

Our weekly bulletin contains a selection of research reports, journal articles and new books chosen by our research team and added to our database in the last week.

If you have a query about any of these documents, or any other aspect of our service, please contact us on AskTheResearchTeam@idoxgroup.com or 0333 011 1694.

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New Government Publications

This is a list of government guidance, consultation papers, etc, on topics relevant to our members, published in the previous week. They are all on the web and the web addresses were checked on the Wednesday preceding the date of this Bulletin.

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

[Food scraps could be turned into environmentally friendly plastic packaging \(news release\)](#)

[New measures to tackle international money laundering \(news release\)](#)

[Technical feasibility of electric heating in rural off-gas grid dwellings](#)

Department for Education

[Mentoring schemes and top scholarships for children in care \(news release\)](#)

[Out-of-school settings voluntary safeguarding code of practice \(consultation\)](#)

[Education Secretary vows to boost vulnerable children's outcomes: help for teachers and social workers to help tackle poorer outcomes of children in need of help and protection from social care \(news release\)](#)

[Improving the educational outcomes of children in need of help and protection: interim findings](#)

Department of Health and Social Care

[Government review to improve the lives of autistic children \(news release\)](#)

[£1 billion of funding to upgrade NHS services in England \(news release\)](#)

[Matt Hancock orders review into over-prescribing in the NHS \(news release\)](#)

[Health and Social Care Secretary bans fax machines in NHS \(news release\)](#)

Home Office

[Home Office funding to combat substance misuse by young people \(news release\)](#)

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

[Security deposit cap reduced to save renters hundreds of pounds \(news release\)](#)

[£1 million funding for communities to create their own pocket parks \(news release\)](#)

[Pocket parks plus: supporting parks and public spaces](#)

[Innovative digital projects to improve public services win funding: councils awarded almost £1.3 million to find solutions for how digital technology can improve services for the public \(news release\)](#)

[James Brokenshire unveils action plan to combat rough sleeping](#)

[Notes on neighbourhood planning: edition 21](#)

Department for Transport

[Williams Rail Review \(consultation\)](#)

[Traffic regulation orders: applying for and creating orders plus using data \(consultation\)](#)

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

[Greening government: sustainable technology strategy 2020](#)

Department for Work and Pensions

[£40 million personalised support package for long-term unemployed disabled people launched \(news release\)](#)

Welsh Government

[EU funding helps promote cutting-edge technology in Wales \(news release\)](#)

[High street retailers to get £2,500 cut to their rates bills \(news release\)](#)

[£2m funding boost to help make Wales a play friendly country \(news release\)](#)

[Improving public transport \(consultation\)](#)

[New funding to ensure children with SEN benefit from the Childcare Offer for Wales \(news release\)](#)

[New standards to reduce the risk of reoffending in cases of violence against women \(news release\)](#)

[£9.5 million EU investment will help Wales move towards a low carbon economy \(news release\)](#)

[Active travel links, electric car charging facilities and road improvement projects to benefit from £78million transport funding \(news release\)](#)

[Draft additional learning needs code \(consultation\)](#)

[Changes to nutrition legislation \(consultation\)](#)

[Places to enrich people's lives at heart of new Planning Policy \(news release\)](#)

Scottish Government

[Building Scotland Fund: £25m to SPRUCE for regeneration projects \(news release\)](#)

[Tackling the disability employment gap: addressing workplace barriers for disabled people \(news release\)](#)

[A fairer Scotland for disabled people: employment action plan](#)

[Transitioning to carbon neutrality: remit and initial Just Transition Commission members announced \(news release\)](#)

[Enhancing human rights: new taskforce to lead on human rights \(news release\)](#)

[2019 National Improvement Framework and Improvement Plan](#)

[PACE: International Literature Review](#)

[Drafting matters!](#)

[No one left behind: review of employability services](#)

[Transportation noise action plan 2019-2023 \(consultation\)](#)

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Government, politics and public administration

Ares, Elena et al.

Ref No: [B51934](#)

The Political Declaration on the Framework for Future EU-UK Relations (Briefing paper no 08454)

House of Commons Library

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/rv4z30mQcRg>)

2018

Pages: 64

Publisher's price: na

Presents a summary of the Political Declaration on the Framework for Future EU-UK Relations which sets out the scope and terms of the EU-UK relationship after the UK leaves the EU. Outlines the Basis for Co-operation which establishes that the future relationship should be based on shared EU and UK values and principles including respect for human rights, democracy and the rule of law. Covers the future economic EU-UK relationship discussing trade in goods, services and investment, and sectors including financial services, digital, transport, energy and fishing. Discusses the security partnership including law enforcement and judicial cooperation in criminal matters and foreign policy, security and defence. Outlines the structure of the agreement and governance arrangements. Sets out some general principles on how progress will be made in developing the Political Declaration and a structure for future negotiations on the EU-UK relationship.

Anon.

