

Data Unit update – WSLC October 2017

Data Unit: Strategic Plan 2017-21

The new municipal term and other changes to the public service landscape, provide a timely opportunity for us to consider the future strategic direction of the Unit. Over the Summer we have developed a new draft strategic plan which will provide the direction and focus for our work for the period 2017-21. We have considered what we should and shouldn't be doing, and how we can maximise the value we add. The draft report was shared with our Board in September, with publication of a final version planned for early in the new year.

We intend to seek the views of wider stakeholders in the coming weeks. In the meantime, if you have any thoughts or ideas about the future direction of our work, or would like to have a conversation about the review, we'd be pleased to hear from you – please contact [Andrew Stephens](#).

Regional skills partnerships

We continue to support the work of the three regional skills partnerships through their data observatories. We have recently added further Labour Market Intelligence data highlighted by Welsh Government to the systems, which have supported this year's planning process.

Where possible we are supporting a consistent approach across Wales to the evidence base used and managed by the partnerships.

For further information please contact [Chris Perkins](#).

Local authority performance

We recently published the 2016-17 performance measures for local authorities in Wales. Data for 2016-17 shows that performance has improved for 64% of comparable performance indicators compared to 2015-16. The gap in performance (between the best and worst performing authorities) has also narrowed for over half of the indicators.

We are currently refining the dataset for 2018-19. We are working with policy leads at the WLGA and national networks to develop new measures and will be consulting on these changes in December. The 2018-19 Public Accountability Measures guidance will be published in February 2018.

For further information please contact [Suzanne Draper](#).

National Intelligence Event 2018

Following on from the positive feedback received from our 2017 event held in March, we have begun to consider topics for next year's event. We hope to confirm a date and theme over the coming weeks.

Further details of the 2017 event, including links to the presentations are available on our [website](#).

Population and well-being assessments

We continue to support several areas as they progress to area and well-being plans with both the collation and presentation of data to understand emerging themes and objectives.

To further support the process, and to ensure the assessments are accessible and underpin the planning currently taking place, we have begun working with several regions on developing online tools. These will transform the paper documents into online pages that offer an interactive assessment supported by the base data. They will also keep the data in the assessments 'live' and make the development of future assessments less burdensome.

For further information please contact [Chris Perkins](#).

Cardiff Capital Region City Deal - Understanding the region's towns

The City Deal wants to gain a better understanding of the characteristics of towns and communities in the region, both to inform investment decisions and, over time, understand the impact of its work. We have been asked to support a pilot exercise to develop an initial profile for a small number of towns.

We will want to liaise with both national and local 'experts' on this work, particularly around the development of a common geographical definition for the towns and the data which might be used.

For further information please contact [Andrew Stephens](#).