

Third Sector Statistics User Panel for Wales: Minutes of Meeting

Thursday 30 April 2020 – 9:45-12:15

Attendees			
Lewis	Clarke	LC	RSPCA Cymru
Mal	Colley	MC	Tenovus Cancer Care
Dave	Cook	DC	WCVA
Cerys	Furlong	CF	Chwarae Teg
John	Gossage	JG	Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services
Thomas	Hollick	TH	The Wallich
Glyn	Jones	GJ	Welsh Government
Sue	Leake	SL	Welsh Government
Ben	Proctor	BP	Data Orchard
Ginger	Wiegand	GW	Ethnic Minorities and Youth Support Team (EYST)
Presenters			
Tegwen	Green	TG	Office for National Statistics
Neil	Townsend	NT	Office for National Statistics
Apologies			
Gonw	ab Islwyn	Gal	Tenovus Cancer Care
Will	Atkinson	WA	The Wallich
Sam	Austin	SA	Llamau
Martin	Fidler-Jones	MFJ	Tenovus Cancer Care
Aaron	Fort	AF	Welsh Government
Paul	Glaze	PG	Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services
Adam	Golten	AG	The Wallich
Gwennan	Hardy	GH	Citizens Advice
Catrin	James	CJ	Urdd Gobaith Cymru
David	James	DJ	Monmouthshire Rural Housing Enabler
Nick	Lewis	NL	Umbrella Cymru
Ben	Lloyd	BL	Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Carys	Moseley	CM	Cytûn
Anna	Nicholl	AN	Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Michelle	Wales	MW	Shelter Cymru

1	Welcome and Papers	Glyn Jones, Welsh Government
<p>GJ noted apologies for those not attending and thanked those who were able to join.</p> <p>GJ addressed the actions of the previous meeting (13 December 2020): slides from analytical volunteering webinar have been sent. SL explained that due to Covid-19 and the redirection of resources, the alpha version of the StatsWales Equalities data finder has not yet been shared.</p> <p>Quarterly Statistics Newsletter: GJ made special mention of Energy Efficiency of Dwellings and National Survey. SL noted that Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) data is continuing to be published as it may help to identify communities at greater risk of being impacted by Covid-19.</p> <p>Demography Newsletter: GJ noted that the local authority population and household projections for Wales were published February 2020. There is work ongoing to update variant and national park projections.</p> <p>National Development Framework (NDF): SL noted that the Estimates of Housing Need article and interactive tool are due to be published 20 May 2020. This work has been updated to take into account the 2018-based household projections published February 2020.</p>		
2	Covid-19	Glyn Jones, Welsh Government
<p>GJ noted that due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there has been a considerable shift in analytical resource. Many Welsh Government (WG) publications will be cancelled/postponed/summarised so that focus may be given to Covid related work. GJ stressed that decisions made to cancel/postpone/summarise publications will not be taken lightly and updates, particularly related to the economy and health, will continue to be published. GJ agreed to share the letter to LA's about data collections to be suspended and invited members to indicate whether particular data is really important to their organisations.</p> <p>GJ mentioned that Knowledge and Analytical Services (KAS) has played a key role in assisting the WG response to the outbreak and will continue to support planning for future recovery.</p> <p>GJ emphasised that WG is committed to interacting with stakeholders to understand what research is considered important and invited attendees to highlight the data that they feel is crucial to help their organisational response to the Covid-19 crisis.</p> <p>A number of questions were raised: <i>What is the Covid-19 impact on surveys? (JG)</i> GJ explained that prior to Lockdown, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) prepared important contingencies about how surveys could continue to be carried out under Lockdown restrictions. Following the introduction of Lockdown measures, face-to-face interviews were halted. The National Survey, previously conducted face-to-face, has now been shortened so that it can be carried out over telephone. GJ noted that there</p>		<p>Action: GJ to share the letter to LAs about data collections to be suspended and invited members to indicate whether particular data is really important to their organisations</p> <p>Action: GJ to contact colleagues to identify if pet ownership questions have been included in any Covid-19 impact surveys.</p> <p>Action: GJ to investigate whether further research can be carried out to understand the impact of Covid-19 on BAME individuals.</p>

