

## Welsh Statistical Liaison Committee

A National Statistics Joint Consultative Committee  
Minutes of meeting held on 8 June 2017  
Rhufoniog Room, Llandudno Junction

### Attendees

<b>Llandudno Junction</b>			
Janine	Edwards	JE	Conwy County Borough Council
Sue	Leake	SL	Welsh Government (WG) – Chair
Gwynfor	Owen	GO	Translator – Geiriau Gwyn
Gwyndaf	Parry	GP	Social Care Wales
Chris	Philips	CP	Flintshire County Council
Jamie	Thorburn	JT	Ceredigion County Council
Nia	Jones	NJ	Gwynedd Council
<b>VC Cathays Park</b>			
Richard	Cardwell	RC	Natural Resources Wales
Leanne	John	LJ	City and County of Swansea
Glyn	Jones	GJ	Welsh Government
Steve	King	SK	City and County of Swansea
Jenny	Murphy	JM	Data Unit Wales
Nicole	Scully	NS	Minute Taker – Welsh Government
Steffan	Williams	SR	Translator
Craigier	Solomons	CS	Speaker – Welsh Government
Gemma	Christian	GC	Speaker – Welsh Government
Gareth	Hall	GH	Speaker – Welsh Government
David	Thomas	DT	Speaker – Welsh Government
<b>Skype (Disconnected due to background noise)</b>			
Lesley	Rees	LR	Carmarthenshire County Council

### Apologies

Karen	Armstrong	Flintshire County Council
Philip	Barlow	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park
Sioned	Cardew-Richardson	Estyn
Lee	Clarke	Cardiff City Council
Chris	Clarke	Torfaen County Borough Council
Hugo	Cosh	Public Health Wales
Brett	Davis	South Wales Police
Vicki	Doyle	Caerphilly County Borough Council
Jill	Edge	Monmouthshire County Council
Neville	Evans	Isle of Anglesey County Council
Rhys	Fidler	Data Unit Wales
Alan	Jackson	Welsh Government
Martin	Jennings	Assembly Commission

Nia	Jones	Welsh Government
Helen	Jones	Welsh Government
Paul	Jones	Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
Sarah	Jones	Health Inspectorate Wales
Gretel	Leeb	Speaker – Welsh Government
Ann-Marie	McCafferty	Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Geraint	Morgan	Powys County Borough
Shân	Morris	North Wales Fire Service
Yuan	Shen	Bridgend County Borough Council
Andrew	Stephens	Data Unit Wales
Kim	Swain	Welsh Government
Holly	Walsh	Public Health Wales Observatory
Russell	Watts	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Andy	Wilson	Torfaen County Borough Council
Lowri	Wyn Francis	Gwynedd Council

<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome, Introductions &amp; Apologies</b>	
	SL opened the meeting and welcomed the VC from Cardiff (which has been done for the first time at this meeting). LR (Skype) left meeting due to background noise issues.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Note of last meeting &amp; Update on action points (WSLC 2016/10)</b>	
	<p>Update on actions had been provided. Actions discussed:</p> <p>Action 2: StatsWales training: proposed to do webinar in September</p> <p>Action 3: Close</p> <p>Action 4: SL reported that this has not been actioned yet</p> <p>Action 11: NJ tried to use maps and it didn't work when changing from English to Welsh</p> <p>Action 12: There was a workshop with five LAs recently, GJ will update when feedback is available</p> <p>NJ asked for an update on the housing conditions survey at next meeting.</p>	<p><b>Action: GJ to propose date for StatsWales webinar</b></p> <p><b>Action: Secretariat to add housing conditions update to the next agenda</b></p> <p><b>Action: NJ to send note on the issues encountered with mapping on the WISERD geoportal</b></p> <p><b>Action: GJ to contact CP/RC and talk through the SAIL Data Appliance technology</b></p>
<b>3</b>	<b>Review of Information papers</b>	
	<p><b>Welsh Government Statistics Newsletter</b></p> <p>GJ summarised the WG Statistics newsletter, including particular discussion on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future trends report published</li> <li>• Housing conditions evidence programme update by SL. Welsh Housing Conditions Survey ongoing throughout 2017/2018,</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action: GJ to ask policy groups if they had undertaken research on the provision of affordable housing in new builds</b></p>

