



Local Area Research + Intelligence Association

LARIA Newsletter March 2023

LARIA Updates

This weekend not only marks the clocks going forward (finally!) but also the three-year anniversary of when the then Prime Minister told us all “you must stay at home”. On the former there’s a definite coming out of hibernation feel to this time of year, which is welcome to see signs of all around us. And on the latter, and after a few false starts throughout 2020, 2021 and for some of 2022, there does finally feel a return to a much more open economy and society.

Over the past few months, my diary has certainly had more face-to-face meetings and events in it, and a return to the sight of full-to-capacity rooms and no empty seats. Closer to home, the LARIA Events Group is now also starting to plan our return to staging in-person events once again. It is unlikely these will totally replace our hugely successful webinar events, as they have worked exceptionally well, and have proved very popular with LARIA members, so we will look to keep these as part of our Events diary.

However, it is time that we also re-introduce opportunities for meeting colleagues and counterparts face-to-face, to provide that valuable and insightful networking time and space – something which has always been a fundamental benefit of being a LARIA member - and continuing to share knowledge and experiences from our work. The first nationwide event is likely to take place in the Autumn, and the Events Group is at the early stage of planning what it will look like and its theme and content. We will, of course, keep you posted as the plans for our in-person regional and national meetings and events as these progress over the coming weeks and months.

Enjoy the Spring!

Andy Davis

LARIA Treasurer

LARIA Webinar Series 2023

LARIA Webinar 5: Last Chance to Book
Wednesday 29th March, 11:00 – 12:30

The logo for Laria, featuring the word "Laria" in a bold, teal, sans-serif font.

Local Area Research + Intelligence Association

Coming up tomorrow in our final webinar of the series:

Developing Data Driven Insights: The Energy Crisis and Census 2021

The Hounslow Data Hub enables residents, community groups and council staff to access data about the borough all in one place. We are committed to turning data into insight and intelligence that supports decision makers. The Hounslow Data Hub helps us do this by bringing internal and external data about the borough into a single easily accessible location and allowing users to look at data in a range of ways.

This session will focus on illustrating how data has helped us to provide an understanding of the needs of Hounslow's population and how services have used this insight for a more targeted approach. Firstly, the session will cover how using Census 2021 data we ensure that more residents are fully represented, where they may not have been before, and how it can support the targeting of services. Following on from this, the session will look at how various datasets such as Energy Performance and CACI income data were combined to provide data-rich insights which guided the London Borough of Hounslow's work to address the energy crisis challenge within the borough, along with wider winter planning. Join this session to find out more about the Hounslow Data Hub and what it has to offer.

Simon Hayes and Leila Akyel, Information Analysts, London Borough of Hounslow

Using Data to Reach Net-Zero: Monitoring Local Authority Emissions

Manchester City Council declared a climate emergency in July 2019 and developed the

five-year Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) setting out its plans to respond to the climate emergency and become a net-zero organisation by 2038. Since then, there has been more discussion on whether this target should be brought forward due to the severity of the situation to the year 2030. The CCAP contains 48 individual actions in 5 workstreams, including buildings and energy, travel and transport, reducing consumption-based emissions and influencing suppliers, adaptation and carbon sequestration and influencing behaviour and being a catalyst for change. The work the Performance, Research and Intelligence (PRI) department does with the Zero Carbon team to monitor emissions has a key role in determining whether MCC is on target to becoming net-zero as well as impacting on decision making which will affect the future policy trajectory of the local authority. The presentation will go into some detail in terms of carbon reporting, challenges we face in terms of data including quality, quantity, and conversion into carbon emissions and how we have worked through these issues.

Ellis Odjidja, Senior Analyst, Liam Read, Analyst, Sophie Sheil, Principal Resources & Programme Officer & Sarah Henshall, Data Assistant, Manchester City Council

Using insights from different data sets to tackle energy poverty

Administrative data held by local authorities can give rich insights into the financial resilience of residents. Policy in Practice is helping councils to directly target support to individual properties using the Low Income Family Tracker platform (LIFT).

Local authorities have the administrative data, but can lack the time or resources to pull the relevant insights from within it. By analysing their data, LIFT gives councils insights on household income including earnings, benefits, investments and tenancy types. Using this data, councils can see at a glance which households may be struggling financially.

Adding supplemented data to this can produce further, more specific, insights. EPC data can be cross-referenced against scheme eligibility criteria to identify households who are eligible for grants and missing out.

We will discuss:

- How utilising administrative data can give insights into the least financially resilient households in the area
- How these insights can help to identify eligible households with targeted take-up campaigns

- How working with the LIFT platform brings in results quickly by comparison to starting a campaign from scratch
- The ease in which this work can be replicated by councils

Paul Garlick, Policy in Practice & Laura Stoker, Lambeth Council

[Click here](#) to book your place.

