

April 2025 Analysis and Research Bulletin

Welcome to the Local Government Association (LGA) Analysis and Research Bulletin.

This comprehensive monthly publication keeps you informed about key issues and developments in research impacting on local government.

The bulletin brings together the work of the LGA and also features relevant publications from the wider research community. The information in this bulletin is grouped under themed areas. This publication is produced by LGA Research and Information and we provide high-quality analysis and research across all aspects of local government.

[An archive providing back-dated copies of this bulletin](#) is available.

How to register

You can register to receive this bulletin by visiting: <https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/research/lga-research-bulletin>

Health and Social Care

Active lives adult survey: November 2023 to 2024 - England

This Sport England publication summarises [activity levels in England among adults](#) aged 16 and older between mid-November 2023 and mid-November 2024.

Public satisfaction with the NHS and social care in 2024

The [British social attitudes survey](#) looks at how the British public are feeling about their health service. The King's Fund and the Nuffield Trust jointly sponsor questions each year to measure and track public views about health and care.

Adult social care in England, monthly statistics: April 2025 - England

These Department of Health and Social Care (DoHSC) official [adult social care statistics](#) provide information on a range of topics including occupancy and infection control measures in adult social care settings in England.

Economic activity and social change in the UK, real-time indicators: 17 April 2025

This Office for National Statistics (ONS) early experimental data and analysis provides information on [economic activity and social change in the UK](#). These real-time indicators are created using rapid response surveys, novel data sources and experimental methods.

Public opinions and social trends, Great Britain: 5 to 30 March 2025

This Office for National Statistics (ONS) publication provides [social insights on daily life and events](#), including opinions about important issues facing the UK and changes made to homes in response to perceived risk of flooding, from the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (OPN).

Domestic abuse against older adults—What can s42 case files tell us?

This article from the British Journal of Social Work presents the findings from an empirical [study that analysed 172 case files involving a s42 enquiry](#) concerning actual or suspected domestic abuse of an adult aged sixty and over within a single safeguarding partnership in England.

Education and young people

Raised by relatives; The experiences of Black and Asian kinship carers

This [kinship carers research](#) from The Rees Centre and Kinship, reveals that while Black and Asian kinship carers face similar barriers to other kinship families they also deal with specific challenges, including cultural stigma, systemic racism and limited access to support and tailored services.

Impact of mentoring and befriending practice & interventions for ‘at-risk’ and care-experienced children & young people

The latest [practice guide on mentoring and befriending](#) from Foundations – What Works Centre for Children and Families, outlines evidence-based recommendations and key principles to support local leaders and third-sector organisations to strengthen the support they offer care-experienced children and young people, and those at risk of entering care.

Young people who are not in education, employment, or training – what does the data tell us? - UK

This briefing from the Learning and Work Institute provides an overview of the scale of how many [young people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training \(NEET\)](#) there are in the UK, what the characteristics of NEET young people are, and the differences in opportunity between geographical areas.

Pupil attendance in schools 9 September 2024 to 4 April 2025

This Department for Education (DfE) data provides information on the [levels of attendance](#) and overall, authorised and unauthorised absence in state-funded primary, secondary and special schools in England.

Outcomes for children in need, including children looked after by local authorities in England: 2023/24 academic year

These DfE statistics provide a range of [outcome measures at national and local authority level for children in need](#), including children looked after by local authorities in England during the 2023/24 academic year.

Level 2 and 3 attainment by young people aged 16 to 25, 2023 to 2024 academic year - England

These DfE statistics provide information on the [attainment of young people aged 16 to 25 in England](#) in the 2023 to 2024 academic year, based on matched administrative data.

Suspensions and permanent exclusions: Spring 2023 to 2024 - England

These DfE statistics provide levels of [suspension and permanent exclusion](#) in the spring term 2023 to 2024 by school type, and the reasons for exclusions and suspensions.

Outcomes for children in need, including children looked after by local authorities, in England: year ending 31 March 2024

These DfE statistics provide information on a range of [outcome measures](#) at national and local authority level for children in need, including children looked after by local authorities in England for the year ending 31 March 2024.

Communicating with children guide

This guide from the Centre of expertise on child sexual abuse (CSA) provides new [guidance on how to support children with a variety of different communication needs](#) so that professionals can provide all children with the opportunity to communicate about what has happened to them.

School and college voice: omnibus surveys for 2024 to 2025 academic year - England

This DfE report presents the findings from [regular surveys of school and college teachers and leaders](#) in England during the 2024 to 2025 academic year.

Transport

National Travel Survey mid-year estimates: year ending June 2024 – Great Britain

These Department for Transport (DfT) statistics provide mid-year estimates of [travel behaviours by residents of England travelling within Great Britain](#) for the year ending June 2024.