Ref No: [B51935](#)

The UK's EU Withdrawal Agreement (Briefing paper no 08453)

House of Commons Library

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/lav430mQd1n>)

2018

Pages: 161

Publisher's price: na

Summarises the UK's EU Withdrawal Agreement (WA) which provides for the UK's exit from the EU in an orderly manner. Includes details on: common provisions; citizens' rights (including continuous residence, free movement for UK nationals after Brexit and social security arrangements); separation provisions (including on market access for goods, ongoing customs, VAT and excise matters and agriculture); the transition period; the financial settlement (including the methodology for calculating the UK's share and payment schedule); and governance arrangements. Includes protocols on Ireland/Northern Ireland (including the backstop) and on UK Sovereign Base Areas in Cyprus and Gibraltar. Discusses ratification of the WA in the UK including details on the 'meaningful vote' process, Parliament's role in a no-deal scenario and provisions required if a second referendum was to be held. Outlines the constitutional implications of the texts in the UK.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) Analysis Unit

Ref No: [B51946](#)

UK poverty 2018

Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/YhZS30mR3SP>)

2018

Pages: 53

Publisher's price: na

ISBN: 9781911581550

Examines the nature and scale of poverty in the UK, and looks at how poverty rates have changed. Uses the poverty indicator of a family income being less than 60% of median income for their family type, after housing costs. Draws on data from various sources, including Households Below Average Income and the Family Resources Survey. Describes the way in which poverty has changed among children, working-age adults and pensioners, and details the poverty lines for different groups. Looks at poverty in relation to disability and ethnicity, and studies evidence of persistent poverty and destitution. Examines child poverty in working families and lone-parent families. Explores the growth of in-work poverty and identifies occupations with the highest risk of poverty. Highlights rising poverty among pensioners, access to private pension and/or occupational pensions, and variations in pension trends among men and women. Reveals that: more than one in five of the population (22%) are in poverty (14.3 million), of these, 8.2 million are working-age adults, 4.1 million are children and 1.9 million are pensioners; 7% of people in the UK are in persistent poverty (4.6 million), and the highest rate of persistent poverty is among lone parent families (24%); and four million workers live in poverty, a rise of over half a million over five years. Highlights the need to take action to halt the rise in poverty.

A bright start: improving childcare for disadvantaged families through Universal Credit

Centre for Social Justice (CSJ)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/CxIE30mNJ6j>)

2018

Pages: 53

Publisher's price: na

Explores the factors that are impeding the take-up of preschool childcare and early education for disadvantaged families: affordability and complexity. Explains the importance of the early years for children's development and future employment prospects. Argues that having access to good childcare (any type of formal pre-school childcare and early education) has a positive impact on a child's development. Considers that childcare can give parents freedom to work, allowing them to boost their income and improve their children's early learning. Explores the extent to which the low take-up of childcare and the complexity of support on offer are connected and suggests that advice given to parents be improved and better targeted. Models the effects of making changes to Universal Credit (UC) and makes recommendations including that the childcare element of UC is raised and subsidies for more affluent families are recalibrated to help pay for extended childcare for low-income families.

Kennedy, Steven; Mackley, Andrew; Gheera, Manjit

Ref No: [B51917](#)**Universal Support (House of Commons Library briefing paper no 8447)**

House of Commons Library

(Briefing paper available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/AvCz30mMzR9>)

2018

Pages: 8

Publisher's price: na

Provides background information on Universal Support and outlines recent developments relating to its delivery in connection with the roll-out of Universal Credit. Explains that Universal Support provides advice, assistance or support to help claimants transitioning to Universal Credit, and is available from Jobcentre Plus or local partners. Discusses the collaborative role of local authorities and Citizens Advice (CA) and CA Scotland in helping claimants move to Universal Credit, and the grant funding available to assist local authorities in the delivery of Universal Support. Explains that Universal Support has included: online self-service through Universal Support Assisted Digital, for those claimants who need help to make a claim online or to manage their online account; and help with managing a person's Universal Credit award or money through Personal Budgeting Support. Examines the effectiveness of Universal Support. Highlights concerns that support either is not available consistently, or that it is not reaching the people most in need of it. Discusses the announcement, by the DWP in October, that funding for local authorities to deliver Universal Support would cease from the end of March 2019 and that, from April 2019, CA (England and Wales) and CA Scotland would take on the responsibility for delivering a strengthened Universal Support service, a move which will ensure a consistent and streamlined service for claimants across the country. Considers the possible funding arrangements for the new partnership with CA.

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Management and organisational development

Kirton, Hayley

Ref No: [A62659](#)**Are your staff too skilled for their jobs?, IN People Management, Nov 2018, pp36-37**

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 2

Looks at issues relating to employees being over-qualified for their roles, drawing on the findings of recent employee skills surveys. Indicates that more than one-third of employees have the skills to deal with more demanding duties compared with 12% who lack some skills needed to do their jobs. Discusses the prevalence and types of overskilled workers, highlighting issues relating to graduates, workers in lower-wage industries and the potential impact of Brexit. Considers ways in which employers can address the issue including carrying out skills audits, allowing employees the opportunity to work on autonomous projects and increasing flexibility around job roles and responsibilities.

