

Welsh Statistical Liaison Committee
A National Statistics Joint Consultative Committee
Minutes of meeting held on 7 February 2019
Cathays Park, Cardiff

Attendees

Glyn	Jones	GJ	Welsh Government (Chair)
Phillip	Barlow	PB	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park
Chris	Clarke	CC	Torfaen County Borough Council
Daniel	Cummings	DC	Data Cymru
Vicki	Doyle	VD	Caerphilly County Borough Council
Helen	Jones	HJ	National Assembly for Wales
Wanda	Kirby	WK	Bridgend County Borough Council
Paul	Jones	PJ	Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
Steve	King	SK	City and County of Swansea
Sue	Leake	SL	Welsh Government
Duncan	McKenzie	DM	Data Cymru
Aine	McGuire	AM	SensibleCode.io
William	Miles	WM	Monmouthshire County Council
Jenny	Murphy	JM	Data Cymru
Rhys	Powell	RP	NHS Wales
Jon	Radcliffe	JR	Sports Wales
Lesley	Rees	LR	Carmarthenshire County Council
Andrew	Stephens	AS	Data Cymru
Alison	Vaughan	AV	Ceredigion County Council
Huw	Bowen	HB	Welsh Government

Note takers

Jamie	Cleves	JC	Welsh Government
Dhilia	Chiwara	DC	Welsh Government
Melaine	Brown	MB	Welsh Government

Speakers not attending all day

Gareth	Brand		Welsh Government
Melaine	Brown		Welsh Government
Luned	Jones		Welsh Government
John	Morris		Welsh Government
Sarah	James		Welsh Government
Claire	Rayner		Office for National Statistics
Susan	Barton		Office for National Statistics

Apologies

Tom	Brane		Data Cymru
Janine	Edwards		Conwy County Borough Council
Rhys	Fidler		Data Cymru
Martin	Jennings		Assembly Commission
Leanne	John		City and County of Swansea
Geraint	Morgan		Powys County Council
Nita	Sparkes		Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

1	Welcome, Introductions & Apologies	
	GJ opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.	
2	Notes of last meeting and update on action points	
	<p>Action point 4 from previous meeting was discussed:</p> <p>DM advised that Data Cymru are preparing to set up a new consortium arrangement with CACI for Paycheck data at LSOA level, as currently it is in the last year of 3 year arrangement. Most LA's use it for LHMA's and are keen to continue using it; costs are around £2.5 to £3K a year per LA. CACI are developing a dataset which uses an LSOA level tool looking at life expectancy. There was discussion of the similar administrative data-based income statistics (experimental) published by ONS which are free and publicly available but the datasets use different methodologies.</p> <p>GJ advised that ONS plan to continue to develop their admin-based methodology so income estimates can be published as official statistics by 2022 at LSOA level. They are aiming to create content that meets needs of partners and build new relationships and are looking for feedback on the data already published.</p> <p>JM noted that the next Paycheck data is due out in September. She also noted that Experian also produce income based estimates which are more expensive. For the consortium arrangements the current plan is to discuss timings, get a meeting arranged with CACI and maybe get ONS involved.</p>	<p>Action: Welsh Government (WG) to circulate link to ONS Admin-based income estimates</p> <p>Action: DM to take forward arrangements for consortium approach for purchasing CACI data in future</p>
3	Review of information papers	
	<p>GJ advised that the next update of the Statistics Wales Quarterly paper is due out next month (March). SL informed the group that the WIMD consultation has now finished. There were over 40 responses, with the team currently attending ongoing domain group meetings with the aim of publishing a response before Easter. SL also highlighted that new estimates of housing need had been published on 30/1/19.</p> <p>GJ noted that a new trade survey team was in place in Welsh Government. On population projections there was discussion about the most appropriate timing for the next update taking a number of things into account e.g. housing need estimates, timing of LG settlement, Brexit etc. Agreed to e-mail WASP group to seek feedback on timing of next update of population projections.</p> <p>GJ also mentioned that WG will be seeking views shortly on what should be included in a new Welsh Language Use Survey which is being planned. Members questioned the level of geographic breakdown that will be available.</p> <p>On the Data Cymru update paper:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GJ noted interest in any intelligence gathered from the Data Cymru on the road exercise • The Evaluation Guide will be launched shortly. A link will be circulated to members • Links with WISERD and WCPP were discussed in relation to improving insight for PSBs through academic research • Members were invited to contact Data Cymru if they use Daffodil Cymru as arrangements for hosting this are moving to Data Cymru • Discussion of use of Power BI tools lead to a suggestion of 	<p>Action: WG to email WASP group members for feedback on timing of next update of population projections.</p> <p>Action: Data Cymru/WG Stats to plan a webinar to share experience and advice on use of Power BI or other similar tools</p>