	<p>results expected from mid 2018. Initial fuel poverty results expected Dec 2018. Discussions followed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SK asked about frequency of future WIMD updates following 2019. No decision has yet been taken but frequency of Well-being plans likely to be taken into account.</li> </ul> <p><b>Demography Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SL provided update</li> <li>JE asked if everyone had an update on the NHS Administrative Register (NHSAR) data. JM updated and said it's now called the Welsh Demographic Service (WDS) data and it is being discontinued in England</li> </ul> <p><b>Data Unit Update:</b> JM updated on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population and well being assessments</li> <li>Performance data which is coming out in August / September</li> <li>Regional Skills Partnerships</li> <li>Dewis Cymru. GJ asked if this can have an API / open data service</li> <li>Local Area Research &amp; Intelligence Association (LARIA) one day conference, Andrew Stephens wanted to know if anybody wanted to work together for a paper</li> </ul> <p><b>National Survey update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SL drew attention to the short reports published about the factors that drive some of the national indicators. She confirmed that along with other uses the National Survey will be used to monitor a number of the national indicators.</li> <li>GJ said that every indicator will not be updated annually in the National Survey.</li> </ul>	<p><b>compared to need</b></p> <p><b>Action: JM to give update to Welsh Sub-National Population Projections (WASP) group</b></p> <p><b>Action: JM to look into WDS data and confirm if any changes for Wales as a result of changes to NHSAR process</b></p> <p><b>Action: All: Provide views on the Data Unit's strategic plan</b></p> <p><b>Action: JM to see if Dewis Cymru includes an API or open data service</b></p> <p><b>Action: JE/All to tell GJ/SL if strong requirements for questions to be included in the National Survey for 2018-19</b></p>
4	<b>Travel Speed update</b>	<b>Craig Solomons, Welsh Government</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CS updated that average travel speed statistics, focusing on Welsh motorways, was published on 17 May 2017. Used methods similar to DfT. Used GPS data from cars and split by schooldays / non-schooldays. Also split the data by LA.</li> <li>Data could be used for policy monitoring of motorway and trunk road network</li> <li>LAs can have data in a raw data form. Data available for all Wales not just South Wales LAs. Transport engineers have also requested</li> <li>A number of issues were raised such as seasonal variation and understanding of the impact of roadworks.</li> <li>JE asked if these are going to be linked in to the North Wales Economic Ambition Board</li> <li>GJ commented on managing expectations as the type of data being used is a huge data set, requiring people with the right skills and the appropriate processing power to run the full data set. He mentioned the work of the ONS Data Science Campus in Newport.</li> <li>GJ indicated that someone has been accepted on the data science accelerator programme from the WG to look at this</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action: All: To consider ideas for collaborations with Cardiff University and ONS data science campus particularly as big transport data sets are available</b></p> <p><b>Action: CS to circulate links to Vehicle Speeds on Welsh motorways</b></p>

	data set	
<b>5</b>	<b>Evidence Plan</b>	<b>Glyn Jones</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GJ updated that the evidence plan will be published in August</li> <li>July – Wellbeing report published</li> <li>Policy analysis internally to support Brexit and Welsh Valleys Taskforce</li> <li>Welsh language – work to one million Welsh speakers target Link Census data to National Survey for Wales. Martin Parry doing analysis on why some people say they speak Welsh on National Survey and not on Census</li> <li>April – Power BI dashboard on NHS performance</li> <li>Data published for the first time on mental wellbeing and healthy lifestyles for children for the first time</li> <li>Housing and Environment – Seeking to get national statistics badge back on the homelessness statistics</li> <li>Social Justice and Equality – plans for WIMD in place, plans to develop child poverty data. Expanding data on sexual identity in Wales 2015-16. Grasslands fire data published – challenged on timeliness versus analysis. Will be amending timetable in future.</li> <li>Agriculture and Rural Stats – StatsWales cubes for agriculture to be published in July. JE asked if StatsWales cubes will replace the survey results as survey results have previously been suppressed at LA level. School Stats – Change in curriculum – how will this affect the data. Increase availability on StatsWales. JE asked if the data will include how individual people are doing rather than year on year changes. Answered no not at the moment. A question was raised by CP concerning the Data Unit performance measure on pupils leaving with no qualifications and whether this was of continued relevance</li> <li>Tourism Survey: What is going on with Visit Wales and their programme and how do results feed into STEAM?</li> <li>It was suggested it would be helpful to discuss any updates on zero hours contracts, benefits data, and Universal Credit at the next meeting</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action: GJ to circulate slides on Evidence plan with WSLC minutes</b></p> <p><b>Action: All: provide feedback on agriculture StatsWales cubes when published</b></p> <p><b>Action: JM to raise the issues concerning the education Performance and Accountability Measures (PAMs) and feedback to CP.</b></p> <p><b>Action: SL and GJ to investigate links between Tourism Survey and STEAM with Visit Wales and feedback to the group</b></p> <p><b>Action: Secretariat to include agenda item on welfare reform data including zero hours contract</b></p>
<b>6</b>	<b>National Development Framework (NDF)</b>	<b>Gemma Christian and Gareth Hall, Welsh Government</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GC and GH provided an update on the NDF (Slides were provided)</li> <li>The consultation on the Integrated Sustainability Assessment Scoping Report for the NDF is ongoing. It's a completely open process and all data used is available. They are looking for feedback on the approach and whether there is any other data they should use.</li> <li>Spring 2018: Issues and options for NDF to be published</li> <li>JE expressed concerns about the process and asked and number of questions about the dataset?</li> <li>CP commented on the lack of funding in Flintshire and taking on more research work. This led to discussions about NDF in relation to capacity and deliverability</li> <li>JT queried if the NDF is a top-down approach. RC said that</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action: NDF team to circulate links to NDF consultation</b></p> <p><b>Action: JE /All to send questions/thoughts on the NDF to the NDF team</b></p> <p><b>Action: All: Sign up to the NDF newsletter if they wish</b></p>