Beyond free bananas (workplace wellbeing), IN Society Now, No 32 Autumn 2018, pp18-19*Journal article.**(Article available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/O68h30myAlo>)*

2018

Pages: 2

Notes that attempts to promote workplace wellbeing should involve good communication, management, and job design, rather than focusing on apparently frivolous perks like fruit baskets and playful office spaces. Explains that improvements to employee wellbeing might include effective signposting and support for people struggling with physical or mental difficulties; fostering good relationships; and creating high-quality work, encompassing job security, reasonable demands, a clear role, varied tasks, and the opportunities to use and develop skills. Looks at challenges to the promotion of employee wellbeing, which include finding and investing in the time needed to understand the workforce and change the organisational culture. Suggests that organisations making progress on employee wellbeing focus on training managers and providing high-quality conditions and opportunities that value people and their contributions.

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Equalities and diversity

Social and employment situation of people with disabilities*European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound)**(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/GbvJ30mQ6tw>)*

2018

Pages: 20

Publisher's price: na

Examines the social situation of people with disabilities in the EU looking specifically at changes between 2011 and 2016 in the priority areas of the European Disability Strategy: employment; education and training; participation in public and social life; social protection; and healthcare. Uses data from the European Quality of Life Survey for people with a disability aged 18-64 years in the 28 Member States of the EU. Finds that half of people with disabilities in the EU are in work and that the disability employment gap has narrowed over time although prospects were better for those with more education. Reports that more disabled people are taking parts in social and sports activities and that they felt more included in society and more satisfied with their living standards. Highlights that people with disabilities are at much greater risk of depression compared to others and report lower levels of subjective well-being. Considers that despite recent improvements having a disability puts people at a disadvantage. Suggests policy areas where improvements could be made.

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Business and economy

Freight fright (construction supply chain and Brexit), IN Building, No 48 30 Nov 2018, pp30-32*Journal article.*

2018

Pages: 3

Looks at what's at stake for the construction supply chain from Brexit, and what steps different parts of the industry are taking to ensure access to products. Considers the contingency plans that many businesses are implementing to prepare for the worst-case scenario of a chaotic no-deal Brexit. Points to the importance of imported materials to the construction supply chain and reflects on the preparations that are being made. Assesses the implications for material manufacturers: paying VAT up front; increasing stock holding to account for increased delivery times; and tariffs. Examines the effects on housebuilders, for whom access to materials is a major concern. Reflects on the situation for clients, finding that concern is less for them, but suggests that they will need to consider whether their business model needs to change from the just

in time approach. Examines the problems for SMEs who are subcontracted further down the supply chain; they are already experiencing increased costs due to the fall in the value of the pound, and would find it more difficult to meet the costs of stockpiling. Concludes by exploring the implications for main contractors; managing the risk is crucial in terms of responsibility for increased time and cost; stockpiling materials impacts on cash flows; while the greatest difficulties surround bidding for projects in an uncertain situation.

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Employment, jobs and careers

Anon.

Ref No: [A62881](#)

Half of apprentices are in debt and one in five ends up without a job, IN Basic and Workplace Skills Bulletin, No 317 26 Nov 2018, p2

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 1

Looks at the employment and financial prospects for young women apprentices. Reports on the findings of a survey of recent apprentices. Notes that many are out of work, and many are struggling financially. Describes the impact of this financial pressure, and considers the limited employment prospects generally, and in relevant sectors, that many face. Suggests that the earnings progression for women who completed apprenticeships lags behind that of men. Discusses suggestions for increasing the apprenticeship minimum wage or putting apprenticeships on the same rate as others, and the effect that such measures would have on apprentices. Concludes by presenting the view that apprenticeships must be financially viable, and that the gender gap must be eliminated, if they are to be an effective vehicle for social mobility and attractive to young people.

Lucy, Dan; Bevan, Stephen; Davis, Chris

Ref No: [B51940](#)

Brexit: retaining talent through change

Adecco Group

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/xJvm30mR6qd>)

2018

Pages: 23

Publisher's price: na

Explores talent management strategies, looks at how other countries have tackled resourcing challenges, and considers the potential role of technology in the future workforce. Discusses the possible impact of Brexit on some sectors of the UK labour market and considers the need for employers to plan for potential skills and talent shortages. Highlights the findings of a survey of 1,000 UK business managers which found that more than seven in ten (71%) think that Brexit will make it harder to acquire the skills they need. Looks at how other countries are tackling skills shortages. Describes the situation in Singapore and outlines plans to extend the working lives of older workers through a re-employment policy and job re-design grant, and action to attract and recruit women returners. Highlights the talent shortage in Hong Kong and efforts to address the issue through the launch of the TechTAS scheme (Technology Talent Admission Scheme). Describes an initiative to retain older workers at the Ford Fiesta Plant in Cologne. Presents a 'talent strategy' and suggests that employers need to start reviewing their recruitment and talent approaches. Highlights options such as: widening recruitment criteria; restructuring or re-designing work – restructuring or reallocating work to alleviate 'crunch' areas, and upskilling employees; investing more in technology and using technology to automate routine tasks; introducing 'returnships' and recruiting retired workers; and mapping-out career pathways for employees.

