

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 (4ps, IDeA, LACORS, LGE and Leadership Centre for Local Government), 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 the LGAR website at <http://www.lga.gov.uk/research>.

contents

information about the LGA group	2
new research and statistics	3
employment, pay and workforce trends	3
transport	4
housing	5
education and children's services	6
environment	7
health and social care	7
communities	8
economy/economic development	9
local government	9
European and international	10
crime and disorder	10
regular publications and events	11

information about the LGA group

The Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA)

The IDeA aims to make public services the best public services by supporting self-sustaining improvement from within local government. The IDeA works in partnership with all councils, to enhance the performance of the best, accelerate the speed of improvement of the rest, and develop the sector as a whole. For more information visit: <http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageId=1>

Leadership Centre for Local Government

Leadership Centre for Local Government give leaders the opportunity to shift their thinking on leadership so they can fundamentally transform their communities for the better. They help and support leaders while they reassess their approach to leadership – in practice leading across place rather than just their authorities. This means thinking beyond the familiar, to find new and different ways of meeting the leadership challenges. LCLG create the space for senior managers and politicians to think about the ambitions they have for their communities and how they can achieve them in order to fundamentally transform their localities for the better. For more information visit: <http://www.localleadership.gov.uk/>

Local Authorities Coordinators of Regulatory Services (LACORS)

LACORS provide and disseminate comprehensive advice, guidance, good practice and information to make a major contribution to the development of high quality, consistent and co-ordinated local authority regulatory and related services across the UK. For more information visit: <http://www.lacors.gov.uk/pages/trade/lacors.asp>

Local Government Association (LGA)

The LGA exists to promote better local government. It works with and for member authorities to realise a shared vision of local government that enables local people to shape a distinctive and better future for their locality and its communities. The LGA aims to put local councils at the heart of the drive to improve public services and to work with government to ensure that the policy, legislative and financial context in which they operate, supports that objective. The LGA's **European and International Unit** (the former Local Government International Bureau) lobbies the EU and international institutions to get the best deal for councils; keeps councils informed about EU work that affects them; develops international partnerships and co-operation; supports locally elected members in European and international institutions; and promotes the development of local democracy around the world. For more information visit: <http://www.lga.gov.uk>

Local Government Employers (LGE)

LGE is the national centre of excellence for local authorities on pay, pensions and employment strategy. They work with local authorities, regional employers and other bodies to lead and create solutions on pay, pensions and the employment contract, to ensure the provision of excellent and affordable local services. For more information visit: <http://www.lge.gov.uk>

4ps

4ps, local government's project delivery specialist, works exclusively to help all local authorities deliver better public services via major infrastructure and service projects. A range of support is available from 4ps including access to best practice, skills development workshops, gateway reviews and project management support. This support can help local authorities seeking to deliver initiatives such as Private Finance Initiatives (PFI) and Public Private Partnership (PPP) secure funding, carry out options appraisals, evaluate bids and negotiate contracts. For more information visit: <http://www.4ps.gov.uk/>

Employment pay and workforce trends

Pathways to work from incapacity benefits: a review of research findings on referral practices and liaison with service providers

This Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) paper presents a review of research findings on the topic of referrals and working relationships between Jobcentre Plus and other organisations and practitioners helping people with health problems and disabilities. For more information visit:

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/WP57.pdf>

Pathways to work from incapacity benefits: a study of referral practices and liaison between Jobcentre Plus advisers and service providers

This DWP report presents findings from a research project that explored referral practices and liaison amongst Jobcentre Plus staff and service providers involved in helping incapacity benefits recipients move towards, and into, paid employment. For more information visit: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2009-2010/rrep555.pdf>

Understanding the needs, attitudes and behaviours of teleworkers

This DWP report presents the findings from a six month qualitative study exploring the attitudes, motivations and travel behaviour of teleworkers. For more information visit:

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/scienceresearch/social/teleworkers/keyfindings>

In-work poverty: a systematic review

This DWP report presents the findings of a systematic review of the evidence base on working poor families with dependant children. The review aims to increase understanding of research in this area and produce findings that will help inform future policy and research. For more information visit:

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2009-2010/rrep549.pdf>

Saving for retirement: implications of pensions reforms on financial incentives to save for retirement

