

Third Sector Statistics User Panel for Wales: Minutes of Meeting

Thursday 12 November 2020 – 10:00-12:30

Attendees			
Jonathan	Ackland	JA	Welsh Government
Rhodri	Bowen	RB	People & Work
Lewis	Clarke	LC	RSPCA
Mal	Colley	MC	Tenovus Cancer Centre
John	Gossage	JG	Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services
Stephanie	Howarth	SH	Welsh Government
David	James	DJ	Monmouthshire Rural Housing Enabler
Catrin	James	CJ	Urdd Gobaith Cymru
Sue	Leake	SL	Welsh Government
Carys	Moseley	CM	Cytûn
Anna	Nicholl	AN	Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Hade	Turkmen	HT	Chwarae Teg
Iestyn	Wyn	IW	Stonewall Cymru
Presenters			
Anna	Adams	AA	Office for National Statistics
Melanie	Brown	MB	Welsh Government
Luned	Jones	LJ	Welsh Government
Kat	Paes	KP	Office for National Statistics
Apologies			
David	Cook		Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Martin	Fidler Jones		Tenovus Cancer Care
Paul	Glaze		Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services
Ruth	Marks		Wales Council for Voluntary Action
David	Hagendyk		Learning and Work Institute
Gwennan	Hardy		Citizens Advice
Chris	O'Brien		RSPCA Cymru
Bethan	Shoemark-Spear		Age Connects Morgannwg

1	Welcome and Papers	Stephanie Howarth, Welsh Government
<p>SH welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced herself as interim Chief Statistician.</p> <p>Minutes from the previous meeting (30 April 2020) were agreed with no amendments.</p> <p>SH addressed the actions from the previous meeting: the letter to local authorities about data collections to be suspended was shared on 5 May 2020. Pet ownership has not been included in the National Survey for Wales since 2014-15. WG's Animal Welfare team have made a request for the 2021-22 survey which will be considered. WG published a statistical article on 'Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) population in Wales' – to be discussed further during the Covid-19 agenda item. A summary of numerous reports which highlighted issues which, for different ethnic groups, could affect the risk of the COVID-19 pandemic on their health and well-being will also be published soon.</p> <p>Quarterly Statistics Newsletter: SH noted that this reflects the range of new information published by Welsh Government (WG) throughout the pandemic. SH highlighted the new format for the annual statistical releases on 'Participation of young people in education and the labour market' and 'Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)'. Feedback is welcome and can be sent to post16ed.stats@gov.wales. Attendees were encouraged to look at the article published on estimates of housing need. SH mentioned innovative work from the Administrative Data Research Unit linking the shielded patient list to other datasets to understand more about those shielding. SL highlighted the publication of weekly school attendance data that wasn't mentioned in the newsletter.</p> <p>Demography Newsletter: SH noted that the Office for National Statistics (ONS) has issued revised 2018-based national population projections. These now show a different longer term trend for Wales. WG has revised local authority population and household projections as a result. Also noted that WG published 2019 mid-year population estimates in June. Legislation to enable the 2021 Census to take place in Wales is now in place. SH mentioned the recent ONS consultations on the timing of population projections and Census geographies.</p>		<p>Action: Members to share any feedback on the participation and NEETs releases to post16ed.stats@gov.wales</p>
2	Covid-19 (including equality impact)	Stephanie Howarth, Welsh Government
<p>SH referred to the update Glyn Jones provided at the previous meeting about the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on WG data collections and statistical outputs. We have kept users updated on the changes through forums such as this one and blogs on the WG website.</p> <p>SH demonstrated the 'Coronavirus (Covid-19) related statistics and research' page on the WG website. There is a wide range of new publications – some regular publications (including daily and weekly) and some ad-hoc. Some data collections continue to be postponed or cancelled. These decisions are not taken lightly and we will keep users informed of changes.</p>		

The following questions were raised:

How has the National Survey for Wales been delivered during the pandemic? (RB)

SH explained that it moved to a telephone survey with changes to questions and content to make it more appropriate for that mode. SH highlighted the importance of accounting for any effects of the change in survey mode. ONS have recently come up against this issue with the Labour Force Survey and have reweighted the data accordingly, resulting in changes to employment figures for Wales.

Is there an update on the youth work data collection? (CJ)

The youth work data collection will take place after originally being postponed. There will be no significant changes to the format from last year. It is important to note that this collection only covers youth provision delivered through local authorities and not through the voluntary sector.

