

May 2010

LGA analysis and research bulletin

Welcome to the Local Government Association analysis and research bulletin (LGAARB), the regular one stop publication that keeps you informed about key issues and developments in research impacting on local government. The bulletin brings together our work as well as that of the other members of the LGA group (IDeA, LACORS, LGE, Leadership Centre for Local Government and Local Partnerships), and features relevant publications from the wider research community. The information in LGAARB is grouped under themed areas and our aim is to provide, on behalf of the LGA group, high quality:

- horizon scanning;
- analysis; and
- research.

Information about each of the members of the LGA group can be found along with website details overleaf. This publication is produced by LGA analysis and research which has been established to deliver a high quality and single research service to support the policy, lobbying and service delivery needs of the LGA group.

How to register

You can register to receive this bulletin by visiting:
<http://www.lga.gov.uk/research>

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information about the LGA group

The **LGA** is the single voice for local government. As a voluntary membership body, funded almost entirely by the subscriptions of our 424 member authorities in England and Wales, we lobby and campaign for changes in policy and legislation on behalf of our member councils and the people and communities they serve. We work with and on behalf of our membership to deliver our shared vision of an independent and confident local government sector, where local priorities drive public service improvement in every city, town and village and every councillor acts as a champion for their ward and for the people they represent.

www.lga.gov.uk

The **IDEA** supports improvement and innovation in local government, focusing on the issues that are important to councils and using tried and tested ways of working. We work with councils in developing good practice, supporting them in their partnerships. We do this through networks, online communities of practice and web resources, and through the support and challenge provided by councillor and officer peers. We also help develop councillors in key positions through our leadership programmes. Regional Associates work closely with councils in their areas and support the Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnerships (RIEPs).

www.idea.gov.uk

LGE works in partnership with local authorities, regional employers and other bodies to lead on and create solutions for pay, pensions and the employment contract. LGE offers advice on all employment issues, and represents local government employer interests to central government, government agencies, trades unions and European institutions.

www.lge.gov.uk

LACORS promotes quality regulation to councils in the areas of trading standards, environmental protection, licensing and gambling, food safety, hygiene and standards, animal health and welfare and private sector housing. LACORS offer comprehensive advice and guidance to councils and their partners, disseminating good practice and providing up-to-date information on policies and initiatives that affect local people and local services. We lobby on behalf of councils and ensure that legislation and government policy can be practically implemented, and with our colleagues in the LGA group, ensure we contribute to sector-led improvement.

www.lacors.gov.uk

Leadership Centre for Local Government

We believe great places require ambitious leadership that paints a picture of the future, inspiring and carrying with it the local residents' hopes and happiness. We support local government leaders to create the future through building effective and efficient partnerships, improving the lives of local people and fundamentally transforming communities for the better. Place is contested space for local government leaders, so we focus on the unique realities of the relationships involved helping members and officers develop their skills and thinking on leadership, through national and regional initiatives.

www.localleadership.gov.uk

Local Partnerships

Local Partnerships is a joint venture between the LGA and Partnerships UK, incorporating 4ps and all its current services. Local Partnerships mission is to enhance the quality of people's lives by giving trusted, professional support to local public bodies to improve their ability to source and deliver high quality, cost-effective public services and infrastructure. Local Partnerships will work at the market interface and work 'shoulder-to-shoulder' with public bodies to develop and deliver innovative solutions to new and emerging problems. This will be done by working alongside local public bodies to improve their sourcing and commissioning skills, programme and project management capabilities, procurement, negotiating and contract management capacity, and their delivery, funding and partnering abilities.

www.localpartnerships.org.uk

Employment pay and workforce trends

Why do employees come to work when ill? An investigation into sickness presence in the workplace

This report from the Work Foundation emphasises that employers should not ignore the impact of sickness presence – working when ill – as it relates to lower performance, higher sickness absence, higher work-related stress and poorer psychological wellbeing. For more information visit: <http://www.theworkfoundation.com/Assets/Docs/AXA%20event/FINAL%20Why%20do%20employees%20come%20to%20work%20when%20ill.pdf>

A 2020 low carbon economy

This Work Foundation paper considers the potential for the transition towards a low carbon economy to create new employment. It looks at the opportunities this could bring and sets out how such activity can be best supported. For more information visit: http://www.theworkfoundation.com/assets/docs/publications/243_lowcarbon160410.pdf