This DWP publication is the report of the Savings Incentives Work Programme - a year-long programme to analyse the financial incentives to save for retirement. It looks at the impact of saving under the system laid out in the Pensions Acts 2007 and 2008, and also looks at the pros, cons and wider impacts of measures proposed by stakeholders to improve the financial incentives to save. It also summarises research describing what individuals see as important when deciding whether or not to save, and their understanding of and responses to financial incentives. For more information visit: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2009-2010/rrep558.pdf>

Incentives to save for retirement: understanding, perceptions and behaviour - a literature review

This DWP paper reviews the literature on motivations, understanding, perceptions and behaviour relating to saving for retirement. It is published as a companion paper to the main report of the saving incentives work programme. For more information visit: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2009-2010/rrep562.pdf>

Labour market statistics - February 2009

These Office for National Statistics (ONS) labour market statistics show that there has been a fall in both the number of people in employment and the employment rate. The number of unemployed people, the unemployment rate and the claimant count have all increased. For more information visit:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/pdfdir/lmsuk0209.pdf>

From recession to recovery II: a focus on unemployment

In a recession, some areas experience much larger rises in unemployment than others. Different areas also see very different rates of recovery in the job market. The main programmes for helping people into work, the national employment and training programmes, are delivered through the Department of Work and Pensions, Job Centre

Plus and the Learning and Skills Council. In a recession, people's experience of the impact on jobs will vary from place to place. During these difficult times, it is more important than ever that the decisions about employment and training are taken locally by people close to the economic reality - so that help can be effectively targeted on the needs of local people and employers.

This LGA report therefore underlines the importance of the steps government is taking towards devolving economic decision making to sub-regions, cities, counties and local partnerships, and the need to make those changes with greater urgency. The research explores the recovery from previous recessions identifying the "rock-pools" of lingering worklessness - those areas that took longest to recover in the 1980s and 1990s recessions if they have fully recovered at all. For more information visit: <http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/aio/1623986>

Transport

The travel choices and needs of low income households: the role of the car

This Department for Transport (DfT) report explores factors that influence low income households' decision making about how, when, where and why to travel by car and the role access to a car plays in supporting low income households' access to key services, social networks and life opportunities. The priority given to car-related costs in low income households' budgets is also considered as is the potential impact of a reduction in income or an increase in costs. For more information visit: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/scienceresearch/social/theroleofthecar/roleofthecarreport.pdf>

Exploring public attitudes to climate change and travel choices: deliberative research

This DfT research provides a greater insight into public understanding of climate change and how it relates to personal travel behaviours. It explores the barriers and motivations for travel behaviour change, and considers the role of information in increasing public awareness and understanding of the issues. For more information visit: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/scienceresearch/social/climatechange/attitudestoclimatechange.pdf>

Van activity baseline survey 2008: provisional results

These DfT statistics give details of van activity for England. Undertaken during November and December 2008, the survey findings provide information about the composition of the national van fleet, and the factors affecting the growth in this sector. For more information visit: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/freight/vanactivitybaseline08/vabs08.pdf>

Regional transport statistics: 2008 edition

This National Statistics publication brings together a wide range of transport statistics for Great Britain and Northern Ireland at Government Office Region and former Metropolitan County level. Amongst others the report covers the following areas; personal travel, public transport, road vehicles, road traffic, road safety and freight. For more information visit: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/regionaldata/rts/regtranstats2008>

Congestion on inter-urban roads- monthly provisional estimates: December 2008

The latest DfT monthly national statistics on congestion on inter-urban roads in England cover the inter-urban network which consists of all motorways and trunk 'A' roads managed by the Highways Agency, as well as the M6 Toll. For more information visit: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/roadtraffic/speedscongestion/congestiononthestrategicroad5359>

Road casualties in Great Britain: quarterly provisional estimates Q3 2008

This DfT publication includes national statistics on road casualties in personal injury road accidents reported to the police in Great Britain for the third quarter of 2008. For more information visit: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/accidents/rcgbq32008>

Road traffic and congestion in Great Britain: quarter 4 2008

This DfT statistical bulletin includes information on road traffic and congestion in Great Britain Q4 2008. For more information visit: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/roadstraffic/traffic/qbtrafficgb/2008/q408>