<p>will be an impact on the Agriculture Survey but a strategy had not yet been decided.</p> <p>GJ noted that there are three implications for continuing to analyse data which, prior to the Covid-19 outbreak, were regularly collected from Local Government (LG) and Public Sectors (PS). First, WG is conscious that LG and PS will need to focus their efforts to respond to the Covid-19 crisis and WG does not wish to contribute to the burden currently placed on these bodies. Second, GJ noted that his team are currently focussing their efforts on carrying out work to support the WG response to the pandemic and so resources to collect and analyse non Covid-19 data is now limited. And third, in light of the pandemic, the relevance of some statistical outputs has been reduced.</p> <p>GJ noted that in the coming weeks and months, the restarting of data collections will be discussed. GJ mentioned that data may be collected retrospectively or quarterly outputs may be replaced by an annual publication.</p> <p><i>Were questions regarding pet ownership included in the telephone version of the National Survey? (LC)</i> GJ noted that it was unlikely that this will have been included in the reduced Survey but GJ would check with colleagues whether pet ownership questions may have been included in Covid-19 impact surveys.</p> <p><i>How can post Covid-19 data compare to pre Covid-19 data? (JG)</i> GJ agreed that all WG datasets are likely to be impacted by the outbreak.</p> <p>SL noted interesting novel analysis which is currently being carried out within KAS, e.g. collaborating with Public Health Wales (PHW) to try and map where in Wales most volunteers are located and where there are people most in need so that help may appropriately directed.</p> <p><i>What data is being collected around ethnicity and other protected characteristics? And what research is being conducted into the disproportionate impact of Covid-19 on Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) people? Economic support is of particular concern. (GW)</i> SL noted that she was involved in a Covid-19 BAME advisory group. JG noted importance of this research but explained the challenges of collecting ethnicity data in a short period of time. GJ noted that he will take away GW's concerns for further discussion.</p> <p>GJ noted that data related to the numbers of individuals who are shielding in each Local Authority (LA) will be published at the earliest opportunity.</p>	
<p>3 Social Model of Disability</p>	<p>Sue Leake, Welsh Government</p>
<p>SL noted that a Social Model of Disability blog had been scheduled to be published prior to the meeting but due to the current circumstances, the publication of this blog had been postponed. SL explained, in light of the Model, WG have made the decision to review the language that is used in statistical outputs, review what data is being collected and discuss with other organisations what they are capturing. SL outlined an aim to engage with other parts of the Government Statistical Service (GSS) to standardise future data collection questions.</p>	

4	Census Rehearsal Findings and Plans for Community Engagement for 2021 Census	Neil Townsend, Office for National Statistics
<p>NT outlined the outcomes of the Census rehearsal and plans for engagement with community groups. NT explained that the rehearsal was carried out in four LAs in the UK, one of which was in Wales (Ceredigion). NT noted that there was a 52 per cent return rate in Ceredigion, the highest return rate of all four LAs. The rehearsal found that reminder letters were particularly effective at driving up response rates. NT noted the importance of engaging with individuals from different faith groups, disability groups and older people prior to the 2021 census. NT noted however that the Covid-19 pandemic has posed a challenge to these engagement goals. The appropriate third sector organisations in Wales for engagement were noted: the Third Sector Partnership Council, Public Sector Boards, WCVA and County Voluntary Councils.</p>		
5	Developing a New Strategy for Engaging all Users of Official Statistics	Tegwen Green, Office for National Statistics
<p>TG explained that she was leading the development of a user engagement strategy and implementation plan on behalf of the Government Statistical Services (GSS) Good Practice Team. This initiative has been driven by the House of Commons Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee (PACAC). The purpose of the strategy is to ensure that Official Statistics meet the needs of society. To achieve this, there is a need to promote the importance of user engagement, develop engagement skills and gather and share user insight. TG noted that time scales are subject to change due to the Covid-19 crisis and, as a result of the pandemic, plans for engagement have been challenged. TG welcomed attendee views on what 'good' user engagement looks like and what the strategy should be expected to deliver.</p>		<p>Action: Members to provide views to TG about what good user engagement looks like and what a GSS User engagement strategy should deliver.</p>
6	Any other Business	Glyn Jones, Welsh Government
<p>Nothing of note was raised. GJ thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.</p>		

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30 April 2020

Summary of Action Points

1	Share the letter to LAs about data collections to be suspended and invited members to indicate whether particular data is really important to their organisations	Glyn Jones
2	Contact colleagues to identify if pet ownership questions have been included in any Covid-19 impact surveys.	Glyn Jones
3	Investigate whether further research can be carried out to understand the impact of Covid-19 on BAME individuals.	Glyn Jones
4	Members to provide views to TG about what good user engagement looks like and what a GSS User engagement strategy should deliver.	Members