Key economic statistics, April 2010 – Wales

These Office for National Statistics (ONS) statistics provide the latest information on the labour market in Wales. For more information visit: <http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/TableViewer/document.aspx?ReportId=10579>

LGA analysis and research employment digest

This monthly publication keeps you informed on the labour market, pay issues and trends and the economy in general in England and Wales. Core data include: inflation, unemployment, pay settlements and average earnings. For the latest edition visit: <http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pagelid=1094987>

The growth of claimant unemployment by broad occupation and area, April 2008 – March 2010

This report examines how unemployment has changed at local authority district level from April 2008 to March 2010; the period of official recession. It uses statistics on the number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) as a proportion of resident population of working age. The report also examines the change in unemployment according to the usual occupation of claimants. It concentrates on four groups – managers, professionals, those in skilled trades and those in ‘elementary’ occupations (such as labourers, cleaners and catering assistants). It shows that the geographical distribution of rising unemployment varies amongst these groups. Please note that this web content can only be viewed by LGA member councils. For more information visit:

<http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pagelid=1974773>

or contact roopal.shah@lga.gov.uk 020 7664 3182

Labour market statistics – May 2010

These statistics from ONS show that the unemployment rate for the three months to March 2010 was 8.0 per cent, up 0.2 on the quarter. The number of unemployed people increased by 53,000 over the quarter to reach 2.51 million, the highest figure since the three months to December 1994. For more information visit:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/pdfdir/lmsuk0510.pdf>

Change over time analysis viewer – worklessness: information from ONS

Neighbourhood Statistics (www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk) features a great deal of guidance on getting the most value from the datasets that are available on the web. This guidance includes the strategy for analysing change over time within a small area and the accompanying visualisation tool, known as CoTA Viewer – Worklessness.

Many local authorities have found CoTA Viewer to be an invaluable aid to visualising patterns of worklessness in their area, and because the viewer uses 2001 – 2008 benefits data as a proxy for worklessness, updates will be available when new benefit or population data are released.

If you already use CoTA we'd like to know what you think of the tool, specifically:

Has the CoTA Viewer proved useful in addressing worklessness within your authority?

- if so, could you provide us with some brief details of how you used it and the planned outcomes that you are hoping to achieve.
- if not, could you let us know why not.

Do you have any suggestions on how the functionality can be improved?

Do you have any suggestions of additional indicators that might be applicable to CotaViewer?

To give us your feedback, or to request a copy of the CoTA Viewer CD, simply email better.info@ons.gsi.gov.uk and quote reference LGA5. Please ensure that you include your full postal address.

For the latest data on the economy and society consult National Statistics at <http://www.ons.gov.uk>

Transport

Survey of foreign road goods vehicles United Kingdom 2009 – final results

This Department for Transport (DfT) publication provides final results of the survey of foreign registered heavy goods vehicles (HGV) in the UK conducted between May and August 2009. For more information visit:

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/adobe/pdf/162469/221412/221522/222957/surveygoodsfinal.pdf>

Vehicle licensing statistics: 2009

The DfT has published National Statistics on vehicle licensing and registration in Great Britain in 2009. They show that at the end of 2009, there were 34.3 million vehicles registered in Great Britain. For more information visit:

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/adobe/pdf/162469/221412/221552/228052/625015/vehiclelicensing2009.pdf>

Vehicle registration and licensing statistics – March 2010

This DfT release updates key statistics on licensed vehicle stock and new registrations in Great Britain. For more information visit: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/vehicles/vehreg.xls>

Road traffic and congestion in Great Britain: quarter 1 2010

The latest DfT provisional figures show a decrease of 2.1 per cent in overall traffic levels between the first quarters of 2009 and 2010. For more information visit:

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/roadtraffic/traffic/qbtrafficgb/2010/q12010>

Congestion on inter urban roads – March 2010

These DfT statistics provide information on congestion on the inter-urban network which consists of all motorways and trunk 'A' roads managed by the Highways Agency, as well as the M6 Toll. This is also known as the Strategic Road Network (SRN). For more information visit: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/roadtraffic/speedscongestion/congestiononthestrategicroad5359>

