



Local Area Research + Intelligence Association

LARIA Newsletter January 2023

LARIA Updates

Happy New Year to all LARIA Members! ...

... although if you are like me, the Christmas break will feel like a long time ago already. In Bury Council we are back full swing into the usual round of business planning ready for budget setting following the Local Government settlement in December.

Once again these are challenging times for decision makers. Working through the implications of inflation, increased demand for services due to rises in the cost of the living and understanding the increased pressures on the health and care system are all placing extra requirements on research and intelligence networks.

Responding to these challenges has prompted reflection in our borough on the extent to which lessons learnt during Covid have been adopted as new ways of working on a permanent basis. From the LARIA awards last year it was clear that the need to work together during the pandemic to provide high quality, integrated insight into our communities had prompted new levels of collaboration and codesign between partners and communities.

This type of work is still what is needed to allow our organisations and wider systems to make effective planning decisions. In Bury we are just starting a re-write of our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and pushing ourselves to carry forward the good practice on information sharing and joint analysis that was achieved during Covid. Even though this is being done at the same time as the creation of new regional forms and functions within health and care, the role of the locality remains significant and it is a helpful reminder of the important local level statutory functions that need to be supported by research and

intelligence professionals.

As such LARIA are working with our sponsor CACI to undertake another survey of our members to look at how the make-up of our membership has changed since we last did a similar exercise in 2019. The survey will also explore some of the priority areas our members are working on, any data challenges associated with that work, and the changing skill requirements, including the use of new technologies.

LARIA Council look forward to reading your feedback and we will of course share the results with you all in due course.

In the meantime enjoy the days getting longer and hopefully a little bit warmer!

Kate Waterhouse

LARIA Chair

News

Data Cymru

CACI income and affordability dashboard

Data Cymru have developed a cost-of-living crisis dashboard. It provides estimates of the affordability of housing and energy costs across Wales.



The dashboard includes income data from the CACI Paycheck dataset, which is a paid-for service. Some local councils do not have a CACI licence, but Data Cymru have received special permission to share this data at the local council geography, given how important a role it can play in understanding the impacts of the cost-of-living crisis. Data is also available at a postcode level for those councils who have a CACI licence.

The dashboard contains three key measures:

- Estimated energy costs as a % of household income

- House prices as a % of household income
- Household income.

As this data is accessed via a CACI licence only, this dashboard isn't publicly available. However, we are looking at ways of extending the analysis and possibly extending the coverage of the data to England. We would like to hear from you; What would you like to see in the tool? Would you welcome a wider geographic coverage? What data do you hold that could be added to the analysis?

Please get in touch with sam.sullivan@data.cymru to discuss further.

GeoPlace

Information governance and supporting vulnerable people



In December, GeoPlace worked with UKAuthority to run two webinars looking at the information governance and data protection issues around sharing data to identify and support vulnerable people. Recordings and write-ups of both webinars are now available:

[UKA Live: Harnessing data to support vulnerable people](#)

[UKA Live: Data, IG and supporting the vulnerable](#)

Interview: sharing data to support vulnerable people in Wales

Welsh Government is using data-driven processes to inform planning and policymaking to support vulnerable people across Wales. To be effective, a multi-agency approach is essential for agility and speed of response. But how do multiple sets of information from multiple organisations link-up to ensure that the most vulnerable get the right support? Getting data protection and information governance right from the outset makes this challenge easier for local public services.

One example of nation-wide data sharing comes from Wales and the JISGO project. GeoPlace spoke to Tony Bracey, Head of Programmes at Welsh Government to understand more about the data sharing challenges. Read our interview with Tony - [Interview: sharing data to support vulnerable people in Wales.](#)

Courses, Training Events and Webinars

UK Data Service

Online workshop: Developing area profiles using Census 2021 data



28 Feb 2023 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Census 2021 will provide demographic, employment, housing and other characteristics about local populations at neighbourhood level. This free online workshop, organised by the UK Data Service, is designed to help you to develop area profiles for your local populations. The presentations will explain the data and geographical scale of what is available and provide a practical session to enable you to develop this into an area profile. The aims of the workshop are to enable participants to be able to:

- Appreciate the geography of local areas and the data that is provided from the census.
- Be able to access, prepare and present census data in tables and charts.
- Appreciate the requirements to prepare data for mapping applications and to combine other area-based information with census data at local area level.

The workshop will use Microsoft Excel software and provide supporting materials to enable participants to develop basic skills in data analysis and reporting the results in charts and tables. The workshop will be based on the data that is available at the time.

[More information and booking](#)

Data Impact Fellows 2023

Are you an early career researcher in the academic or VCSE sector?

Is your research related to one of these themes:

- poverty, deprivation and the cost of living crisis
- housing and/or homelessness?

Does your research use data in the UK Data Service collection?