Rail ticket types and journey purposes: 9th September to 23rd October 2024 - England

This DfT research explores the [rail ticket types](#) that passengers used for different journey purposes in England between 9th September to 23rd October 2024.

Daily domestic transport use by mode - Great Britain from April 2024

These DfT statistics provide information on the [daily usage of selected domestic transport](#) by mode for Great Britain from April 2024.

Connectivity and accessibility statistics for rural England

These Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) statistics form part of the [Statistical digest of rural England](#) and cover: broadband and mobile, rural accessibility in terms of travel behaviour, accessibility to personal transport, accessibility to key services and home working.

Environment

Emissions Trading Scheme extension to waste: Survey of councils, January to February 2025

In January 2025, the LGA sent an [online survey](#) to Directors of Environments within single-tier and county councils in England to explore the impact of the costs and viability of different options for local government to mitigate the potential cost to the sector of extending the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) to waste from January 2028.

Transport and environment statistics: 2023 - UK

These DfT statistics provide information on the [environmental impacts of transport](#), including greenhouse gases and air pollutants emitted from different transport modes for the UK in 2023.

Local Government

Local government data capacity and capability: Survey of local authorities, October to December 2024 - England

Between October and December 2024, the LGA conducted an [online survey](#) of all councils and combined authorities in England, and the subsequent report provides analysis on their organisation's use of data, including strategy, management, governance and skills development.

Metrics added to LG Inform this month include:

Waste collection statistics- England

The Defra waste collection statistics have been published for 2023/24. The LG Inform [Understanding Waste Collection report](#) provides an overview for your area, compared to your chosen comparison group.

For 2023/24, there were 917 tonnes of [waste arising per household](#) in England, up from 910 tonnes in 2022/23. [The percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting](#) for England was 42.30 per cent, compared to 41.70 per cent in 2022/23.

House price and sale statistics

The ONS House price statistics for small areas collection has updated in LG Inform. The most recent data shows in the 12 months to Quarter 3 2024 the [median house price](#) in England was £289,995. This was down from £295,995 in Quarter 3 2023. The [median house price \(newly built dwellings\)](#) in England is currently £350,000. The Median house price of [detached houses](#) is £420,000, [semi-detached houses](#) is £270,000, [terraced houses](#) is £235,000 and [flats/maisonettes](#) is £230,250.

See the LG Inform report [Gap between the lowest and highest median house price sale](#) for your area.

For the 12 months to Quarter 3 2024, there were 551,992 [residential property sales](#) in England, compared to 710,340 for the 12 months to Quarter 3 2023. Of these 25,833 were [newly built dwellings](#), down considerably from 82,186 in the 12 months to Quarter 3 2023.

See the LG Inform report [Areas showing greatest signs of new housing development | LG Inform](#) for your area.

Available Geographies: Country – Region – County – London borough – Metropolitan District – Unitary – District

Employment, pay and workforce

UK labour market: January to March 2025

These ONS [labour market statistics](#) provide estimates of employment, unemployment, inactivity, average weekly earnings, vacancies and other labour market related statistics for the UK.

Labour market in the regions of the UK: April 2025

These ONS [regional labour market statistics](#) provide regional, local authority, and parliamentary constituency breakdowns of changes in UK employment, unemployment, and economic inactivity, and other related statistics. These are official statistics in development.

Labour market analysis: April 2025 - UK

This [labour market analysis](#) from the Learning and Work Institute provides analysis of the ONS labour market statistics released in April 2025.

Adult social care workforce survey - England

These Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) statistics provide information from the [adult social care recruitment and retention workforce survey](#) conducted between 19 August to 19 September 2024.

Variations in pay in Adult Social Care

[This report from Manchester Metropolitan University and DHSC](#) explores how pay is affected by local conditions and council processes for buying care and what impact this has on the recruitment, career progression and retention of care workers.

Economy

UK trade: February 2025

These ONS [UK trade statistics](#) provide information on the total value of UK exports and imports of goods and services by current price, chained volume measures and implied deflators in February 2025.

UK trade, quarterly goods and services: September to December 2024

These ONS quarterly estimates provide information on [UK total trade](#), trade in goods, and trade in services by country between September and December 2024.

Business insights and impact on the UK economy: 24 April 2025

This ONS data provides information on the [impact of challenges facing the economy](#) and other events on UK businesses.

Retail sales: March 2025 – Great Britain

These ONS statistics provide a first estimate of [retail sales](#) in volume and value terms, seasonally and non-seasonally adjusted for March 2025.