International sea passengers: provisional estimates – March 2010

These DfT statistics cover annual international and domestic passenger and passenger vehicle traffic at UK ports. For more information visit:

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/maritime/passengers/seapassmar2010.xls>

Housing

House building statistics – January to March 2010

These Communities and Local Government (CLG) statistics provide information on new build housing starts and completions in England. There were 24,930 seasonally adjusted house building starts in England in the March quarter 2010. This is 13 per cent higher than in the previous quarter. For more information visit:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/147350211.pdf>

Housing and planning key facts – May 2010

This quarterly leaflet contains tables of key figures and web links to a fuller collection of data shown in CLG's live tables. For more information visit: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/1553724.pdf>

Mortgage rescue scheme monitoring statistics – March Quarter 2010

The Mortgage Rescue Scheme monitoring statistics from CLG give information on the number of households approaching local authorities with mortgage difficulties, fast-track referrals and applications and acceptances for the scheme. For more information visit:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/corporate/statistics/mortgagerescuestatisticsq12010>

Education and children's services

Perceptions of A levels and GCSE's – Wave 8

Ipsos MORI was commissioned by Ofqual to carry out an eighth wave of research to assess perceptions of the A level and GCSE exam system shortly after the end of the 2009 examinations session. The research aimed to track perceptions of the GCSE and A level examination system among teachers, parents, students and the general public and for the first time in 2009, the Diploma. For more information visit:

http://www.ipsos-mori.com/DownloadPublication/1347_sri_perceptions-of-a-levels-gcses-wave8_19mar2010.pdf

LARC2: integrated children's services and the CAF process

The Local Authority Research Consortium (LARC), established in 2007, supports children's services in using and conducting research to evaluate progress, to inform practice, share findings and make recommendations locally and nationally. This report contains the collective findings of the 24 authorities involved in the LARC2 project, which uses the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) as a proxy to explore the effective integration between targeted and universal services, looking at outcomes for children, young people and their families. For more information visit:

<http://www.nfer.ac.uk/nfer/publications/LAQ01/LAQ01.pdf>

Statistical First Release (SFR) on outcome indicators for children looked after, 12 months to 30 September 2009 – England

This Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF) release provides information on a range of outcome indicators for children who have been continuously looked after for at least 12 months in England. For more information visit: http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000930/SFR08_2010_Main.pdf

Environment

Municipal waste statistics 2009/10

These Defra statistics provide provisional estimates from the department's survey of municipal waste in England, incorporating the second quarter of the 2009/10 financial year (July to September 2009). Total municipal waste decreased by 0.44 million tonnes in the year to end September 2009. There was an increase in the household recycling rate, from the average rate of 37.6 per cent between April 2008 and March 2009 to 38.8 per cent between October 2008 and September 2009. For more information visit:

http://www.defra.gov.uk/evidence/statistics/environment/wastats/download/mwb200910_Q2_statsrelease.pdf

Health and social care

Rights and reality: disabled people's experiences of accessing goods and services

Conducted for Leonard Cheshire Disability by Ipsos MORI, this report examines disabled people's experiences of accessing goods and services, and considers the extent to which disabled people have been able to enforce their rights through the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA). The report also makes recommendations as to how the new Equality Act (which will replace the DDA) can be implemented to make sure that it works effectively for disabled people. For more information visit: <http://www.lcdisability.org/?lid=12274>

Telling the story of Hartfields: a new retirement village for the twenty-first century

Hartfields, a retirement village in Hartlepool that opened in 2008, was developed by the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust in partnership with Hartlepool Borough Council and other local agencies. This study tracked key decisions made, and challenges faced, as the scheme developed. For more information visit:

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/Hartfields-retirement-village-full.pdf>

Talking Mats® help involve people with dementia and their carers in decision making

This Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) study has shown that Talking Mats®, a low-tech communication tool, can help people with dementia and their family carers feel more involved in making decisions about managing their everyday life. For more information visit:

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/Talking-Mats-and-decision-making-full.pdf>

NHS inpatient and outpatient waiting times figures, 31 March 2010

These NHS statistics provide information on inpatient and outpatient waiting times figures for the month ending 31 March 2010. They include data for England, Strategic Health Authorities, and NHS Trusts. For more information visit: http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_115647.pdf

Involving users in commissioning local services

This study by Age Concern London brought commissioners and service users together to discuss how service users can be involved in shaping local services. The project reflected on what's happening at the moment and how user involvement in commissioning could work in practice. For more information visit:

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/user-involvement-service-commissioning-full.pdf>

Population and migration

Revised population estimates mid-2002 to mid-2008

The ONS has released revised mid-2002 to mid-2008 population estimates for local authorities in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The population estimates can be found at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/popest> under 'Population estimates for UK, England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland – current datasets'.