International sea passengers: provisional estimates - December 2008

This DfT release updates key statistics on passengers arriving and departing Great Britain by ferry. For more information visit: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/maritime/passengers/>

Transport trends 2008

This DfT publication presents an overview and analysis of trends in transport and travel in Great Britain over the past 25 years, and highlights some of the key issues. For more information visit: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/trends/current/>

Housing

Local authority housing statistics, England: 2007/08: housing strategy statistical appendix (HSSA) and business plan statistical appendix (BPSA)

The latest statistics provided by local authorities in England on their Housing Strategy Statistical Appendix (HSSA) and Business Plan Statistical Appendix (BPSA) for 2007/08 have been released. Topics include: local authority housing stock; households on local authority housing waiting lists; participation of local authorities in Choice Based Letting (CBL) schemes; local authority lettings; decent homes delivery; and programme of work on Housing Revenue Account (HRA) stock. For more information: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/1126284.pdf>

Government review of regulation and redress in the UK housing market: final report

This Communities and Local Government (CLG) report assesses the scale and scope of regulation in the housing market and the extent to which it works effectively for consumers. It also makes recommendations for improving the effectiveness and efficiency of regulation and redress across the property sector. For more information visit: <http://www.berr.gov.uk/files/file49743.pdf>

Housing and planning key facts - February 2009

This CLG publication provides key facts on; households and population projections, housing stock, housing delivery, vacant dwellings, the private housing market, local authority and registered social landlord lettings, council house sales, homelessness, the planning system, decent homes and energy efficiency. For more information visit: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/1139234.pdf>

House price index - November 2008

The latest CLG UK house price index statistics include data based on mortgage completions during the month of November 2008. For more information visit: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/1116925.pdf>

Land use change statistics (England) 2007 - provisional estimates (January 2009)

This CLG release provides the last of three revised estimates for 2007 for changes on previously-developed land and the average density of new dwellings. For more information visit: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/1133537.pdf>

English house condition survey 2007 - headline report

This CLG report provides an update on progress towards providing better living conditions in England. For more information visit: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/1133548.pdf>

Education and children's services

Local index of child well-being

National initiatives to tackle child poverty and social exclusion have become increasingly concentrated at small area level. This CLG report is the first attempt to produce such a specialised index at small area level for the country. It will enable the policy and research community to identify which local areas are the highest priority for action to raise child well-being, and the extent to which services and initiatives are focussing on the well-being of children in those areas.

The index uses mainly administrative data on children covering seven domains of well-being:

- income
- health
- education
- housing
- environment
- crime
- children in need

For more information visit: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/doc/1126244.doc>

A good childhood

This report from The Children's Society marked the completion of The Good Childhood Inquiry, the UK's first independent inquiry into what makes for a good childhood today. The publication describes the views of 8,000 young people aged 14 to 16 about what makes for, and what prevents, a good life for young people. It includes views on friends, family and learning, lifestyle, health and values. For more information visit:

http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/resources/documents/good%20childhood/14690_full.pdf

Raising young people's aspirations towards higher education - teachers' attitudes

This Department for Innovation Universities and Skills (DIUS) report examines the role and impact of education practitioners on the HE aspirations of young people. It considered the range of attitudes, knowledge and practices currently exercised in a cross-section of English schools and sixth form colleges that have low progression rates into post-16 education. The study aimed to identify the key factors of influence, and potential approaches for addressing these. For more information visit: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/DIUS-RR-09-01.pdf>

National statistical first release on higher education enrolments and qualifications obtained at higher education institutions in the UK in the academic year 2007-08

These DIUS statistics present information on enrolments and qualifications obtained in UK higher education, and also include data from Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. For more information visit:

http://www.hesa.ac.uk/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1356&Itemid=161

Tired of hanging around: using sport and leisure activities to prevent anti-social behaviour by young people

This Audit Commission report focuses on the role of sport and leisure activities in preventing anti-social behaviour in young people aged 8 to 19 years. These activities are part of the actions that councils and their partners can use to tackle and prevent anti-social behaviour. The study recognises, but does not cover, local agencies' work with families and young children or the role of schools in helping to prevent or address anti-social behaviour. For more information visit:

