

The importance of population statistics to local authorities

Paul Davison

Chair, LARIA in Scotland

Question 1

- Are Local Authorities **making best use** of population and related statistics in planning and delivering its services?

Question 2

- **Is there capacity** broadly across local authorities to understand and use population statistics to improve services?

Question 3

- Are Local Authorities working in **effective partnerships**, internally and externally, to join up their population work?

Local Authorities Research + Intelligence
Association

***Supporting local
researchers in the public
sector***

By

... promoting the role and practice of research and analysis within the field of local government;

and providing a supportive network for those conducting or commissioning research and analysis

LARIA is Active

- Informal networking & formal activity groups
- Newsletter *LariaNews* (3 per year)
- LARIA website
- Annual conference
- One day events
- Member development initiatives
- Good practice guides & other publications
- Research contacts

LARIA in Scotland

- Statutory requirements for research *(joint with Scottish Government)*
- AIR Community of Practice (joint with Improvement Service)
- Community support projects *(joint with IS/ SG) e.g. mapping networks*
- Input to projects and initiatives e.g. knowledge exchange

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Latest forum posts

Collaborate with other community members. ?

[Collaborative Gain - Getting the most out of partnership working - research study published](#)
29 Oct 2008 10:42 | Jane Mackenzie

[Hello!](#)
29 Oct 2008 10:39 | Jane Mackenzie

[LARIA Excellence in Research Award](#)
09 Oct 2008 17:22 | Jane Mackenzie

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Add events of interest to community members here. ?

[Best value, performance and efficiency](#)
31 Oct 2008 | University of Edinburgh (Scotland)

[INDEPENDENT HEALTHY AGEING – Showcasing Research](#)
13 Nov 2008 | Glasgow Royal Concert Hall (Scotland)

[Fifth KnowFife Research Fair](#)
19 Nov 2008 | Dunfermline (Scotland)

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Imminent SFC Knowledge Exchange Project

- **Higher Education – ‘Engaging with Scottish local authorities’**
- **Themes:**
 - **Assessing customer needs/demands and how these are balanced with resources**
 - **Outcomes and impact assessment**
 - **Strengthening democratic processes**
 - **Improving and measuring productivity**
 - **Effective partnership working**
 - **Streamlining accountability**
- **Key topic: Demographic change**

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