SAVE THE DATE

LARIA's One Day Conference & Awards

We're pleased to announce that we will be holding our first face-to-face conference since 2019 on Thursday 16th November 2023 at the LGA Offices:

Local Government Association
18 Smith Square
Westminster
London
SW1P 3HZ

More information coming soon.....

News

Enventure Research

20 years of providing valuable resident and stakeholder insight to support council decision making



Enventure Research celebrates a significant milestone this month – 20 years of successfully working with local authorities and other public sector bodies delivering research and consultation projects!

Recent resident surveys for Cornwall Council and Sandwell Council, which included some of the Local Government Association's 'Are You Being Served?' benchmarking questions, provided the local authorities with valuable insight for service planning and decision making.

In Merseyside, Wirral Council has recently re-structured its library services following a comprehensive consultation with residents and stakeholders about library services.

In Yorkshire, Wakefield Council has appointed Enventure Research to undertake its second research project around the markets, looking at usage, improvements, and marketing to continue and build upon the increasing footfall.

Resident satisfaction with services and views on Manchester City Council have been tracked for several years through a quarterly tracking survey delivered by Enventure Research, providing the City Council with ongoing insight that is used to make service delivery planning decisions.

To coincide with celebrating 20 years, Enventure Research has launched a new website. To find out more information about local authority research and consultation projects and to read the relevant case studies, please [click here](#).



GeoPlace

Identifying the wider determinants of health



Researchers at the Clinical Effectiveness Group, at Queen Mary University of London, are using UPRNs to link de-identified (or pseudonymised) data on 'people' and 'places,' to inform powerful health research and better location-based care. Find out more at [Identifying the wider determinants of health | Case Studies | Ordnance Survey](#). There will be a session focussing on health research and placed based care at the [GeoPlace conference in May](#). Speakers include:

- Ming Tang, Chief Data and Analytics Officer, NHS England
- Rob Shaw, Head of Forecasting, Analytical Services, Data, Analysis & Intelligence Service, NHS England
- Dr Gill Harper, Honorary post-doctoral Research Fellow in Health data Science, Clinical Effectiveness Group, Wolfson Institute of Population Health, Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London
- Dr Nick Watkins, Deputy Director – Data Science & Geospatial and Chief Data Scientist, UK Health Security Agency

UPRN: a golden thread for housing associations

The challenges faced by housing associations range from providing good quality, affordable housing to the all-important need to meet fire and safety regulations, to aspirations regarding net zero and a transition to cleaner, greener housing provision. When analysis and data sharing can be delivered with confidence, providers can work more efficiently and in return deliver better services for residents. UPRNs have been the golden thread that makes this possible for Halton Housing Association. Find out more at [Improving social housing | UPRN](#).

The Improvement Service

As part of the Data Task Force in Scotland, the Localities Profiling Group is seeking to develop a common framework for undertaking profiling of areas within local authorities. This will include identifying useful datasets, setting standards, and sharing best practice to help improve the overall quality and effectiveness of these profiles.



As a first step of this work, we are seeking your input on how you use data to understand your local areas. We are running a short survey about the tools and data you use for locality profiling within your council and how useful you find these. We're also interested in any future plans or developments you would like to put in place. The survey should take around 5 to 10 minutes to complete and closes on the 14th of April. You can access the survey using this link: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/B517NA/>

The future of population statistics: looking ahead to the ONS consultation



In recent months the ONS have published a range of research into how we can use administrative data as part of any future population statistics system. In February we published [research](#) where we used the dynamic population model (DPM) to produce admin-based population estimates (ABPEs) for all local authorities in England and Wales. We also published [a comparison of the official mid-2021 population estimates for England and Wales – based on Census 2021 data – with the estimate rolled forward since 2011 Census](#).

All of this research forms part of our ongoing ambition to deliver more frequent, timely and relevant population statistics to better meet user needs. From this summer we will be holding a consultation where we will ask for feedback on this from users of our data. In the meantime, we welcome any feedback about the above publications or about our wider

research and plans around population statistics. Please [email us](#) with any feedback or if you'd like to discuss in more detail.



STRANGE BEAST
A Creative Studio



Health inequalities for people with learning disabilities: Primary Care access and Annual Health Checks

People with a learning disability tend to have worse physical and mental health than the general population. On average, the life expectancy for someone with a learning disability is 27 years shorter for women and girls and 23 years shorter for men and boys (Learning Disabilities Mortality Review, 2019). Good quality healthcare and effective access to Primary Care services are key to tackle such inequalities.