Economic activity and social change in the UK, real-time indicators: March 2025

This ONS Early experimental data and analysis provides information on [economic activity and social change in the UK during March 2025](#).

Housing

Statutory homelessness in England: October to December 2024

These Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) statistics provide information on [statutory homelessness](#) applications, duties, and outcomes for local authorities in England. It also reports on households in temporary accommodation.

Indicators of house building, UK: permanent dwellings started and completed by country

These ONS statistics provide time series data on [starts and completions of new build dwellings in the UK](#), on a quarterly and annual basis.

Crime

Nature of crime tables: year ending March 2024

This ONS [annual data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales](#) (CSEW) includes information on when incidents happened, information about offenders and the victim's perception of the incident.

Safety in custody: quarterly update to December 2024 – England and Wales

This Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and HM Prison and Probation Service Quarterly update provides information on [deaths, self-harm and assaults in prison custody in England](#) and Wales. Annual detailed data on assaults and self-harm in prison custody are also included.

Crime in England and Wales: year ending December 2024

These ONS statistics provide information on [crime against households and people aged 16 years and over](#), using data from police recorded crime and the CSEW.

Proven reoffending statistics: April to June 2023

These MoJ statistics provide information on the [reoffending of offenders](#) in England and Wales who were released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction, or a caution.

Offender management statistics quarterly: October to December 2024 – England and Wales

These MoJ quarterly statistics provide information on [offenders in custody](#) (including offence groups, sentence lengths and nationalities), and quarterly statistics on prison receptions, prison releases, adjudications, licence recalls and offenders under probation supervision.

Regular publications and events

Workshop invitation: Identifying a effective digital process for sending notifications of “out of area placements”

21 May 2025, 11am-1pm, MS Teams

LGA are inviting data and information management experts, and experts in councils' homelessness & children's services case management systems, to participate in a workshop to help design a scalable digital solution for out-of-area (OOA) homelessness placement notifications. This workshop will help us to identify a solution which works nationally, aligns with homelessness services' operational needs, and is feasible to develop and implement.

Context

Councils are required to notify each other when placing homeless households out of area, but the current process is inconsistent, inefficient, and often results in missing or unusable data. We believe a digital solution could help, but we need expert input to ensure it is practical, technically viable, and fit for purpose.

Expertise needed

We need practitioners who can help us to answer the following questions:

- How do councils currently capture, manage, and share statutory homelessness data?
- What technical and business constraints could impact different solutions?
- How could a solution integrate with existing case management systems (CMS), data-sharing processes, and ways of working?
- What key principles should guide the development of a scalable and effective solution?

In particular:

- How are councils' data systems currently structured?
- How should any new solution be designed so that councils can efficiently gather, process, share, and analyse data?
- What policies and procedures would need to be in place to control and protect data, manage risks to information, and ensure services are meeting legal obligations around information governance?

Expertise in data management, information governance, and systems design would be especially valuable, as well as specialist expertise in homelessness and children's services case management systems.

How to get involved

If you are interested in contributing, please let us know by email response to sarah.slate@local.gov.uk and Eamon.lally@local.gov.uk, and provide a brief outline of your role and expertise. We'd be grateful for any expressions of interest by **COP 5 May** to help us to plan the workshop.

Online training in Tree Value Visions – a new participatory futures tool

Thursday 15 May, 13.00-15.00.

Tree Value Visions is a participatory visioning tool for integrating social values in planning and management of urban treescapes. It is designed to support local decision-making on tree management and planting. It generates evidence and insight about how trees are valued in a locality, focusing on their current and potential social and cultural values. This free online training provides an introduction to the use of the tool. It is suitable for local authority officers, urban green space managers, members of community groups, community councillors, and others with an interest in urban treescapes.

Please [register via Eventbrite](#). The training has limited places, so early registration is advised.

GeoPlace annual conference, 22nd May, London

GeoPlace is owned jointly by the LGA and Ordnance Survey. Its annual conference is on 22nd May in London and is free of charge for local government officers.

Discover how a smarter approach to data can transform local service delivery. You'll see how small investments in address and street data can lead to big efficiency gains and measurable cost savings. Learn how accurate, well-managed data helps resolve issues the first time—reducing complaints, building trust, and improving outcomes for residents. See how UPRNs and USRNs break down silos, connecting teams and systems across your authority to deliver more joined-up, effective services. Hear the LGA as it shines a spotlight on local government's best kept secret. Explore real-world success stories, practical tools, and the power of location data in local authorities, central government and even the Bank of England.

