

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](mailto:AskTheResearchTeam@idoxgroup.com) or 0333 011 1694.

Click on the headings to jump to a section.

### CONTENTS

New Government Publications .....	2
Government, politics and public administration .....	5
Management and organisational development .....	7
Business and economy .....	8
Employment, jobs and careers .....	10
Education and skills .....	11
Housing.....	13
Planning, development and property .....	15
Health and social care.....	16
Obtaining full-text material.....	17

**YOUR  
INFORMATION  
SERVICE**



A research enquiry service on demand: save time and money by letting us do the research for you



News and current awareness services: the latest policy and research straight into your inbox



Briefings and analysis across a range of policy areas



A database of 200,000+ reports, articles and grey literature

## 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 Education

[Gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers narrows \(news release\)](#)

[New funding to support children with special educational needs \(news release\)](#)

### Home Office

[Police to get largest funding increase since 2010 \(news release\)](#)

[Provisional police grant report \(England and Wales\) 2019/20 \(consultation\)](#)

### Cabinet Office

[Help shape our future: the 2021 census of population and housing in England and Wales](#)

### Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

[Largest upgrade in a generation to workplace rights - getting work right for British workers and businesses \(news release\)](#)

[Good work plan](#)

[Salaried workers and salary sacrifice schemes: changing the National Minimum Wage rules \(consultation\)](#)

[Naming scheme for unpaid employment tribunal awards: policy on Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy's naming scheme for employers who fail to pay employment tribunal awards](#)

[Government announces new Code of Practice to tackle sexual harassment at work \(news release\)](#)

### Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

[A review of local authorities' relative needs and resources: technical consultation on the assessment of local authorities' relative needs, relative resources and transitional arrangements](#)

[Business rates retention reform: sharing risk and reward, managing volatility and setting up the reformed system](#)

[\(consultation\)](#)

[The provisional local government finance settlement \(consultation\)](#)

[James Brokenshire announces £5m for new network of rough sleeping hubs \(news release\)](#)

## **Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**

[Resources and waste strategy for England](#)

## **Department for Transport**

[Aviation 2050 - the future of UK aviation \(consultation\)](#)

## **Welsh Government**

[Final Budget 2018 to 2019](#)

[Extra funding to boost skills and tackle child poverty in final Budget \(news release\)](#)

[Connected communities - Tackling loneliness and social isolation \(consultation\)](#)

## **Scottish Government**

[A connected Scotland: our strategy for tackling social isolation and loneliness and building stronger social connections](#)

[Tackling social isolation and loneliness: world-leading strategy to connect our communities \(news release\)](#)

[A blueprint for 2020: the expansion of early learning and childcare in Scotland - funding follows the child and the national standard for early learning and childcare providers \(principles and practice\)](#)

[A meal for every child at funded early learning and childcare sessions: major new Scottish Government scheme delivers healthy food, outdoor play & living wage in childcare \(news release\)](#)

[Protecting essential public services: real terms funding increase for local government \(news release\)](#)

[New baby benefit makes first payments: families are now benefitting from the new Best Start Grant Pregnancy and Baby Payment which supports low income families \(news release\)](#)

[Investing in Scotland's future: Budget delivers increased funding for health, education and economic investment \(news release\)](#)

[Review of the arrangements for investigating the deaths of patients being treated for mental disorder](#)

[Consultation on prisoner voting](#)

[Model records management plan for developing records management arrangements under Section 1 of The Public Records \(Scotland\) Act 2011 \(consultation\)](#)

[Exploring the economic rationale for infrastructure investment](#)

[Scotland's non-domestic energy efficiency baseline](#)

[Scottish Budget 2019-20](#)

[Improving educational outcomes for children and young people from travelling cultures \(guidance for local authorities\)](#)

[Public sector pay policy 2019-20](#)

[Back to contents](#)

## Government, politics and public administration

Jameson, Heather

Ref No: [A62906](#)