As some health problems experienced by people with a learning disability are simple to treat once diagnosed, a GP can often prevent a serious health condition with early identification. To this effect, an Annual Health Check is offered to anyone aged 14 or over who is on their GP's learning disability register. This tool allows the person with a learning disability to have a free Annual Health Check once a year to help them stay well, detect conditions at an early stage, and ensure they get the right care at the right time.

Despite the introduction of Annual Health Checks and widespread efforts of the Healthcare community to address health inequalities among people with learning disability, issues and barriers to accessing care remain.

As part of the work to improve the health and care services offered to residents, Surrey Heartlands Health and Care Partnership (SHHCP) carried out a research project looking at the barriers in accessing Primary Care for people with a learning disability and their families, with the resulting insights informing the production of an [animated video](#) aimed to raise awareness of health inequalities for this group, especially for professionals working in Primary Care.

In this study, Researchers from Surrey Heartlands partnered with The Sunnybank Trust, a Surrey-based learning disability charity, to explore, through accounts of people with a learning disability and their families, what barriers to accessing Primary Care they have faced, specifically drawing out the experiences of patients around Annual Health Checks.

The short film produced off the back of this project offers a starting point for action and discussion around the positive changes that can be made to improve access to Primary Care, and address health inequalities for people with learning disabilities. The project features the voices and real-life experiences of those with a learning disability, echoing the participation principle of “Nothing about us, without us”.

You can read more about this research on the Surrey heartlands website [Health inequalities for people with learning disabilities - ICS \(surreyheartlands.org\)](https://www.surreyheartlands.org/health-inequalities-for-people-with-learning-disabilities-ics).

We recognise all the people who work in Primary Care for the important service they provide, often under difficult conditions. There are small but important changes that can be made to support people with a learning disability. These are called reasonable adjustments.

The resources below can help you to make the adjustments needed to support people with a learning disability using healthcare services.

- [Surrey County Council Learning Disability and Autism Hub](#)
- [NHS England reasonable adjustments](#)
- [NHS England annual health checks](#)
- [Reasonable adjustments for people with a learning disability](#)

If you'd like to know more, or have any questions, please contact:

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Courses, Training Events and Webinars

Geo Place

GeoPlace annual conference 2023



This year's GeoPlace annual conference will take place online on 10th and 11th May. This year's conference promises to be a fantastic event with a range of engaging experts who will share their knowledge and experiences on thoughtful sessions such as:

- Location, location, location: data to improve housing and property
- Climate change – improving our progress
- Household energy: developing data driven insights to inform policy
- Protecting our population, improving health
- Extraordinary transformation for ordinary services
- Street Naming & Numbering and the lifecycle of streets & addresses
- Products & services to help local government
- The year ahead

Speakers are from government, the private sector and from local government who will all outline how they use address and street data – UPRNs and USRNs - to drive transformation, identify where to deliver services to and how to approach some of the most challenging issues for public services.

Day one of the conference focuses on these challenges and solutions whilst day two has a deeper focus on the processes around managing address and street data as well identifying and dealing with the property and street lifecycles. After all, GeoPlace receives circa 1,800,000 changes per month!

To view the full agenda and list of speakers, please visit our [conference pages](#). [Register here](#) and join us for a stimulating and informative conference, where you'll gain valuable

insights, expand your network, and discover new ways to leverage the power of address and street intelligence.

Last year we had over 1,000 registrations for the conference. Don't miss out, come and join us for this exciting event. We look forward to seeing you there!

Create your own Census 2021 datasets



On March 28 an exciting new phase of Census 2021 outputs begins as the ONS launches the [flexible table builder](#), also known as the 'create a custom dataset' tool. For the first time, this will allow users to look for interactions between topics which are important to them and build their own datasets. We have explained a bit more about this and our upcoming census publications in this [blog](#).

To help users understand the create a custom dataset tool we'll be demonstrating how it works with two events during the week it is launched. You can find out more and register via the links below:

[Session one: Introduction to the flexible table builder, Wednesday 29 March, 11am-12pm.](#)

[Session two: Deep dive to the flexible table builder, Thursday 30 March, 11am-12pm.](#)

Jobs

Data roles in Downing Street



Cabinet Office

We have an open recruitment campaign for a data scientist and a data engineer to join us in the Prime Minister's Office at 10 Downing Street, using data science and analytical expertise to tackle the most pressing problems of our time. These are demanding and intellectually stimulating roles, providing an unparalleled opportunity to combine specialist technical skills with an ability to influence the most powerful decision makers in the country, including the Prime Minister.

We welcome applications from talented people from all backgrounds to join our team at No10, and believe these roles may be of interest to analysts currently employed in local government roles. More details of the jobs available and the application process can be found here:

[Data scientist](#)

[Data engineer](#)

The application window closes on 3rd April.

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 [Friday 21st April](#).

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 [Friday 21st April](#).

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