<http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/Products/NATIONAL-REPORT/9F4E760A-70C4-47e6-80D0-E7B37AF237E4/tiredofhangingaround28jan09REP.pdf>

Use of an aptitude test in university entrance: a validity study

This is the second major report of a five-year research study from DIUS to examine the validity of an aptitude test in higher education admissions. The report examines the higher education/destinations of students in the sample and presents further analyses of the Standard Assessment Tests (SAT) data, looking at the relationships between SAT scores and attainment in particular A level subjects. For more information visit:

<http://www.dius.gov.uk/research/documents/DIUS-RR-09-02.pdf>

Extended schools survey of schools, pupils and parents - a quantitative study of perceptions and usage of extended services in schools

The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) commissioned Ipsos MORI to undertake a survey of schools, parents and pupils in relation to current provision, usage and perceptions of extended schools services. For more information visit: <http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RR068.pdf>

Increasing participation - understanding young people who do not participate in education or training at 16 or 17

This DCSF report aims to achieve a better understanding of those who are either Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) or in a Job without Training (JWT) at 16 and 17 by providing a more detailed breakdown of the 'types' of young people within these two categories. The structural and personal issues these individuals face and the likely routes into participation in learning for each of them, is considered. For more information visit:

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RR072.pdf>

Ending child poverty in a changing economy

This Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) research shows what effect current policies will have on child poverty by 2010 and 2020. Taking account of the recession, it estimates the costs of meeting the government target of halving child poverty by 2010 and eliminating it by 2020 using the most recent data available. For more information visit:

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/hirsch-child-poverty-changing-economy.pdf>

Environment

War on waste - food packaging study - wave 3

The UK generates around 25 million tonnes of household waste per year, much of this ends up in landfill. As part of the LGA 'War on Waste' campaign, LGA Analysis and Research commissioned BMRB social research to undertake an ongoing study of food packaging. The third wave of this study investigated the food packaging levels and composition on 29 common food items from eight retailers. The research showed that 5 per cent of the weight of the contents of shopping baskets in the study were made up of packaging and the proportion of waste packaging that was recyclable ranged from 57.8 per cent in Lidl's basket to 66.8 per cent in the baskets from Sainsburys. Since the LGA's first survey in October 2007 the weight of food packaging has been reduced overall but the proportion that can be recycled has changed little. For more information visit: <http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pagelD=1095335>

Health and social care

The state of social care in England 2007-08

The fourth annual Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) report on the state of social care gives a comprehensive overview of the social care sector in England. It sets out detailed information on the range, quality and availability of social care services across the public, private and voluntary sectors. For more information visit:

http://www.csci.org.uk/PDF/SOSC08%20Report%2008_Web.pdf

How are the kids?

A major Department of Health (DoH) survey of children's health, *How Are the Kids?*, has been launched as part of the Change4Life campaign. Families in England will be asked to give information about their eating and activity habits and, in return, will receive a specially tailored plan to help them eat well, move more and live longer. For more information visit:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/News/Recentstories/DH_093993

Facing facts and tomorrow's reality today: the cost of care

This publication is the second in a series of LGA papers on the future of social care. The first, *Our Lives, Our Choices* explored how a simplified, locally-based system of care and support could address a number of the challenges which make the current system unsustainable.

This second paper looks in more detail at one of the central issues facing the future of adult social care and support: funding. The publication examines three issues:

- the current system of funding and the current costs of care and support;
- the future cost of care and support;
- making the most of the money available

For more information visit: <http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/publications/publication-display.do?id=1546470>

Coordinated food standards surveys for 2009/10

LACORS recently sent out a communication to confirm that the coordinated food standards surveys for 2009/10 have been agreed as:

- nutrition standards at nurseries for 1-4 year olds;
- continuation of the ongoing salt, sugar and fat survey in pre-packed food;
- minced beef.

The communication detailing the planned surveys for 2009/10 also provided a link to the LACORS website, where further information could be found about the planned surveys, including estimated analysis costs and information to support local funding bids. Some local authorities have experienced difficulties accessing this information and therefore the website entry has been amended to alleviate these issues.