### **Breaking down the barriers to change, IN MJ, 6 Dec 2018, pp16-17**

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 2

Reports on a round table event with senior local authority staff from the Midlands discussing their experiences of implementing change. Looks at how middle managers, who are often seen as the biggest block to digital transformation, can be encouraged to engage with the change processes. Discusses how technology has altered jobs, how different levels of staff are affected and how councils can work with unions rather than against them. Describes how many councils have embraced smart working, allowing people to work from home or other buildings such as libraries. Suggests that this has helped with recruitment in the Midlands. Considers that consistent leadership is required if all stakeholders are to believe in a shared purpose and embrace digital change.

Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES)

Ref No: [B51968](#)

### **Restoring public values in public services: a route map for national, municipal and citizen action**

Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES)

(available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/ynba30mRc3r>)

2018

Pages: 11

Publisher's price: na

ISBN: 1870053907

Outlines the characteristics of the landscape of public services in the UK today and looks at the challenges facing the public sector. Describes the impact of outsourcing and privatisation, increasing commercialisation/marketisation, and unprecedented austerity in recent years, on public services. Highlights the introduction of the Civil Society Strategy and the requirements of the Social Value Act 2012 (requires all public bodies to consider social value in their procurement activity). Calls for the restoration of public values, and proposes a route map for government, municipal and citizen innovation. Outlines steps for action including: regulating the market in public services; devolving greater powers to a local state and developing a double devolution by deepening devolution to people, neighbourhoods and communities and the social sector; and introducing a democratisation of public services which embodies genuine citizen agency and collectivism.

Social Mobility Commission

Ref No: [B51969](#)

### **Social Mobility Barometer: public attitudes to social mobility in the UK**

Social Mobility Commission

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/NegF30mWqS1>)

2018

Pages: 38

Publisher's price: na

Examines public attitudes to social mobility in the UK, drawing on the results of a 2018 survey of over 5,000 adults, fieldwork and a supplemental survey. Presents the topline national and regional findings. Explores the understanding of 'social mobility' and public attitudes towards social mobility, the extent to which social background determines where people end up in society, attitudes towards apprenticeships, and perceptions regarding access to top universities for poorer people. Finds that: 46% say that where you end up in society is largely determined by who your parents are; 40% of people think that it is becoming harder for people from disadvantaged backgrounds to move up in society; it is typically younger generations who feel that background determines where you end up; there is a generational divide when it comes to feelings about living standards - just 30% of 18-24 year olds and 34% of 25-49 year olds say they are better off than their parents, compared to 71% of those aged 65+; only a fifth of 18-24 year olds believe they have a better level of job security compared to their parents; just 22% of those aged 25-49 think their housing situation is better than their parents'; and 75% say there is a large gap between social classes. Highlights concerns about levels of pessimism amongst young people.

APS Group Scotland

Ref No: [B51973](#)

## Evaluation for policy makers: a straightforward guide for policy makers

Scottish Government

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/FqRI30mWKWL>)

2018

Pages: 29

Publisher's price: na

ISBN: 9781787814028

Provides guidance for policy makers on the role of evaluation, different approaches to evaluation and dealing with evaluation findings. Explains that evaluations use research to look at: whether policies have been implemented as intended (process evaluations); whether outcomes have been achieved and how (impact evaluations); and if the benefits of the policy outweighed the costs (economic evaluations). Looks at how evaluation helps to deliver policy, focusing on the role of evaluation in policy making and the contribution of evaluation to the National Performance Framework (NPF) in Scotland. Advises on objectivity in evaluation, using evaluation effectively and working with analysts and stakeholders. Examines some of the issues involved in determining what type of evaluation to use and outlines the stages in the evaluation process. Highlights the strengths and limitations of different types of evaluation including: process evaluation/case studies; action or participatory research; outcome or 'before and after' evaluation; logic model evaluation; impact evaluation; natural experiments; and economic evaluation or value for money assessment. Advises on impact evaluation, the need for control groups and Randomised Control Trials. Discusses data monitoring and the use of statistics, and highlights the difference between quantitative and qualitative data. Includes information on costing and timescales, communicating the results and sharing the findings. Provides advice on how to deal with challenging findings and includes an evaluation jargon buster.