	<p>National Resources Wales organisation have prepared a response to the consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JE suggested it had been a missed opportunity not to have involved land use planners in the development of the future trends report.</li> </ul>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Digital Economy Bill Update</b>	<b>Glyn Jones</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GJ provided an update</li> <li>• Digital Economy Act was passed by Parliament in Spring 2017.</li> <li>• Codes of practice for each strand are to be developed</li> <li>• Operable by the end of 2017/early 2018</li> <li>• Following an enquiry about whether the Act limited the protection of data, GJ responded that it only provides a legal gateway to share the data and data protection needs to continue to be adhered to.</li> <li>• There were comments on the operational challenges of implementing the data sharing and the ability/capacity of authorities to be able to make use of and analyse any large datasets</li> </ul>	<b>Action: GJ to provide the Digital Economy Act paper</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>2017 Census Test</b>	<b>Glyn Jones</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GJ updated that the 2017 Census test was complete</li> <li>• Update from Powys: raised awareness of the test on social media etc. and they had above average response rates</li> <li>• Online Census – much higher than normal calls to the helpline</li> <li>• Very low numbers of responses in the Welsh Language</li> <li>• 2021 census – four regional roadshows from the ONS over summer</li> <li>• ONS have looked at flexible and dynamic ways of disseminating the data for the 2021 Census. They are trying to have interactive tables to build Census tables themselves</li> <li>• Alpha system has been piloted from the ONS and the differences in data numbers has been fed back</li> <li>• 20 June 2017- annual assessment of progress for admin data published</li> </ul>	<b>Action: Secretariat: 2017 Census test to be added to the next meeting agenda.</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Well being update</b>	<b>Glyn Jones and David Thomas, Welsh Government</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GJ spoke about the annual well being report</li> <li>• Expected to be published second half of July, 46 national indicators will be published after the National Survey results are available</li> <li>• “Well being of Wales” will be an interactive report that will be updated throughout the year GJ showed the website and the Power BI report and demonstrated the interactive dissemination tool</li> <li>• DT updated on the Welsh Government Future Trends report (presentation / notes available) that was published on 5 May 2017.</li> <li>• DT stated that the future trends report is just the beginning of the reporting process, and work is now proceeding to create a resource for PSBs to utilise when preparing their Wellbeing Plans. As part of that, Welsh Government is using the Connect</li> </ul>	<b>Action: All: advise on who it would be helpful for DT to engage with on development of future trends reporting</b>