	<p>organising a webinar to share experience and learning, with keynote speakers. VD noted that Caerphilly was working with Data Cymru to digitise their Well-being assessment. Powys has also been creating Well-being webpages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JR expressed interest in the work on health behaviours of school-aged children and working more closely with others on children's surveys • DC mentioned the work being undertaken on Open Data and the kinds of information of use to public bodies that might become available. 	
4	Use of Thriving Places Index and future trends data in Gwent	
	<p>Presentation given by VD informing group of the work which is being carried out by Gwent. Gwent decided to use the Happiness index, Thriving Places Index and Gwent Futures project to plug gaps in evidence. On the Thriving Places Index (TPI) there is a new 2019 version being developed which uses publicly available data; likely to be released in March. Gwent will be using the information from the next release of the Index. The TPI provides a different focus of wellbeing for LAs, but should be used in conjunction with other indices or tools. The definition uses a global model of wellbeing.</p> <p>VD also informed group that the Gwent PSBs had undertaken an online survey for local residents and colleagues to give views on their own personal wellbeing (the Happiness Pulse). Although there were some useful results, they are unlikely to be carrying it out again in the near future. The Gwent Futures work had been commissioned to consider future scenarios, trends and potential disruptors to inform long-term planning. A Gwent Futures Conference was held in November 2018, followed by workshops in each of the five Gwent PSB areas. Members should get in touch with VD if they wanted more information on this work.</p>	<p>Action: VD to share Gwent Futures report and send links around</p>
5	The maturity of local government in use of data, WAO report	
	<p>AS advised that a WAO study was published in Dec 2018: 'Maturity of government in use of data' with Local Authority reports in January and highlighted the approach to the study and the key findings. Recommendations included that local authorities should have a clear vision that treats data as a key resource. Other recommendations related to data standards, auditing data systems and training. Members discussed the extent to which they were had been involved. PB advised they are trying to map out all systems to find where data is; the plan is to then carry out a survey.</p> <p>Data Cymru can help to bring people from LAs together to discuss data and digital issues, the aim being to get LA's to work collaboratively. The group questioned if Wales is far behind England and Scotland, AS replied it is not behind at all. He also advised how the creation of Geospatial Commission is coming soon, which will result in more data becoming available.</p>	
6	Update on Census white paper and Outputs consultation response	
	<p>CR and SB provided an update on 2021 Census plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Census White paper had been published in December 2018 • Discussed the Census being mainly online so people can take part when and how they want, with assisted digital services being planned • New topics announced were sexual orientation, gender identity and 	<p>Action: Circulate information about Census Roadshows</p> <p>Action: ONS to send lists of LA nominations for CLM</p>