Hurley, John et al

Ref No: [B51941](#)

Concept and practice of a living wage

European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/sVxZ30mQIAW>)

2018

Pages: 72

Publisher's price: na

ISBN: 9789289717847

Discusses the concept of a living wage. Looks at the development of minimum wages and wage adequacy/fairness – up to and including the 2017 European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR), which includes some living wage-like policy provisions. Examines some of the basic concepts underlying the living wage and discusses some definitions of a 'living wage'.

Explains that all definitions agree that a living wage should generate a 'decent' or 'socially acceptable' minimum standard of living. Explores the interaction of living wages with state benefits and the 'social wage'. Looks at how living wage initiatives/movements have developed at national and city level in the United States, UK, Ireland, Canada and New Zealand. Examines a number of related initiatives and research in other EU Member States. Describes how living wages have been designed, calculated and implemented in practice. Explains how the content of the 'living wage basket' (household goods and services) is determined. Summarises literature on the minimum wage. Looks at sample living wage rates, regional variations (e.g. London) and changes in rates over time. Assesses the impacts of living wages in terms of employment outcomes, labour costs, broader quality of work outcomes, and social effects. Presents an accounting exercise indicating some impacts of a hypothetical EU living wage set at 60% of median pay in each Member State. Addresses the political economy dimensions of the living wage.

Webb, Jonathan et al

Ref No: [B51895](#)

Promoting job progression in low pay sectors

Wales Centre for Public Policy

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/wBR030mxFKK>)

2018

Pages: 53

Publisher's price: na

Looks at means of promoting job progression in low pay sectors in Wales. Highlights the risk of being in low-paid work and outlines the aims of the Economic Action Plan and Employability Plan. Reviews evidence of what works in the UK and internationally. Examines the main barriers to job progression in low pay sectors, including employer working practices, structures and lack of job ladders, insecure work, employee attitudes, lack of flexibility, welfare support to make work pay and gender barriers. Explores a variety of learning and upskilling approaches including supply-side accredited learning, and demand-side employer led in-work initiatives (mentoring, job placements, internal secondments, shadowing). Highlights the impact of apprenticeships on job progression and the value of digital badging. Discusses Germany's dual vocational training model, and the WAVE (Women Adding Value to the Economy) Programme. Describes job progression models, including pathway models: the WorkAdvance Programme, USA - dual customer approach; New York City's sector-focussed career centres; the West London skills escalator and 'Step Up' programmes; and Manchester's Working Well. Highlights a number of other initiatives including: career advisors - Employment Retention and Advancement; targeted upskilling interventions - the workforce development programme; the Work Research Institute in Norway; Skills Escalators Programme, Sweden; Timewise, UK; and social procurement initiatives (Leeds, Glasgow, Manchester - 'community benefit' clauses). Highlights factors that are important in effective interventions and recommends investigating the dual-customer model for job progression.

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Education and skills

Department for Education

Ref No: [B51892](#)

Education and training statistics for the United Kingdom: 2018

Department for Education (DfE)

(Statistical release available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/LLTt30mlkou>)

2018

Pages: 19

Publisher's price: na

Provides information on attainment at the end of compulsory schooling, post-compulsory education and training and qualifications, and education expenditure. Indicates that there has been an increase in the overall number of pupils in the UK; a fall in the percentage of 16-24-year olds Not in Education, Employment or Training; a decline in total expenditure on education; and that, while the number of universities remained the same across the UK, there has been a decrease in the number of further education colleges.

Focus: digital and IT, IN MJ, 30 Nov 2018, pp24-25

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 2

Notes that, while Dorset Council's Partnership revised its recruitment processes to help recruit in digital skills, it also ran a digital ideas campaign to help give all employees an opportunity to develop digital skills and confidence, which led to the development of a digital academy offering seven modules to employees interested in finding out more about and developing skills to aid digital transformation. Presents key findings from a survey of London councillors, showing that the majority of respondents regard digital transformation as important to redesigning and rebuilding their services; are positive about the use of sensors to gather data; and view digital exclusion as the biggest challenge to local authorities, followed by cyber security. Explains why Carnegie UK Trust is working with three community planning partnerships in Northern Ireland to help them address the challenges they face in collecting, analysing, and incorporating the data they need to develop a wellbeing framework.

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Housing

Sampson, Steve

Ref No: [A62873](#)

County file (how landlords are responding to the county lines phenomenon), IN Inside Housing, Vol 35 No 46 30 Nov 2018, pp16-19

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 4

Looks at how landlords are responding to drug dealers leaving inner cities to set up in the countryside, with vulnerable social tenants among their victims. Describes the county lines phenomenon - the coordinated means by which dealers from large cities use dedicated phone lines to supply Class A drugs to customers in smaller towns and how it operates; recruiting local teenagers and cuckooing co-opting residential homes to sell their wares. Addresses how young and impressionable people are drawn into the activity, and how youth engagement programmes are being used to break the cycle of exploitation. Considers how social landlord address the problem, working in partnership, and sharing intelligence between anti-social behaviour teams in different areas, working with police forces, and raising awareness with contractors who carry out work in houses and could identify warning signs of cuckooing. Outlines the warning signs and the support that can be given to tenants. Discusses legal measures that can be taken, such as closure orders and partial closure orders. Concludes by reflecting on how difficult it is for residents to come forward.