SL provided an update on equalities work. The First Minister quickly established a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Covid-19 advisory group with statisticians and researchers involved. The analytical work looked at areas such as the labour market, income, poverty, deprivation and housing tenure as well as health outcomes. The statistical article on '[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic population in Wales](#)' was published in June. There is ongoing work looking at the impact on disabled people and other groups. IW asked whether any work had been undertaken looking at the impact of the pandemic on LGBT people – nothing specific as of yet. Members agreed on the importance of intersectionality when looking at the impact of the pandemic on different equality groups.

LJ highlighted a survey on the impact of Covid-19 on community groups operating through the medium of Welsh. It is hoped that high level results will be published on the WG website just before Christmas with more to follow in the new year.

SH invited members to update the group on any work being undertaken in their organisation:

- CJ highlighted a snapshot survey undertaken in April by the Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services on the impact of Covid-19 on service providers. There will be another survey in November.
- DJ discussed housing market data to support policy on rural and affordable housing. There is a sparsity of data resulting from the increased time taken to complete purchases during the pandemic. This causes challenges for small area analysis. DJ mentioned the high proportion of sales relating to second homes. SL highlighted the complexity of the data and explained that new Land Transaction Tax data being released on 13 November 2020 and an associated blog might help to explain this.
- LC described an increase in pet ownership during the pandemic. Resources have dropped within the sector and they are expecting an increase in demand as people return to work. LC highlighted the lack of specific data on pet ownership and the need for something at a national level.

Action: SH to raise the need for data on pet ownership with the National Survey team

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CM mentioned colleagues' interest in the WG Loneliness Strategy and asked whether there was any analytical work in this area. SH highlighted the National Survey for Wales, the fortnightly Public Health Wales 'How are we doing in Wales?' survey and the ONS Opinions and Lifestyle survey. SH to put CM in contact with WG colleagues working on the strategy. • HT highlighted Chwarae Teg's research into woman, work and Covid-19. • IW mentioned the scattered nature of current research looking at the impact of restrictions on LGBT people. Stonewall are currently undertaking a number of projects. 	<p>Action: SH to put CM in contact with WG colleagues working on the loneliness strategy</p>
3	The impact of the pandemic on the labour market	Luned Jones and Melanie Brown, Welsh Government
	LJ gave an overview of the role of the Economy and Labour Market Statistics team in WG and some of the data challenges. MB gave an overview of the labour market prior to the pandemic and the current position based on statistics published this week. MB also described data relating to redundancy, furlough, self-employment income support and job vacancies. Also data from the ONS Business Impact of Coronavirus survey (BICS). LJ provided an overview of where data can be found on the WG website.	
4	2021 Census update	Kat Paes and Anna Adams, Office for National Statistics
	<p>KP gave an overview of the 2021 Census including new questions and the timeline. The approach is to be as inclusive as possible for all. KP outlined the support services available to make the Census accessible with the aim of maximising participation and minimising variation between population groups. KP explained the additional actions planned for Key Population Groups and the aim to reach out to third sector organisations. Members to contact KP with any organisational contacts or networks that may be interested in working with ONS to support communities with the Census. The first outputs will be published in Spring 2022. ONS are developing a flexible web-based interactive dissemination system.</p> <p>AA gave a presentation on local engagement in Wales. Explained the role of census engagement managers. There will be tailored messaging around specific concerns in Wales.</p> <p>KP provided an overview of tools available to support LGBT engagement in response to a question from IW. This includes personal questionnaires that can be accessed by individuals with responses overriding those provided through a household questionnaire.</p>	<p>Action: Members to contact Kat Paes or 2021Census.Engagement@ons.gov.uk with any organisational contacts or networks that may be interested in working with ONS to support communities with the Census</p>
5	GSS User Engagement Strategy update	Stephanie Howarth, Welsh Government
	SH mentioned the latest draft of the GSS User Engagement Strategy and a call for case studies demonstrating strong examples of user engagement.	<p>Action: Members to provide any information that could be used in a case study to</p>

		Tegwen.Green@statistics.gov.uk
6	Any other Business	Stephanie Howarth, Welsh Government
Nothing of note was raised. SH thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.		

Third Sector Statistics User Panel for Wales 12 November 2020 Summary of Action Points		
1	Members to share any feedback on the participation and NEETs releases to post16ed.stats@gov.wales	Members
2	SH to raise the need for data on pet ownership with the National Survey team	Stephanie Howarth
3	SH to put CM in contact with WG colleagues working on the loneliness strategy	Stephanie Howarth
4	Members to contact Kat Paes or 2021Census.Engagement@ons.gov.uk with any organisational contacts or networks that may be interested in working with ONS to support communities with the Census	Members
5	Members to provide any information that could be used in a case study on user engagement to Tegwen.Green@statistics.gov.uk	Members