



Local Area Research + Intelligence Association

LARIA Newsletter October 2024

LARIA Updates

Regional Superstars, LARIA Needs You!



Local Area Research + Intelligence Association

LARIA regional representatives are an essential link between LARIA members and the LARIA Council. We are actively looking for individuals who can take up this role in the following regions:

1. LARIA Wales
2. LARIA North West
3. LARIA North East
4. LARIA South East
5. LARIA East Midlands
6. LARIA South West

A regional LARIA representative is responsible for organising and leading LARIA Activity in their area. Working with other LARIA members, they are responsible for:

1. Leading the local activity and organising events (if appropriate and practical)
2. Interaction with local LARIA members
3. Promoting LARIA locally
4. Proactively seeking out and helping potential LARIA members

5. Reporting activities to local members, other regional reps and to the LARIA Council
6. Building a network of volunteers, in particular supporting those who may be interested in becoming the regional rep in the future or taking part in other LARIA activities including joining the LARIA Council

If you are interested in becoming involved with a LARIA regional group please get in touch with [Gerallt Evans-Hughes](#), MD Global 1-Digital Insight and Chair of LARIA CPD Events Group, LARIA Council Member and LARIA Trustee.

LARIA One Day Conference
Tuesday 26 November 2024
Local Government Association



Registration is now open for the One Day Conference: We are not alone: artificial intelligence and data science – friend or foe?

In Partnership with



Conference Supported by



[Download Full Programme](#)

For further information and to book your place, visit our [website](#). Please note, limited places are available.

News

Transform your community experiences with enhanced, reliable data



Transforming your community experience starts with trustworthy data. However, many organisations still encounter challenges with data quality that impede their ability to leverage data effectively.

With [CACI's DataHub platform](#) you can enhance your services and communications strategies by ensuring your data is of a high-quality through:

- **Data cleansing:** deduplicated and standardised data with a consistent identifier for each resident.
- **Identity resolution:** seamlessly integrate data points from across your organisation, to create a single view of each resident.
- **Data Enrichment:** enhance your resident profiles with additional demographic insights, gaining a deeper understanding of their needs.

This improved data quality enables you to **create and deliver tailored experiences**, enhancing resident engagement with local services by delivering the services your residents need, and communicating with them with meaningful messaging via the most suitable channels.

If you're interested in discovering how [DataHub](#) can enhance your data to improve your community engagement strategy, [please get in touch today](#).

**Specialist Centre for Public Health
award over £1.5M in LARP funding to
34 local authorities in first year!**

NIHR | Research
Support Service

On 1 October 2023, NIHR RSS Specialist Centre for Public Health (SCPH) delivered by Newcastle University and Partners was commissioned for five years. We are delighted to confirm that in our first year we have agreed funding for 34 Local Authority Research Practitioners (LARPs), worth over £1.5 million, from our January and July funding calls.

One of SCPHs key objectives is to provide support and resources for local authorities to identify opportunities for public health research and develop the ability to initiate research. LARPs are dedicated to facilitating research and supporting the development of research governance systems and processes, enabling public health research to happen within local authorities and the communities they serve.

Professor Ashley Adamson, Director of the Specialist Centre for Public Health delivered by Newcastle University and Partners said: "The Local Authority Research Practitioners have a key role to play in facilitating research and research governance in their local authorities.

“I am delighted that in our first year we have agreed funding for 34 LARPs, to ensure we support and foster the research culture in local authorities. This is just the first step in the support we will offer over the coming months and years.”

Ann Hartley, Public Health and Communities - Executive Director at Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council added: “We applied for LARP funding to allow us to have a role dedicated to working within Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council to harness the power of research. When they are appointed, they will identify what research is taking place; where the gaps and priorities are; connect departments with opportunities for research funding and support the upskilling of colleagues in research skills. It was an opportunity for funding that we couldn't afford to miss.”

Congratulations to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, Brighton and Hove City Council, Bristol City Council, Camden Council, Central Bedfordshire Council, Darlington Borough Council, Derbyshire County Council, Devon County Council, East Sussex County Council, Hampshire County Council, Hartlepool Borough Council, Kent County Council, Lancashire County Council, Leicester City Council, Lincolnshire County Council, Norfolk County Council, North Somerset Council, Nottingham City Council, Oxfordshire County Council, Sheffield City Council, Slough Borough Council, South Gloucestershire Council, South Tyneside Borough Council, Southwark Council, Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council, Sunderland City Council, Torbay Council, Westmorland and Furness Council, West Northamptonshire Council, West Sussex County Council, Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council, and Wirral Council.

The next LARP call opens on 14 November and closes at 5pm on Wednesday 15 January 2025. A webinar will be held on Thursday 21 November, so if you're interested in finding out more about LARP funding, [sign up to receive an invite to the webinar](#).