Hodgson, Phillip et al.

Ref No: [B51931](#)

How do people access and experience home adaptations? Perspectives from people in later life and practitioners

Housing Learning and Improvement Network (LIN)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/8tKP30mOnPF>)

2018

Pages: 15

Publisher's price: na

Summarises the findings from recent research, funded by the Centre for Ageing Better and carried out by Northumbria University, on the lived experiences of home adaptations. Draws on the views of both people in later life and practitioners to explore aspects of home adaptations including triggers, access, installation and outcomes. Uses interviews, wearable cameras and focus groups to inform the study. Highlights the significance of individual context, such as attitudes to ageing, health concerns, family and social networks and finances in the access to, and experience of, using home adaptations. Considers that the study demonstrates the multiple potential benefits of home adaptations to older people allowing them to remain in their own homes and have greater levels of independence. Suggests that a more consistent approach to measuring outcomes from home adaptations is required and notes that a British Society of Gerontology Special Interest Group is being set up to look into this.

Crane, Helen

Ref No: [A62886](#)

Vivahouse brings pop-up pod concept to millennial market (prefabricated housing in vacant commercial space), IN Property Week, Vol 85 No 47 30 Nov 2018, p22

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 1

Considers prefabricated housing in vacant commercial space as a flexible alternative to flat shares. Looks at the Vivahouse concept which has set up prototype units in a London shopping centre. Explains that the system involves taking leases on unused commercial spaces and installing prefabricated housing pods, as well as communal kitchens and bathrooms, which are then rented out for anything from a few nights to three months targeting the medium-stay market. Discusses the aims of the concept; meeting the needs of a younger generation that wants flexibility with better- designed, better-located and larger rooms than in houses of multiple occupancy. Notes the advantages of speed of installation, cost and that the sites are tech-enabled. Examines the advantages for landlords; there is no change to the building fabric, and it is a solution for surplus retail space. Concludes that, given the acute need for housing in big cities around the world and the younger generations desired for flexibility, it may work for a sizable proportion of millennials.

Clarke, Stephen; Wood, John

Ref No: [B51944](#)

House of the rising son (or daughter): the impact of parental wealth on their children's homeownership

Resolution Foundation

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/QzZX30mRgvp>)

2018

Pages: 21

Publisher's price: na

Looks at the extent to which parental wealth determines the likelihood that a young person is able to become a homeowner and how this has changed over time. Discusses the increasing reliance among first time buyers on help from 'Bank of Mum and Dad' – support from families/parents. Creates a dataset with information on children and their parents, whether they are homeowners or not and how much their home (if they own one) is worth, using data from the British Household Panel Survey and its successor, Understanding Society. Reveals that: at the age of 30 those without parental property wealth are approximately 60% less likely to be homeowners; and the amount of property wealth your parents have increases the chances that you yourself will become a homeowner. Estimates that the importance of parental property wealth has increased over time - in the 1990s and early 2000s 30-year olds with parental property wealth were approximately twice as likely to be homeowners as those without, and from the mid-2000s those with parental property wealth were almost three times as likely to be homeowners. Suggests that the link between parental wealth and home ownership chances remains strong even after adjusting for the greater home ownership prospects of those with higher earnings and qualifications (both of which are also related to parental wealth).

Beth Watts, et al

Ref No: [B51950](#)

Temporary accommodation in Scotland: final report

Social Bite

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/gzQP30mSXE>)

2018

Pages: 159

Publisher's price: na

Looks at the nature, purpose and use of temporary accommodation (TA) in Scotland, drawing on research which involved mixed-methods in-depth case studies of six local authorities (Dundee, East Ayrshire, East Lothian, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Perth and Kinross). Explains that each case study involved statistical analysis and interviews with stakeholders and TA residents. Describes local authorities' use and management of TA. Explores the three main types of TA (social sector temporary furnished flats, hostels, bed and breakfast accommodation), the support provided in TA, and the weekly charges associated with different forms of TA. Considers approaches to minimising the use of TA in the case study authorities, specifically exploring homelessness prevention, the length of time households stay in TA and rehousing outcomes. Analyses the experiences of people living in temporary accommodation, highlighting their views on the positive and negative aspects of the different kinds of TA and the impacts of TA stays on their lives. Describes the local authority-led transformation agendas already underway in relation to TA provision and responses to recent national policy developments in this area initiated by the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group, and now being pursued via Rapid Rehousing Transition Plans. Includes information on: Perth and Kinross's Home First project; Dundee's move from a staircase model to rapid rehousing; Glasgow's response to systemic process problems; Edinburgh's improvements in TA provision and a new Homelessness Task Force.