The [Data Impact Fellows scheme](#) is inviting applications from early career researchers in the academic or VSCE sectors. If you use data from the UK Data Service and your research is related to poverty, the cost of living crisis or housing/homelessness, you could be eligible for an award of £2000 to help fund your development. Apply before 13 March.

Data Cymru

Up and coming 'Inform and Inspire' webinars

Data Cymru host regular webinars as part of their capacity building programme of support:



- [Understanding the Cost-of-Living crisis with data](#) – Thursday 9 February – 12:00 – 13:00
- [Smart towns for smart councils: using data to revitalise Welsh town centres](#) – Thursday 9 March – 12:00 – 13:00
- [Senedd in numbers: making parliamentary data accessible](#) – Thursday 23 March – 12:00 – 13:00

If you've missed any of Data Cymru's webinars, then you can look back at past recordings on the Data Cymru website: [previous recordings](#).

Local Government Association

Census 2021: data for health

People have been describing themselves to government in some form of a census since the early nineteenth century. The census provides information that government needs to develop policies, plan public services and allocate funding. By identifying populations and needs, councils can map this to support in the community and design specific services and target interventions.



In this LGA webinar, we explore how public health teams can best use the latest census data to understand and improve the health of their local populations, including inequalities and the wider determinants of health. Speakers include:

Jennet Woolford, Director of Population Statistics, ONS

Neil Bendel, Public Health Specialist (Health Intelligence), Manchester City Council

David Munday, Deputy Director of Public Health, Oxfordshire County Council

To book, please click here: [Local Government Association](#)

King's College London NIHR Policy Unit in Health & Social Care Workforce Research

King's College London's NIHR Policy Unit in Health & Social Care Workforce Research will be hosting the next online Home Care Research Forum event on **Wednesday 8th Feb 2023**, from 2-4pm.

This is the rescheduled event from November, with presentations from:



Talk 1:

Presenters: Dr Phillip Whitehead & Dr Leigh Rooney, University of Newcastle

Title: A survey of single-handed care initiatives and double handed homecare reviews in English Adult Social Care

Summary: 'Single-handed care' initiatives aim to identify whether all or part of a homecare package involving more than one care worker can be safely reduced to a single worker by a review of double handed homecare. Although anecdotally we know these initiatives are common across local authorities, there is little information on how policies and practices are similar and vary across authorities. We carried out a survey of all local authorities with social care responsibilities in England. This was part of a larger NIHR funded study which also included analysis of documents, interviews with key stakeholders, and developing recommendations and a feasibility study. In this presentation we will report on the findings of the survey to which 76 (50%) local authorities responded. We will present information on number of double handed homecare reviews completed, time taken, staff involved and

review outcomes. We will also present some qualitative analysis of how local authorities frame single-handed care, how they understand its implementation, and how disagreements amongst stakeholders are managed. We will also present the key findings from the other stages of the project and our future research plans.

Talk 2:

Presenter: Thoai 'Lee' Le, University of Nottingham Business School

Title: Human resource management in homecare: Managing people for safe care at the front-line of the pandemic

Summary: Human resource management (HRM) of healthcare organisations plays an important role in improving the continuity of care, managing staff, and ensuring patient safety. Since COVID-19, a growing number of HR-related issues has emerged, creating a significant challenging situation for health and social care institutions. Researchers have explored a number of challenges in HR practices and investigated the responses of care providers to the pandemic. Nevertheless, the majority of these studies tend to focus on the context of hospitals, whereas other care settings such as domiciliary care or homecare have been overlooked. Most studies have also mainly reported the HRM challenges without investigating further about how they can be barriers to care quality and affect the patient safety. Therefore, this study aims to explore the emerging HRM issues that are associated with the patient safety in homecare, and how homecare providers have responded to these HR-related challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please register via Eventbrite, a Zoom link will be sent by email closer to the time of the event: [Home Care Research Forum - 8th Feb 2023, 2-4pm Tickets, Wed 8 Feb 2023 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)

If you would like to present at a future Forum in 2023 please do get in touch. Studies at all stages of the research process welcome.

Jobs

Local Government Association: Senior Research and Data Analysts



The LGA is currently recruiting for two senior research and data analyst posts to work in the [Local Government Association](#) (LGA), for a fixed term until March 2024. One of these is in the Research and Information Team, and one is working for the Cyber, Digital and Technology (CDT) Programme.

In these roles, you will design and deliver surveys and conduct data analysis; commission research; provide data and analytic services for the LGA; and plan and manage the delivery of workstreams or portfolios of research and data projects.

The LGA is a great place to work, and it's really good being involved in a range of projects that support and promote local authorities and help them to improve.

Find further details on the [LGA website](#).

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 [Thursday 23rd February](#).

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 [Thursday 23rd February](#).

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