The revisions have been produced as a result of improvements to methods introduced as part of the cross-government Migration Statistics Improvement Programme (MSIP). Details of the improvements can be found at: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/about-statistics/methodology-and-quality/imps/mig-stats-improve-prog/comm-stakeholders/improvements-2008-pop-est/index.html>

Economy/economic development

The state of the nation – how public money is spent in each region and country

This is the Centre for Economics and Business Research Ltd's (CEBR) 5th annual 'State of the Nation' report showing how public spending as a share of GDP varies by region and country in the UK. The report shows that the gap in public spending as a share of GDP across UK regions is widening; public spending as a share of GDP in the UK is close to 50 per cent – up from 37 per cent in 1998/99. For more information visit:

<http://www.cebr.com/Resources/CEBR/Forecasting%20Eye%20Special%20Regional%20Expenditure%20-%2026%20April%202010.pdf>

Local government

Local authority capital expenditure and receipts, England: 2008–09 final outturn (revised)

These CLG statistics provide revised final outturn figures for local authority capital expenditure and receipts for the financial year April 2008 to March 2009. For more information visit:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/13685721.pdf>

The councillors guide 2010/11

The IDeA Councillor's Guide has been revised and updated to reflect the latest legislation and thinking concerning local government in England. The guide provides information that new councillors need to know at the start of their careers in public life. For more information visit: <http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageld=18636476>

About local government – LGA quick guide

This LGA Group guide has been produced to send to all new MPs and their researchers after the election. MPs are often contacted by constituents with queries that are in fact often matters for the local council – this guide will help their researchers and caseworkers understand where they can find the answers. The guide also explains what the LGA Group does and how the organisations within the group can help. For more information visit:

<http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/aio/11058173>

Making local election information and results more widely available

Currently there is no freely available national database of local election results. The reason is simple. Compiling such a database is a laborious manual affair involving finding, cutting and pasting information published by 433 different councils so it has been the preserve of consultants and others who charge for doing it. The LGA Group and Socitm are encouraging councils to participate in the Open Election Data Project by publishing election results on their websites in a particular way so that collecting the information for re-use by anyone can be automated. This means that at minimal cost and effort, citizens, politicians, news media, academics, think tanks etc, can compile and present their own results database and analyse the information in different ways, 'mash-it up' with other data, and publish their findings. For more information visit: <http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pageld=10877582>

Benefits of NOMIS – feedback required

ONS have an ongoing contract with Durham University for the provision of the NOMIS web dissemination of Labour Market data. They are currently putting together a cost/benefit analysis for NOMIS to assess the benefits of the system. Users of NOMIS are asked to provide information on the following areas:

Benefit

What benefit does NOMIS actually provide to local government? Is it through helping you improve the way that you allocate funds or plan? If so, what size of funds are we talking about, and how much better is it with the information available from NOMIS (e.g. £5m allocated 1 per cent more effectively)? Is there some other way in which NOMIS actually makes a direct financial benefit?

Potential Costs if NOMIS was not there

If you didn't have NOMIS, how much would you have to spend to get the data that you currently get through NOMIS in other ways – or at least the amount of data that you would be willing to fund in other ways (if it would cost £500k to get all the data, but you would only bother with spending £10k – then just the £10k)? Could you get it in other ways? Are there legal requirements that you would end up paying for anyway?

Residual loss of benefit

Assuming that you have spent the money identified in the potential costs, would you be able to achieve all the benefit in the benefit section? If not, what would the residual gap be?

ONS are collating estimates of local government benefit based on feedback provided to the above.