[Find out more, and register for free](#)

Public Health Intervention Responsive Studies Teams (PHIRST) EoI Call open

The PHIRST call is now open for new Expressions of Interest. PHIRST are looking to find and select public-health-relevant interventions commissioned by local government, (and equivalent organisations in the devolved administrations), which

are in need of robust evaluation. Full details and eligibility criteria can be found on the [NIHR website](#). Closing date: 17 June at 1PM

**What Works Centre for Local Economic Growth training:
Making use of evidence: Practical training for local economic growth
Monday 12th May, 13:00 -15:30**

This introductory training is designed to help people working in local economic growth assess and use evidence more effectively at every stage of project development.

[Register here >>](#)

Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Centre for Population Change and Connecting Generations events coming up over the next few months include:

Community resilience in Scotland: Neighbourhood population change, age mix and place-making in a context of ageing populations

Professor Nissa Finney, University of St Andrews

Date: 29 May 2025

Time: 13:00 UK Time

Location: [Online using Zoom](#)

Abstract: The seminar is based on ongoing work within the CPC-Connecting Generations 'Community resilience and social coherence' project. This research, based on mixed methods research in Scotland, explores what makes a community socio-demographically resilient. Using census and migration data from 2001–2022 and qualitative case studies from Dundee, it finds that resilience is weakening in some urban and remote areas due to declining age diversity and age-selective migration. In contrast, accessible towns and rural areas show stronger demographic continuity through residential mobility. Interviews with stakeholders and residents highlight the importance of age diversity, the difficulty of meeting life course needs, and the role of community leadership in building intergenerational cohesion and local resilience.

Full details on these events and online joining links are available on [the CPC website](#)

Social Research Association (SRA) training courses

The SRA are currently offering a range of [online training courses](#) using Zoom.

SRA - Social Research Practice journal

The latest issue of the SRA's free [e-journal](#) is now available.

The Rees Centre newsletter

The [Rees Centre newsletter](#) is published every two months giving an update on their fostering related research activities and events along with a book review and a section on young voices.

Changing Populations newsletter

The [latest newsletter from the ESRC](#) Centre for Population Change is now available.

Child Welfare Inequalities Project (CWIP) news

The CWIP at Coventry University studies the links between deprivation and children's chances of being unable to live safely within their birth families and also aims to establish child welfare inequalities as a core concept in policy making, practice and research. Information about [current CWIP projects is available on the website](#).

NIHR School for Public Health Research

[Sign-up](#) to receive the latest news and updates from the NIHR School for Public Research including publications, funding opportunities, upcoming events and more. The [latest newsletter](#) is now available.

NIHR Public Health Intervention Responsive Studies Teams (PHIRST)

[Sign-up](#) to receive the latest news and updates from NIHR PHIRST.

Centre for Evaluation newsletter

The Centre for Evaluation develops interventions, systems and strategies to improve public health using rigorous evaluation methods. Visit the website to [sign up for the Centre for Evaluation newsletter](#).

What Works Centre for Local Economic Growth newsletter

This regular newsletter from the What Works Centre for Local Economic Growth provides the latest resources and evidence. Visit the website to [sign up for the newsletter](#).

Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) Newsletter

[The CSA newsletter](#) brings together the most up-to-date research into an accessible overview for frontline professionals and commissioners. Visit the website to [sign up for the CSA newsletter](#).

National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) Direct

This regular NFER newsletter provides research, industry insights and free resources and events. [Sign up](#) for the newsletter here.

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) Centre for Evaluation

The Centre for Evaluation aims to improve the design and conduct of evaluations of complex public health interventions through the development, application and dissemination of rigorous methods, and facilitate the use of robust evidence to inform policy and practice decisions. The Centre produce a [termly newsletter](#).

Wales Centre for Public Policy (WCPP) newsletter

WCPP works to address key economic and societal challenges through the use of evidence and produce a [regular newsletter](#)

Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) news alert

[EEF news alerts](#) provide information about teaching and learning toolkits, project evaluation reports, grant funding rounds and news and events.

NESTA

NESTA is an innovation foundation which aims to tackle society's big challenges. They produce a regular [newsletter](#).

Research and Economic Analysis for the Long Term (REAL) Centre

The Health Foundation's REAL Centre was set up to support long-term decision making in health and social care. Visit the website to sign up for [regular updates](#).

Policy Bristol Newsletter

The [Policy Bristol Newsletter](#) provides regular policy updates and the latest policy research and events news.

ActEarly monthly bulletin

The [AntennAE monthly e-bulletin](#) provides the latest news and developments from Act Early.

The Health Foundation newsletter

This [monthly newsletter](#) from The Health Foundation provides details about funding opportunities, latest publications and blogs, and the latest news from the world of UK health care.

The Learning and Work Institute newsletter

This [monthly newsletter](#) from the Learning and Work Institute provides news updates, latest publications and blogs.