The updated website entry can be found at

<http://www.lacors.gov.uk/lacors/ViewDocument.aspx?docID=20976&docType=C>

For more information contact: Gwyneth Rogers

Team Leader - Food and Animal Health gwyneth.rogers@lacors.gov.uk

Communities

Citizenship survey: April - September 2008, England

These latest national statistics from the CLG Citizenship Survey cover a range of issues including: community cohesion, empowerment, values, racial and religious prejudice and discrimination, volunteering and charitable giving. For more information visit: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/1133115.pdf>

Making our cities sustainable

A new customised search engine has just been created to open up results from an extensive UK research programme focused on Sustainable Urban Environments (SUE). This single gateway allows access to over £38 million worth of government funded research. It will enable Practitioners, Policy Makers and the Third Sector to search for the precise research, tools and evidence that they need in making decisions about cities, investment for communities, planning, buildings, transport, regeneration and other aspects of urban sustainability.

To check whether there are research findings relevant to your work please go to the SUE Search engine which is at <http://www.urbansustainabilityexchange.org.uk/ISSUESueProgramme.htm>

The SUE Search Engine is part of the 'Urban Sustainability Exchange' website, which is being developed to provide a gateway to all SUE research, and is at <http://www.urbansustainabilityexchange.org.uk/index.htm>

The SUE Search Engine has been produced by ISSUES, a team working to improve Knowledge Exchange from the ongoing SUE Programme. Both SUE and ISSUES are funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC).

For more information contact: K.J.Beckmann@hw.ac.uk

Economy / economic development

Cities outlook 2009

The second edition of this annual report from Centre for Cities - looks back at the recent economic performance of UK cities as well as the main policy milestones of 2008. It also looks ahead to the prospects for UK cities in 2009 and beyond and reveals the cities most exposed to recession - and least well placed to ride out job losses and business closures over the coming months. The report suggests that in 2009 all cities will feel recession bite but they will also be leading the upturn as the economy recovers. For more information visit:

<http://www.centreforcities.org/assets/files/Cities%20Outlook%202009.pdf>

The credit crunch and regeneration: impact and implications

This CLG study assesses what the effect of the credit crunch has been, what might happen next, and what the key implications are for partners involved in regeneration. For more information visit:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/citiesandregions/pdf/1135143.pdf>

Local government

With a little help from our friends

This Localis publication was sponsored by LGA, and compares the governance of England with that of countries across the world. It demonstrates the fundamental differences between the way local government is thought of in England compared to countries as diverse as South Africa and Denmark. For more information visit:

http://www.localisresearch.org/files/With%20a%20Little%20Help%20From%20Our%20Friends_final.pdf

Neighbourhood statistics data exchange (NDE)

The NDE is a new, free of charge, online facility provided by the Neighbourhood Statistics Service. It has been designed to make it easier for other information systems to interrogate and engage with the Neighbourhood Statistics datastore. By using machine to machine technology to speed up and simplify data requests, the NDE provides the facility to download large volumes of data with direct access to over 300 geographically referenced datasets, allowing more complex analysis of the wealth of information available.

The primary purpose of the new service is to improve data handling for local authorities and other organisations and to help ensure that decisions on resource allocation are based on evidence.

The NDE will be welcomed by those who are already users of the Neighbourhood Statistics website and who have expressed an interest in incorporating data directly into their own systems without the need to 'cut and paste', as the data can now be easily integrated into existing business tools. More detailed information on the NDE can be accessed from:

<http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/Info.do?page=nde.htm>

To register to use the service, or if you want to contact Neighbourhood Statistics, please email Better.Info@ons.gov.uk For the latest data on the economy and society consult National Statistics at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk>

Economic diagnostic tool

IDeA has developed a diagnostic tool to help councils fulfil their enhanced role in place shaping and promoting economic prosperity. It provides a framework and a set of diagnostic questions for use in self-assessment or peer review. It is intended to identify gaps in knowledge or interventions, and help councils improve their place shaping role. For more information visit: <http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelid=9325114>