Please respond to: bob.watson@ons.gsi.gov.uk

European and international

Perception survey on quality of life in European cities

The European Commission (DG Regional Policy) has been using these surveys for several years to gather a snapshot of people's opinions on a range of urban issues. Earlier surveys were conducted in 2004 and 2006. These perception surveys allow for comparisons between perceptions and "real" data from various statistical sources on issues such as urban security, unemployment and air quality. For more information visit:

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/flash/fl_277_en.pdf

Crime and disorder/safer communities

Acquisitive crime and plastic card fraud: findings from the 2008/09 British Crime Survey

This Home Office statistical bulletin provides information on the level of acquisitive crime as measured by the 2008–09 British Crime Survey. According to the survey acquisitive crime has fallen by half since 1995. For more information visit: <http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0810.pdf>

Crime in England and Wales: quarterly update to December 2009

This Home Office bulletin provides information on the most recent crime statistics from two different sources: the British Crime Survey (BCS) and police recorded crime. It includes figures relating to levels of crime and public perceptions of crime. For more information visit: <http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0710.pdf>

Police powers and procedures 2008/2009

This Home Office bulletin provides statistics on arrests, stops and searches, breath tests and police action in relation to motoring offences. For more information visit: <http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0610.pdf>

Communities and place shaping

2008–09 citizenship survey: volunteering and charitable giving topic report

This CLG report provides statistics on participation in formal and informal volunteering and trends in participation over time. It discusses volunteer's activities, the organisations they help, sources of information and motivations for, benefits from, and barriers to participating in volunteering. It also reports on participation in employer-supported volunteering. The report then focuses on charitable giving, looking at who gives to charity, the ways in which people give and the amount of money they donate. For more information visit:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/1547056.pdf>

regular publications and events

Social Research Association (SRA) Summer Event

Social research: the shape of things to come?

LGA, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

Thursday 1 July, 1.30–5pm

Quality social research is a key ingredient for understanding changes in society, dimensions of policy choices and for sound decision-making. Now, more than ever, the power of impartial, rigorous and objective analysis is of paramount importance in delivering public good. The new government and prevailing economic realities will influence the future of social research. But what will be or should be on the social research agenda?

The SRA is bringing together leading figures from the research industry, government social research, local government and academia to explore the challenges and opportunities facing social research.

For more information visit: http://www.the-sra.org.uk/documents/pdfs/sra_summer_event_2010.pdf

Strengthening user engagement

3 June 2010 09:30 – 12:30

Royal Statistical Society, 12 Errol Street, London EC1Y 8LX

In February 2009 the UK Statistics Authority announced its intention of carrying out a monitoring review to look at ways of enhancing communication between the producers of official statistics and the users – those organisations and individuals whose decisions and actions are influenced by statistics. The aim was both to guide the future development of the statistical service and to help users to engage with it and make the maximum possible use of it.

This open meeting provides an opportunity to discuss the interim report with the project team in advance of preparing their final report.

Registration is required, please contact: enquiries@statistics.gsi.gov.uk

Organising Group(s): UK Statistics Authority with the Statistics User Forum

There is no charge for this event.

Booking form:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/monitoring-reports/registration-form-strengthening-user-engagement.doc>

Senior information risk owner training workshops

The LGA are funding four half day update workshops, to give an overview of the SIRO (Senior Information Risk Owner) role. During these workshops you will hear about the latest practice in Corporate Information Governance and how the SIRO role is an integral part of this. You will also have an opportunity to network with others and discuss issues relevant to you in panel sessions.

The SIRO role was identified as part of the Cabinet Office recommendations around the Data Handling Review (DHR) and also formed part of the LGA's Data Handling Guidance for local authorities. The Data handling review is specifically concerned with the management and processing of sensitive personal information.

The workshop dates are:

- Leeds (Leeds University, Boddington House) – 23 June – 10.00–14.00
- London (Local Government House, Smith Sq) 30 June – 10.00–14.00
- Devon (Buckfast Abbey) 7 July – 10.00–16.00 (includes meeting of SWWARP from 14.00)
- Wales (Builth Wells) 8 September – 10.00–16.00

Space at these workshops is limited, please register early.

