each presentation. Once you have registered on Eventbrite, you will receive the Zoom-link a few days before the webinar.

[Register](#)

Human Rights and Social Care Research Forum

'Equality, Dignity and Care Homes - The Way Forward'

Tue 28 Jun 2022 at 14:00-16:00

The Human Rights and Social Care Research Forum is an event organised by the NIHR Applied Research Collaboration South London for sharing ideas, knowledge and debate between social care service users, providers, researchers, advocacy groups and anyone interested in the broad topic of human rights and social care internationally.

To book, please visit: [Human Rights and Social Care Forum Tickets](#)

HSUG in collaboration with the RSS Official Statistics Section

User Engagement via Health and Care Theme Groups

The next webinar in the series that is run by HSUG in collaboration with the RSS Official Statistics Section will focus on the Health and Care Statistics Theme Groups – including the work of the English Health Statistics Steering Group (EHSSG). The programme and date are currently being finalised. It is expected that this will be held in late June or early July.

These Theme Groups have existed for some time, but many have not been very active during the pandemic and are now being re-activated. The focus of the webinar will be on disseminating, and getting feedback on, these initiatives which are aimed at facilitating collaborative working and improving access to statistics. It will include what is happening in the 4 Nations, not just in England. Speakers will share what has been achieved so far, such as the development of the health and care statistics landscape, as well as what is planned. This is work in practice that has already delivered benefits. However, if the work is to continue and to develop further, then it is important to involve the wider user community, both so that they are aware of what is currently available and so they can make an input to future developments - and the webinar will be one way to do this.

it is expected that registration will be open next week via [RSS Events](#)

Jobs

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 13th June](#).

INLOGOV, the Institute for Local Government Studies at the University of Birmingham, is looking to recruit additional team members at every level from Professor to Assistant Professor.

Institute of Local Government Studies
School of Government
University of Birmingham

Professor / Associate Professor / Assistant Professor roles

in Public Policy / Public Administration / Public Management / Political Institutions

The Institute of Local Government Studies (INLOGOV) in the School of Government at the University of Birmingham welcomes applications from candidates with research and teaching interests in Public Policy, Public Administration or Public Management to provide teaching, research, engagement and impact in the field.

We are particularly interested in hearing from applicants with research and teaching expertise in the following sub-disciplines:

- Governance, devolution or federalism
- Policy processes and challenges
- Co-production, democratic participation or social Innovation
- Public sector economics, strategic management or performance management
- Evidence, impact and innovative research methodologies

With over 50 years of experience working with local and (inter)national governments and the public sector, INLOGOV creates new thinking with public practitioners and is the leading UK centre for the study of public management, policy and governance. INLOGOV provides a supportive and collegial environment, enabling colleagues to engage internationally, strengthen networks and deliver excellent teaching, research and impact.

We will start reviewing applications on 30th June and will invite for interview shortly thereafter if we have a sufficient number of suitable applicants. If all positions are filled prior to the final closing date (30 Sept), we may close the advert, so we encourage early applications.

Informal enquiries are welcomed – please contact one of the following: Jason Lowther (Director of INLOGOV) at J.Lowther@bham.ac.uk or Professor René Lindstädt (Head of School of Government) at R.Lindstaedt@bham.ac.uk

For further details and to apply, please complete an application and attach your CV and covering letter as follows:

[Chair/Professor](#)

[Associate Professor](#)

Warwickshire County Council

Job title: Insight Analyst (Workforce Analytics)

Date posted: 28/04/2022

Application closing date: 06/06/2022

Location: Warwick

Salary: £32,798 - £35,336 per annum

Working pattern: Permanent

Contractual hours: 37

Basis: Full time



Job Description

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to join Warwickshire County Council's Business Intelligence Team to analyse, interpret and visualise a range of data. This is an exciting opportunity to join a team that provides a critical function to the council, ensuring that we can make evidence-based decisions, we can understand what we are doing well and where we can do better.

The role will help to deliver a programme of business intelligence activity relating primarily to our workforce, through the analysis and interpretation of both contextual and service data. The role is fundamental to ensuring that senior management and commissioners have the best intelligence available to them to support decision making and service delivery.

For further information and to apply, see the [Job Advert](#).

London Borough of Harrow



Job Title: Principal Research and Information Officer

Job Location: Dependent on the Line Manager

(currently home based and at the Harrow Council Hub)

Salary: £39,171 - £43,173

Contract Type: Full-time & permanent

Work Location: Harrow

Hours: 36

Job Description

The Place Services Directorate is looking for a Principal Research and Information Officer to be responsible for the provision of a research and information to the Planning and Economic Development services, as well as broader demographic and census information and analysis for the Council.

The postholder will be responsible for managing the Research and Information function.

The Research and Information function is currently part of the Economic Development Team. It provides a key role in providing information to inform the Council's Local Plan (preparation and monitoring) and broader Council decision making processes. The research function consists of a Principal Research and Information Officer (this post) and a Research and Information Officer.

The function works closely with policy planners, economic development officers and Regeneration. The team has the corporate responsibility for analysing and disseminating census and other demographic data (including preparation of the Harrow Vitality Profiles) and this post serves as the Council's Census Liaison Manager for the Office of National Statistics (ONS).

The team has responsibility for providing planning monitoring information for statutory purposes, as well as the development of databases and procedures to be able to provide statistics and other information to service users across the Council.

All officers are expected to support the continuous improvement and development of the section and the services that are provided by the Economic Development Team.

For more information and to apply, see the [Job Advert](#)

Wigan Council



Job Title: Senior Analyst – Economy & Community

Wealth Building

Salary: £33,486 - £38,553 per annum.

Closing date: 19 June 2022

Department: Customer Transformation

Contract Type: Temporary – 2 years

Work Pattern: Full Time

Hours: 37

We are looking for an experienced, proactive analyst who can help us to transform our approach to data and intelligence within the council's Economy Directorate. You will be experienced in using large datasets to answer questions that inform key strategic decisions and will have a passion for using data to help transform public services. The ideal candidate will be inquisitive, be able to develop creative solutions to problems, and be able to deal with issues that are of an ambiguous nature.

The types of work you are likely to be involved in include:

- Working collaboratively with Council Services and our stakeholders to monitor and evaluate performance within the Work and Skills and Community Wealth Building agendas.
- Constructing detailed evidence bases to inform key planning policy documents
- Working with IT services to develop automated data flows into services
- Supporting research projects with leaders from across the organisation, working to translate data outputs into actionable insights that will have a material impact on service design

The post is part of the Council's Joint Intelligence Unit. As a team we want to help the council, its partners and the voluntary sector to use and own their information to promote ongoing improvement, shared accountability and improve outcomes for our residents in line with The Deal. We do this through a range of methods such as insight, strategic intelligence, business intelligence and evaluation.

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

Are you a Corporate or Full Corporate Member?



Local Area Research + Intelligence Association

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 13th June**

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