Backing communities: local solutions

This joint report from LGA and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) highlights work that local authorities are doing with third sector partners to support local people through the recession. It also identifies challenges faced by third sector organisations at this time; areas of shared concern where greater joint working might be needed in future; and good practice that can be put in place to ensure that vital support services and good working relationships are not undermined. For more information visit: <http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/aio/1577798>

Looking back, moving forward: accounts of council improvement by leading politicians

This new IDEa publication provides a collection of eight leaders' and one elected mayor's personal accounts of their council's improvement journey. For more information visit: <http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/aio/9374711>

European and international

Awareness of key-policies in the area of freedom, security and justice

This European Commission survey was conducted in order to examine the level of concern that EU citizens felt about key policies in the area of Freedom, Security and Justice. The amount of support for EU-level actions in those areas and citizens' opinions as to whether the EU should be communicating those policies more efficiently were considered. For more information visit: http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/flash/fl_252_en.pdf

EUpdate

This is the free fortnightly news bulletin from the LGA's European and International Unit. It contains headline information on topical European stories that affect local authorities. To receive this bulletin, please visit: <http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/reg/user-register.do>

Crime and disorder/ safer communities

Homicides, firearm offences and intimate violence 2007/2008

This Home Office bulletin provides supplementary information that accompanies the main 2007/08 crime volume, Crime in England and Wales 2007/08, which is available at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/hosb0708.pdf>

The bulletin contains chapters on homicides and firearm offences, which contain mostly statistics of crimes recorded by the police. For more information visit: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs09/hosb0209.pdf>

Crime in England and Wales: quarterly update to September 2008

This Home Office update presents the most recent crime statistics from two different sources: the British Crime Survey (BCS) and police recorded crime. Both datasets represent the most up-to date information, but they cover different time periods. The BCS results are from interviews conducted in the period October 2007 to September 2008; police recorded crime refers to the July to September 2008 quarter. For more information visit: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs09/hosb0109.pdf>

Police service strength England and Wales - 30 September 2008

This Home Office bulletin provides information on police officers (full-time equivalents) in England and Wales on 30 September 2008. For more information visit: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs09/hosb0309.pdf>

Young people, crime and public perceptions a review of the literature

Completed by the NFER (National Foundation for Educational Research) on behalf of the LGA, this report explores the dynamic between the prevalence of youth crime and the public's perception of offending amongst young people. It considered whether concerns over youth crime are justified and whether the media image of an increasingly criminal youth population is a matter of fact or fiction. For more information visit: <http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pagelD=1587666>

regular publications and events

Place matters - implementing the UK location strategy

Thursday, 23 April 2009, 10.40am - 2.00pm
Commonwealth Club, Westminster

This Westminster Briefing will give delegates the opportunity to discuss and be informed on the Location Strategy (published in November 2008) and to hear how local information gathering and sharing can be taken forwards on a practical level. It will also investigate how the drive for gathering stronger local data fits into, and can inform, the government's wider drive towards putting considerations of 'place' at the forefront of local authorities strategic planning. For more information and costs visit: <https://www.eventsforce.net/dods/frontend/reg/homepage.csp?eventID=1108> or contact: jonathan.fuller@westminster-briefing.com 020 7096 2920

A vision for the natural environment

Natural England are running a series of workshops as part of their vision for the natural environment to 2060 project. Informed by an underpinning set of scenarios, the vision will set out what the natural environment could look and function like in 2060, including how it will contribute to the needs of society. The draft set of scenarios will cover the full span of Natural England's remit (marine, coast, urban, uplands, lowlands, wetlands) and a range of socio-economic, cultural and political issues.

Stakeholder engagement is a key component of scenario development and Natural England are running a series of workshops in March to help further progress and test, the draft scenarios. These are:

3 March Peterborough (likely to have a marine and coastal theme)
10 March Reading Innovation Centre
12 March Taunton
18 March Wakefield
19 March Nottingham

If you would like to attend any of these workshops please email Chris.gordon@naturalengland.org.uk

Government social research bulletin - January 2009

The bulletin highlights GSR news and government research outputs published in the last month. It also contains a website of the month feature. For more information visit: http://www.gsr.gov.uk/new_research/bulletin/2009/0901.asp



Local Government Association

The Local Government Association is the national voice for more than 450 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.



I&DeA

LACORS

LGE



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.

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