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Ferguson, Shona Ray

Ref No: [A62885](#)

Bitcoin: bit risky? (property transactions involving cryptocurrencies), IN EG, No 1848 1 Dec 2018, pp56-57

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 2

Considers the practical problems for lawyers in property transactions involving cryptocurrencies. Describes bitcoin and how it works. Discusses the volatility of bitcoin, the problems for property purchases and how these might be solved. Looks at the association with criminality and how regulation may address this. Notes the inefficiency of bitcoin due to the huge number of computers required for processing. Explores how a solicitor could carry out anti-money laundering checks in line with regulations, given the anonymity of bitcoin. Assesses the implications of the direct payment between individuals typical of bitcoin, without need of a bank or mediator such as the standard mechanics of property transactions. Reflects on the possibilities of solicitors opening bitcoin exchange accounts so that a payment can still be made through them, but identifies complications such as other cryptocurrencies gaining popularity, anti-money laundering again, and additional complexity and costs. Concludes that regulation may be the key to law firms routinely acting in bitcoin transactions.

Burgess, Gemma; Quinio, Valentine

Ref No: [B51945](#)

How could better use of data and digital technologies improve housing delivery through the UK planning system?

Cambridge Centre for Housing and Planning Research (CCHPR)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/NVyJ30mRoQg>)

2018

Pages: 36

Publisher's price: na

Reviews research and evidence regarding the current use of data and digital technologies in planning, and seeks to understand how better use of innovation in planning could improve housing delivery in the UK. Outlines the planning system and the procedures involved. Examines the role of developer contributions under Section 106 in the delivery of affordable housing. Discusses the current lack of housing supply and difficulties within the planning system such as lack of a standard methodology for assessing housing requirements. Looks at how data is used in planning and the extent of digitisation. Highlights the potential benefits of digitisation in planning such as quicker and more responsive plan-making, simplification of the planning application process, improved community engagement and integration with other systems. Examines existing technologies that could be used in planning including sensors, virtual reality (VU.CITY used in Southwark), and agent-based modelling technology. Considers the potential for Building Information Modelling (BIM) to engage with the planning system. Includes examples of innovation: LandInsight (data on land ownership, land use, environmental constraints, historic preservation, planning history); Future Cities Catapult Land Information Platform (identifies and allocates sites for new development); and iApply, Idox Software Ltd (planning application submission portal). Highlights Plymouth's innovative approach to planning and the digital planning system in Singapore. Considers some of the constraints on the wider use of data and digitisation in the planning system, in particular data collection/security issues and lack of time, skills or resources.

Ralston, Serena

Ref No: [A62874](#)

Noises off (off-site manufactured housing), IN The Planner, Dec 2018, pp22-25

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 4

Looks at the role of the planning system in enabling off-site manufactured (OSM) modular units to be used in housebuilding schemes. Provides examples of the use of modular construction techniques in the South West of England and London. Outlines the differences between modern OSM methods compared with earlier 'prefab' homes and describes the three OSM approaches used. Discusses the increasing production of modular homes and the advantages offered over traditional housebuilding methods. Considers ways of addressing the current planning policy and knowledge gap relating to OSM housing including allocating OSM-only sites and mandating a minimum amount of OSM in development plans.

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Environment

Anon.

Ref No: [A62876](#)

Campaigns restart to cut problem of bin-sleepers, IN Materials Recycling World, Vol 207 No 12 Dec 2018, pp12-13

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 2

Looks at how the waste management sector is attempting to reduce the incidents of deaths and injuries resulting from people seeking refuge in bins. Sets out the scale of the problem as identified in a 2014 report and describes a campaign launched in response. Suggests, however, that following the launch little more was heard. Notes that waste firms may have improved training and checks, but argues that getting the message to retailers and the public is essential, and that there is no evidence that the problem has reduced, indeed it could be increasing given the rise in rough sleeping. Reports that the industry wide campaign is being reactivated, and explores other efforts being made to tackle the problem. Examines recent cases. Concludes by reflecting on other measures that could be taken to improve safety.

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Transport, infrastructure and communications

Morris, Huw

Ref No: [A62875](#)

Crossed lines (problems in delivering major infrastructure schemes), IN The Planner, Dec 2018, pp26-29

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 4

Looks at the reasons why so many major infrastructure schemes run into trouble. Outlines the delays in completing the London Crossrail scheme and problems faced by other current major infrastructure projects across the UK. Indicates that this is a global phenomenon affecting nine of ten projects costing £1 billion or more and identifies the key contributory factors as ignorance, flawed psychology and power. Considers issues arising from the absence of a national infrastructure strategy and misuse of cost-benefit analysis. Looks at ways to improve matters including creating a Commission for Public Engagement along French lines and making the National Infrastructure Commission more independent. Provides short case studies highlighting issues relating to the HS2 and Crossrail projects.

Anon.

Ref No: [A62591](#)

Recycling route (use of recycled plastic in road construction), IN New Civil Engineer, Nov 2018, p42

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 1

Looks at the trial of a cycle path constructed using recycled plastics in the Netherlands. Outlines the key features of the pilot path constructed using recycled bottles, cups and packaging which opened in September 2018 in the district of Zwolle. Highlights the incorporation of sensors within the construction material to monitor the road's performance and the use of prefabricated sections making transport and installation easier. Indicates that a similar path is to be installed in a second Dutch town and that the city of Rotterdam may take up the technology. Outlines the environmental benefits of the technique, and the ways in which it overcomes many of the problems associated with asphalt and paved roads.