NIHR RSS Specialist Centre for Public Health delivered by Newcastle University and Partners

If you have any queries, please email nihr.rss.publichealth@newcastle.ac.uk

**Funding opportunity from NIHR RSS
Specialist Centre for Public Health -
Public Health Engagement Leads (PHELs)**



Opportunity for colleagues working in local authorities to apply for funding (0.1FTE) for an initial period of 24months (with the potential to extend) to be a PHEL.

This call is open to colleagues across all local authorities in England, including NIHR Health Determinants Research Collaborations (HDRCs). Those in the devolved nations should speak with relevant funders to explore similar opportunities.

Applications are now being accepted to fund a Public Health Engagement Lead (PHEL).

The vision for the PHEL role is to facilitate connections between local authorities, HDRC's, LARPs and the SCPH by promoting the value of being a research active organisation. We see these posts as being an opportunity to advocate for and develop partnership work in order to build stronger links with appropriate expertise and infrastructure. Given the nature of these roles, it is not expected that there will be any operational responsibilities, the PHEL is simply expected to connect, promote and advocate for research across their geographical area.

Before applying, you will need to read the [PHEL role description, application guidance](#) and [download the application form](#).

To apply, please complete the application form and submit by email to NIHR.RSS.PublicHealth@newcastle.ac.uk by 5pm on Friday 25 October 2024.

This funding is provided by the NIHR RSS Specialist Centre for Public Health (SCPH) delivered by Newcastle University and partners.

Established in October 2023, and based in Newcastle and Southampton, the SCPH provides national research support for public health research happening outside the NHS. Funded for five years, the aim is to support the creation of high-quality research evidence needed to inform policy and practice to improve public health and reduce inequalities.

If you have any specific queries, please contact the SCPH Newcastle team on the above email address.

[Application guidance](#)

[Supporting information](#)

[Application form](#)

Using UPRNs to link housing data and support a data community



[Local Digital is at the early stages of a project](#) to transform the social housing

sector. A significant aspect involves exploring the data challenges faced by the social housing sector and the way that data is used. GeoPlace has responded underscoring how the data standards developed by local authorities for land and property could be particularly useful in addressing these data challenges.

Examples include:

- [Halton Housing Association](#)
- [Damp and mould management in the London Borough of Hackney](#)
- [Riverside Housing Association](#)
- [Safer housing - managing privately rented accommodation in Nottingham](#)

The implications for vulnerability support, maintenance scheduling and resident welfare are significant. When housing teams can confidently link their datasets, they can deliver better, more targeted services to residents.

[Find out more here.](#)

Courses, Training Events and Webinars

We are pleased to invite you to the [ONS Local Workshop: Data Maturity Assessments in Local Government](#), an online session dedicated to enhancing data maturity within local authorities. Thursday, 7 November · 09:30 AM – 10:30 PM
Join Kate Cooper, Programme Manager of the Data and Transparency programme at the Local Government Association (LGA) and Angela Lawrence, Head of Data at Surrey County Council, to hear about the value of data maturity assessments in

local government. Kate will provide an overview of the [LGA's data maturity self-assessment tool](#), which is available to councils free of charge as part of the LGA's improvement support to the sector. Councils can use this light-touch tool to assess their data maturity, plan next steps and access further support including small peer group sessions facilitated by the LGA.

The speakers will also discuss why it is beneficial for councils to undertake a data maturity assessment, and how councils can use their results to drive change.

Angela will provide reflections and practical examples from Surrey County Council, which has been using the tool to inform and monitor a significant programme of work to become a data enabled council. This event is open to all; however, we anticipate it will be of most interest to anyone working at a local level on the strategic use of data.

In addition to this, councils who complete [the tool](#) by mid-December will be invited to join a data maturity panel that brings together a group of data professionals in councils in a similar position to discuss ideas and peer feedback.



Home Care Research Forum

Registration is now open to book your place on November's Home Care Research Forum, organised by the NIHR Policy Research Unit in Health and Social Care Workforce Research. We will be welcoming Professor Bryony Beresford (University of York), and Dr Kalpa Kharicha (King's College London) as our guest speakers.

This Forum will be held [online](#) on **Wednesday 20th November**, from **2-4pm**.

Presentation titles:

Talk 1 - Dr Kalpa Kharicha (King's College London): International recruitment of care workers: implications for homecare.

Talk 2 - Professor Bryony Beresford (University of York): UK homecare providers' views about, and experiences of, digital care management systems.

Eventbrite booking link: [Home Care Research Forum - 20th Nov 2024, 2-4pm Tickets, Wed 20 Nov 2024 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)

We look forward to seeing you there!

A Zoom link to join the event will be sent closer to the time.

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 Thursday 21st November.

Are you a Corporate or Full Corporate Member?

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

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 Thursday 21st November.

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