	<p>system to collate future trend related material and is asking PSBs to contribute any relevant data or reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governance will be set up by Autumn 2017 to ensure that what comes next is developed with support of the public sector, for the public sector</li> <li>• There was a discussion on the development of future trends reporting; DT was asked whether local well being assessments were read and how the data can be collated to make it relevant for LAs and not just an all Wales level.</li> <li>• DT indicated the aim is to improve the analysis of the trends, through academic support if possible. Longer term, the wish is to have an online system for future trends reporting that would enable users to run scenarios and have better access to data, both at a national and local level.</li> <li>• Some members indicated that they were disappointed with the future trends report, as it has not delivered what had been expected. A view was also expressed that the report was looking in the past and not to the future</li> <li>• DT commented that the initial future trends report had to use the data that was available. The report's key function is to highlight the main future trends for policy makers and therefore needs to draw on and interpret other sources of data. Its key value is therefore to compare data from across the range of social, economic, environmental and cultural trends and encourages the reader to make connections. To be able to do this, it must call upon national and local data, and efforts are now underway to be able to integrate local data.</li> <li>• Discussions were held on whether there will be disruptions to the trends, are these taken into account? Political / technology / climate change, how will these affect the trends? DT responded that the initial report does start to introduce influencing factors that may affect the trends, but as yet, due to time pressures, no detailed analysis was included. DT acknowledged that the report needs to include trends analysis and scenario building and this will be key to its development and usefulness. Work is underway to identify the resources needed to progress this work.</li> <li>• Members considered how they could provide advice and expertise to help the process move forward and were encouraged to provide relevant contacts to DT.</li> </ul>	
10	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next meeting is 5 October 2017 in Cathays Park. Agenda to include housing conditions work and Census update, paper of welfare reform / benefits, stats bulletin / feedback on Census update</li> <li>• An update on the Data Science Campus would be useful at a future meeting</li> <li>• SK reminded members that access to the BRES labour market data will be more limited in future.</li> <li>• Positive feedback for first VC meeting as it reduces travel. Issues with sound need to be ironed out and position of camera. Skype aspect needs more work</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action: Make Wellbeing of Future Generations a standing item in the agenda.</b></p> <p><b>Action: SK to circulate note on future access to BRES labour market data.</b></p> <p><b>Action: Secretariat to include VC question</b></p>

on feedback questionnaire.

No.	Summary of Action Points	Status	
1.	Propose date for StatsWales webinar	GJ	
2.	Add housing conditions update to the next meeting.	Secretariat	Completed
3.	Send note on the issues encountered with mapping on the WISERD geo-portal	NJ	
4.	Contact CP/RC and talk through the SAIL Appliance technology	GJ	
5.	Ask policy groups if they had undertaken research on the provision of affordable housing in new builds compared to need	GJ	
6.	Look into WDS data and confirm if any changes for Wales as a result of changes to NHSAR processes	JM	
7.	Provide views on the Data Unit strategic plan when available	All	
8.	Can Dewis Cymru include an API or open data service?	JM	
9.	Tell GJ/SL if there are any strong requirements for questions to be included in the National Survey for 2018-19	JE / All	
10.	Consider ideas for collaborations with Cardiff University and ONS data science campus for data science projects, particularly as big transport data sets are available	All	
11.	Circulate links to Vehicle Speeds on Welsh motorways	CS	
12.	Circulate slides on Evidence plan with WSLC minutes	GJ	
13.	Provide feedback on agriculture StatsWales cubes when published	All	
14.	Data Unit to raise the issues concerning the education PAMs and feedback to CP.	JM	
15.	Investigate links between Tourism Survey and STEAM with Visit Wales and feedback to the group	SL / GJ	
16.	Add welfare reform data, including zero hours contract, to next Agenda	Secretariat	

17.	<b>Circulate links to NDF consultation</b>	<b>GC</b>	
18.	<b>Send any questions/thoughts on the NDF to the NDF team</b>	<b>All</b>	
19.	<b>NDF newsletter available – Sign up, if you wish</b>	<b>All</b>	
20.	<b>Provide the Digital Economy Act paper electronically</b>	<b>GJ</b>	<b>Published 210717</b>
21.	<b>2017 Census test to be added to the next meeting agenda</b>	<b>Secretariat</b>	<b>Completed</b>
22.	<b>Advise who it would be helpful for DT to engage with on development of future trends reporting</b>	<b>All</b>	
23.	<b>Make Wellbeing of Future Generations a standing item in the agenda</b>	<b>Secretariat</b>	
24.	<b>Circulate note on future access to BRES Labour market data</b>	<b>SK</b>	
25.	<b>Include VC question on feedback questionnaire.</b>	<b>Secretariat</b>	<b>Completed</b>