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Regeneration and community development

Black, Carolyn; Davidson, Sara; Ormston, Rachel, Ipsos MORI

Ref No: [B51942](#)

Designing a social capital dashboard: research study

Scottish Government

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/mkEU30mRbRQ>)

2018

Pages: 51

ISBN: 9781787812895

Looks at approaches to presenting and sharing social capital data as part of the process for developing and improving the National Performance Framework in Scotland. Draws on information from workshops with stakeholders, a review of existing dashboards, and interviews with individuals who were involved in commissioning/developing, maintaining and using them. Discusses the definition and measurement of 'social capital', and social capital indicators. Reviews the following six dashboards: the Active Scotland Outcomes Framework; the European Commission's Youth Monitor (The Situation of Young People in Europe); the OECD's 'How's Life?' dashboard; ONS' Measures of National Wellbeing; Public Health England's Public Health Dashboard; and the 'Understanding Glasgow' dashboard. Highlights the different formats and features of the dashboards, the balance of text to visuals and options for visual content, and assesses the ease of use and navigation features. Provides a possible route map for developing a social capital dashboard for Scotland which includes the following stages: 1) assess the feasibility and value of a social capital dashboard; 2) agree the intended audience and broad content, agree the high level definition of social capital and the concepts that the dashboard will measure, and develop criteria against which data quality will be assessed and potential indicators can be assessed; 3) technical development, design, data visualisation and level of analysis; 4) testing and pre-launch; and 5) dashboard goes live.

Anon.

Ref No: [A62888](#)

The promised land (land reform in Scotland), IN Economist, Vol 429 No 9120 1-7 Dec 2018, p31

Journal article.

(Article available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/V2Xv30mRkmt>)

2018

Pages: 1

Describes the land reforms introduced by the Scottish National Party (SNP) in 2016 which expanded the legislation that grants communities first refusal to buy land, provided they intend to develop it sustainably. Discusses the background to land ownership in Scotland and the SNP's aims to introduce land reform as a route to a 'fairer and more equal society'. Explains how the new legislation enabled residents in Ulva, a 5,000-acre Hebridean island off the Isle of Mull, to purchase the island with help from the Lottery-backed Scottish Land Fund. Highlights some of the benefits of community ownership and looks at plans for investment on the island. Outlines the aims of the business plan and the capital investment needed. Highlights plans to divide the island's old farm into small plots, to qualify for government grants for crofters, and plans to improve and increase housing to attract new residents. Looks at some of the disadvantages associated with island living such as isolation, higher building costs and maintaining services like schools.

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Arts, culture and leisure

Arts Council England

Ref No: [B51948](#)

Arts and culture in health and wellbeing and in the criminal justice system: a summary of evidence

Arts Council England

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/c4TF30mStsS>)

2018

Pages: 79

Publisher's price: na

Assesses the evidence base around the place of arts and culture in health and wellbeing and in the criminal justice system. Focuses on the purpose, value impact of arts and culture work. Studies material from academic evaluation and research papers, drawn mainly from the National Criminal Justice Arts Alliance (NCJAA) online Evidence Library and

internet searches, and gathers information stakeholders, practitioners and academics in the field. Discusses the variety of arts and culture interventions (storytelling, literature, theatre, music and visual arts interventions) practiced in the secure estate and prison settings, and discusses the difficulties involved in measuring and quantifying impacts and outcomes. Explores: evidence that art and culture might make an impact on desistance from crime and help to reduce (re)offending; the impact of art and culture on health and wellbeing through life; and the role of art and culture in addressing physical functions, psychological (mental health, cognition, dementia and neurological conditions) and social health. Looks at the role of targeted interventions, arts therapies, arts on prescription/social prescribing, arts used as part of health promotion, creative engagement and museums and galleries in health and wellbeing. Highlights evidence of good practice and the work of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Arts, Health and Wellbeing, the Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance, the Royal Society of Public Health's Arts, Health & Wellbeing Special Interest Group, AESOP and other initiatives.

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Health and social care

Anon.

Ref No: [B51932](#)

Independent evaluation of the Guinness Partnership's dementia project

Housing Learning and Improvement Network (LIN)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/kELd30mOo0u>)

2018

Pages: 28

Publisher's price: na

Reports on the results of an independent evaluation of how well the Guinness partnership has delivered on its plan to become a more dementia friendly organisation. Explains that the Guinness Dementia Project was implemented in 2015 in Havant and later Manchester. Describes how evidence for the study was obtained from sources including focus groups with staff members, group discussions, and interviews with customers and other stakeholders. Discusses the projects objectives and reports on how well they were met. Includes: raising awareness of dementia amongst staff; providing information for customers and staff on dementia; and providing tailored support to tenants living with dementia. Considers whether the projects outcomes were met and reports on the wider organisational benefits of the project. Makes recommendations including that there should be joint training/learning with other housing organisations, that voice-activated technology could be used more widely in the future and that the development of dementia friendly groups and clubs is pursued.