	<p>armed forces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The online questionnaire will be available in Welsh with the main language question being maintained • Timeline included a Census Rehearsal date of 13 October 2019 • Census roadshows starting in March with work-shops to discuss census and population statistics outputs. Planning for a Flexible Dissemination System so users of data will be able to access data and construct their own tables • Some Admin-based income statistics had been published and ONS plan to enhance them to produce data from smaller area • Analytical programme already being considered. ONS invite members to suggest key policy analysis which could be considered for the analytical programme. Areas mentioned: analysis to support well-being assessments, equality information including on sexual orientation and gender identity, and importance of armed forces data in some areas. 	<p>and ACLM in Wales</p> <p>Action: All – contribute ideas to ONS on key policy analysis for developing Census Analytical Programme</p>
7	Update on Housing statistics: Welsh Housing conditions survey; and on new work on Housing Need and Demand	
	<p>GB presented on the recently published results of the Welsh Housing Conditions Survey :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHCS had sample of 2,500 dwellings • Conditions improving over all tenures • Wales has the oldest housing stock in all U.K • Social housing better quality than private housing <p>He also updated on work to create a Housing Stock Analytical Resource (HSAR). A suggestion was made to investigate Arbed and Carbon Trust data. There was some discussion of fuel poverty estimates which will be available later in the year.</p> <p>MB presented on newly published estimates of housing need. A suggestion was made that the National Development Framework should be added to the next agenda.</p> <p>SL mentioned, in addition, other housing statistics developments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ONS preparing to producing estimates of deaths of homeless people at local authority level; and • the work being done across the U.K on availability and coherence of housing statistics. 	<p>Action: Add National Development Framework (NDF) to next WSLC agenda</p>
8	National Milestones	
	<p>Presentation given by GJ</p> <p>The consultation about setting National Milestones opened recently and is open until 19 April. It suggests criteria looking at working with smaller numbers of indicators so as to focus our energy on getting the best results to achieve the seven well-being goals There was a call to all to contribute and share ideas as it is important that WG works with stakeholders and experts to set the milestones.</p> <p>GJ confirmed that the questions used in the National Survey to measure the milestones will be protected, though not always annually e.g. there will be a mental health question every other year. The Living Wales project led by Aberystwyth University was discussed and local authorities were encouraged to get involved in ‘ground-truthing’ the results.</p> <p>WG intend to work with stakeholders and experts on how to approach each specific milestone, where we want to be in the future and consider the best methods to use to attain these goals. The consultation also asks whether some national indicators need to be revisited and be amended.</p>	<p>Action: Add Living Wales project to a future WSLC agenda</p>

9	Update on migration of the WG Statistics and Research website	
	JM reported that the intention is for the new Statistics and Research website to go live at the end of February. It will be mobile friendly and outputs will be grouped in series so that it's easy to find current and past releases. Easier to direct users of statistics to collections of statistics. It will enable the publication of outputs in HTML. A blog will be published soon discussing the changes and there will be tweets when it goes live. The old website will remain until the summer and will then be switched off. StatsWales will remain unchanged.	
10	Any Other Business	
	<p>The following were discussed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The House of Commons Library has recently opened a consultation on the renaming of all MSOAs in the UK 2. Work being undertaken within WG statistical services on regional profiles about what data is available at regional level 3. A new website "Understanding Welsh Places" which enables data to be drawn together for specific places is planned. Work commissioned and the WG supporting it. WISERD is involved in the planning to launch the project 4. BREXIT: trade and migration team set up in the WG. Discussion on how it could impact local authorities in terms of data collection. SL questioned what preparations LA may have put in place. Concerns were raised on how it may affect data sharing between businesses and local authorities with the rest of Europe 5. The next meeting will be held in Llandudno on 6 June 2019. The potential agenda items stand as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o National Development Framework (NDF) o Regional Profiles o Sensible Code o Understanding Welsh Places o Census o Living Wales project 	Action: Data Cymru to get in touch with ONS geography team to find out if they are aware of the MSOA naming consultation

No.	Summary of Action Points	
1.	WG to circulate link to ONS Admin-based income estimates	GJ/SL – embedded in Minutes
2.	DM to take forward arrangements for consortium approach for purchasing CACI data in future	DM
3.	Welsh Government to email WASP group members for feedback on timing of next update of population projections.	GJ/SL - completed
4.	Data Cymru/WG Stats to plan a webinar to share experience and advice on use of Power BI or other similar tools	Data Cymru/WG
5.	VD to share Gwent Futures report and send links around	VD
6.	Circulate information about Census Roadshows	Welsh Government - completed
7.	ONS to send lists of LA nominations for CLM and ACLM in Wales	ONS Census team
8.	All – contribute ideas to ONS on key policy analysis for developing Census Analytical Programme	All
9.	Add National Development Framework (NDF) to next WSLC agenda	Secretariat - completed
10.	Add Living Wales project to a future WSLC agenda	Secretariat - completed
11.	Data Cymru to get in touch with ONS geography team to find out if they are aware of the MSOA naming consultation	Data Cymru