To book your free place e-mail chris.whitehead@nlawarp.gov.uk, with your full details. For further information on these events and others please join our Information Assurance community of practice <http://www.communities.idea.gov.uk/c/1164484/home.do>

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Public Health Research programme – new funding opportunities now available

Commissioned call for proposals

Applicants are invited to submit proposals on the following commissioning briefs:

Encourage walking and cycling to work (reference 10/3001) – proposal type: outline

Submission deadline: 23 August 2010 before 1pm

Alcohol misuse by children (reference 10/3002) – proposal type: outline

Submission deadline: 23 August 2010 before 1pm

Traveller Communities (reference 10/3004) – proposal type: direct to full

Submission deadline: 26 July 2010, before 1pm

To find out more about how to apply and download the full commissioning briefs visit the Public Health Research programme's website: <http://www.phr.nihr.ac.uk/fundingopportunities/commissioned.asp?src=em>

The NIHR Health Technology Assessment programme is currently considering commissioning research into employer schemes to encourage employees to walk or cycle to work but with an NHS focus. If you would like us to alert you should this call be launched, please email hta@hta.ac.uk.

Researcher-led call for proposals

The next cut-off date for submitting researcher-led outline proposals is Monday 6 September 2010, before 1pm.

Potential applicants should visit the Public Health Research programme's website:

http://www.phr.nihr.ac.uk/fundingopportunities/researcher_led.asp?src=em

Suggest a research topic

NIHR welcome suggestions of public health topics that require further research. Anyone can make a suggestion online at: <http://www.phr.nihr.ac.uk/suggest?src=em>

Local Authorities and Research Councils' Initiative (LARCI) Newsletter Spring Edition 2010

Articles in the latest LARCI Newsletter include:

- how local authorities can benefit from what the Research Councils have to offer.
- how research aims to develop practical policy responses to help older people enjoy a better quality of life.
- how sustainability experts are helping local authorities to meet policy guidelines and build sustainable communities.
- how universities create vital economic and social impact on their cities and regions.

For more information visit: <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/innovation/partnership/larci/publications.htm>

Living with environmental change (LWEC) newsletter – Spring 2010

The latest LWEC newsletter highlights developments and activities since Feb 2010. For more information visit: <http://www.lwec.org.uk/newsletters/2010/05>

The Local Authorities Research and Intelligence Association (LARIA) community of practice

LARIA aims to support local researchers in the public sector and to promote the role and practice of research within the field of local government. It provides a supportive network for those conducting or commissioning research. The new community of practice has been established to enable all people working within the public sector, not just those within local government, to discuss issues, share thoughts, share work and also to signpost other communities which may be of interest. To register visit: <http://www.communities.idea.gov.uk/c/3328800/home.do>

IDeA knowledge weekly bulletin

The IDeA Knowledge weekly bulletin provides links to the latest improvement news from across the public sector, case studies from councils in England and Wales, government guidance and research, feature articles on key issues and interviews with key figures. For more information visit: <http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelD=7564728>

Focus newsletter

Focus is the bi-monthly newsletter of LGE. The newsletter provides the latest information on all aspects of pay, pensions and employment issues in the local government arena. For more information visit: <http://www.lge.gov.uk/lge/core/page.do?pagelD=120018>

Association of Regional Observatories bulletin

This quarterly bulletin from the Association of Regional Observatories (ARO) provides an insight into the work of the Association, and its members, with details of publications, forthcoming events and future research plans. For more information visit: <http://www.regionalobservatories.org.uk/reading-room/>

ESRC eNews

This online newsletter from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), is issued every two months, highlighting funding opportunities, corporate news and other information of interest to the community. The latest edition is available at: <http://www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/about/CI/CP/enews/eNews.aspx#0>



Local Government Association

The Local Government Association is the national voice for more than 400 local authorities in England and Wales. The LGA group comprises the LGA and five partner organisations which work together to support, promote and improve local government.



Tell us what you think

We hope to provide information which is useful and accessible. Please contact Michelle Pickford (michelle.pickford@lga.gov.uk) with your comments and feedback on LGAARB.

For further information, please contact:
LGA Analysis and Research
Local Government House, Smith Square,
London SW1P 3HZ
Telephone 020 7664 3000
www.lga.gov.uk/research

Or telephone LGconnect for all your
local government queries on 020 7664 3131
Fax 020 7664 3030
Email info@lga.gov.uk