MJ (ed)

Ref No: [A62877](#)

How to balance budgets while creating happiness (health and social care), IN MJ, 30 Nov 2018, pp14-15

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 2

Presents two articles on approaches to health and social care reform. Provides an article discussing how Wigan generated a small surplus in its adult social care budget while radically remodelling services. Describes the Wigan deal, stressing the importance of the quality of relationships which govern behaviour and actions. Reflects on the problems which previously existed, and lists the changes that were made as part of the deal. Offers an article examining the results of different approaches to integration of health and social care in Nottingham and Manchester. Explains how Nottinghamshire County Council compared integrated adult health and social care teams with their non-integrated counterparts to quantify the financial savings and service improvements that can be made, and found benefits from integration in terms of sharing information and resources, preventative measures, and cost savings with greater integration. Notes the health inequalities found in Manchester, and the potential benefits of integration. Outlines the single commissioning body created, and considers the progress made so far and how this has been achieved.

Anon.

Ref No: [A62883](#)

Mental health problems costing Europe heavily, IN 14-19 Learning & Skills Bulletin No 281 28 Nov 2018, p11

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 1

Looks at the economic impact of mental health problems in Europe. Discusses the findings of a joint report by the OECD and the European Commission. Sets out the estimated cost of mental ill-health in the EU particularly through lower employment rates and productivity, and greater spending on social security programmes and health care. Notes the slowdown of life expectancy gains and the persistent gaps across socio-economic backgrounds. Considers the rates and impacts of health risk factors including smoking rates among young people, and obesity in children.

NHS Digital

Ref No: [B51943](#)

Health Survey for England 2017 (summary report)

National Statistics

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/ZE8930mRb8w>)

2018

Pages: 31

Publisher's price: na

ISBN: 9781787342552

Summarises findings from the 2017 Health Survey for England. Provides information about adults aged 16 and over, and children aged 0 to 15, living in private households. Draws on information from interviews and follow-up visits from a nurse who takes measurements and blood and saliva samples. Highlights the prevalence of overweight and obesity among men, women and children, the prevalence of diabetes, and fruit and vegetable consumption. Includes information on smoking among adults and children, the use of e-cigarettes (vaping), and exposure to second-hand smoke. Provides data on weekly alcohol consumption among adults and alcohol consumption among children aged 8-15. Assesses risk factors among adults, and the prevalence of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic pain, high cholesterol and hypertension. Examines levels of adult social care (measured using Activities of Daily Living) and provision of unpaid social care. Finds that: 64% of adults were overweight or obese; 30% of children aged 2 to 15 were overweight or obese; children's overweight and obesity was associated with that of their parents; 18% of children had five or more portions of fruit and vegetables a day; cigarette smoking among adults declined between 1993 and 2017 (from 27% to 17%); 6% of adults used e-cigarettes; the proportion of children who had ever smoked has decreased, from 19% in 1997 to 5% in 2017; and half of adults said their caring role had an effect on their health.

Anon.

Ref No: [A62882](#)

"Seismic shift" in ambition still needed to meet demand for children's mental health services, IN 14-19 Learning and Skills Bulletin, No 281 28 Nov 2018, pp6-7

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 2

Presents key findings from a report on the provision of children's mental health services in England. Notes that while child and adolescent mental health services were improving in most areas, with the exception of eating disorder services, progress is slower regarding the provision of services in the youth justice system and in perinatal mental health care. Suggests that children's mental health services would require an additional £1.7bn a year to achieve funding equivalent to that provided to adult mental health and that because of this funding gap, councils are being forced to cut early intervention work, including youth services, which helps children avoid reaching crisis point and can prevent mental health issues later in life.

What are the risk factors that make people susceptible to substance use problems and harm?

Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/rhFz30mRbht>)

2018

Pages: 32

Publisher's price: na

Looks at the risk factors associated with substance misuse and factors which make people susceptible to harm. Draws on evidence from literature and research in the field. Examines the different types of substances (illicit substances and alcohol) that might lead to harm, the harmful effects of substance misuse and the societal cost of illicit drug-related harm, including health harms. Describes the groups at risk of harm from using drugs and highlights the association between socioeconomic position, social exclusion and substance-related harm. Discusses the risk factors associated with the use of substances, protective factors that influence the effects of exposure to risk, the concept of vulnerability and resilience to risk. Looks at the role of socioecological models as a means of understanding the way in which diverse factors (including risk and protective factors) might determine and influence health behaviours, and provide a focus for health and social interventions. Highlights five interacting levels that might influence socioecological models: intrapersonal factors; interpersonal processes; institutional factors (rules and regulations); community factors; and public policy. Discusses the application of socioecological perspectives to substance-related harm. Considers the impact of adverse childhood experiences on health and wellbeing, and risk of harmful substance use. Outlines substance use trajectories and 'pathways'. Notes that 'transition' points may provide an opportunity for intervention, support and behavioural change.

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