

## WIMD annual indicator data updates – suspended for 2018

Due to changes in underlying data sources and time needed to develop WIMD 2019, there will be no update to WIMD indicators during 2018.

Four of the nine indicators normally updated are affected by changes in the underlying data. The other five are multi-year averages unlikely to change significantly in a year, or unlikely to have a significant impact if not updated during 2018.

We plan to publish a consultation during autumn 2018 on proposed indicators for WIMD 2019, and are currently working with a range of experts and users of the data to develop our proposals. Plans for annual updates to some of the indicator data following 2019 will be included in our consultation proposals.

Normally, we would update 9 indicators every year, as follows:

- Income and Employment deprivation (2 indicators) - the reference period for the 2018 update would begin in April 2017, when rollout of full service Universal Credit began in Wales. Due to the geographical nature of the rollout, changes to the underlying benefits and data systems, there would be inconsistency in this indicator between areas and over time. The approach taken to incorporating Universal Credit claimants in the 2016 and 2017 indicators would not be appropriate following rollout of the full service, and further work is needed to consider the future of these indicators.
- Key stage 4 (2 indicators) - changes to measures of attainment at Key Stage 4 affect the comparability of these indicators over time, starting from the 2016/17 academic year, which would contribute to the 2018 indicator update (a 3 year average).
- Health deprivation (3 indicators) - cancer incidence, low birth weight and death rates are ten year averages, unlikely to change significantly in a year.
- The remaining three indicators - measures of key stage 2 attainment, repeat absenteeism and fire incidences - are two or three year averages. We are not aware of any significant impact of not updating this data during 2018.

The above indicators, and other existing and potential new WIMD indicators will be reviewed for inclusion in the 2019 index.

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