Escobar, Oliver; Katz, Beth

Ref No: [B51963](#)

## Mainstreaming participatory budgeting: what works in building foundations for a more participatory democracy?

What Works Scotland

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/tYpm30mVklx>)

2018

Pages: 8

Publisher's price: na

Looks at participatory budgeting – a process that involves citizens in deciding collectively how to spend public money. Describes what participatory budgeting is and how it works. Examines the lessons from, and opportunities for, participatory budgeting in Scotland. Considers what challenges must still be addressed towards mainstreaming participatory budgeting, identifying cultural, capacity, political, legitimacy and sustainability challenges. Explores how to unlock the potential of participatory budgeting in Scotland for greater participatory democracy and tackling inequalities, concluding that the full potential is yet to be unlocked and the choices being made now as participatory budgeting is mainstreamed will prove critical in enabling this in the years to come.

Gannon, Maria et al

Ref No: [B51979](#)

## Pro-poor or pro-rich? The social impact of local government budgets, 2016-17 to 2018-19 (SPICe briefing no SB 18-82)

Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/wZfK30mZ769>)

2018

Pages: 53

Publisher's price: na

Assesses the social impact of the 2018-19 local government budgets of Scottish local authorities. Use a social impact tool which allows councils to assess the impact of their savings plans on services used by different social groups (better off or poorer). Classifies council services into six categories on a scale between 'pro-rich' and 'very pro-poor'. Analyses how council savings plans are distributed between 'pro-poor', 'neutral' and 'pro-rich' services and compares this year's findings to those from 2016-17 and 2017-18 to show a three year trend. Finds that: the largest area of local government spending is on pro-poor services, over two thirds of net expenditure (69%) is on neutral-poor, pro-poor and very pro-poor services combined; 11% of spending is on neutral services and only 2% of expenditure is on pro-rich services; the spread of expenditure means that, when dealing with budget reductions, councils have little option but to make their savings from services which are used more by lower income groups; and the largest proportion of savings are made from pro-poor services (22%). Discusses policy commitments and ring-fencing. Identifies the challenges faced by three councils (Dundee, Fife and North Ayrshire) in managing budget pressures. Notes that these councils have prioritised tackling poverty and/or inequality via 'fairness' strategies, and have tried to afford some protection to pro-poor services in their savings plans. Highlights the challenges of delivering services under financial pressure.

**Debts of despair (council tax debt collection practices), IN Public Finance, No 12 Dec 2018, pp32-35**

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 4

Looks at issues relating to the collection of council tax debts by local authorities. Indicates that 4.1 million people in the UK are 'in difficulty' paying domestic bills or credit commitments, and that council tax arrears are the single largest source of debt. Discusses concerns about local authorities using bailiffs to enforce debts too readily, suggesting that bailiff action can worsen circumstances for already hard-pressed households. Describes the pressures on local authorities from central government to collect council tax but indicates that councils lag behind the private sector in addressing debt issues. Considers the need to government to develop a social policy solution to the lack of affordable credit alternatives to payday lenders, highlighting opportunities for fintech companies to develop solutions in this area.

[Back to contents](#)

## Management and organisational development

**Hit the gas: for your high potentials (leadership development), IN Training Journal, Nov 2018, pp28-31**

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 4

Looks at the critical elements for organisations in delivering accelerated leadership development. Outlines the changing skills and experience requirements for organisational leaders, highlighting the need to accelerate the breadth and calibre of support to accelerate leadership development. Identifies and discusses four key factors that reduce by 25-30% the time required for graduates to move into leadership positions: having the potential to move fast within the organisation; access to the right roles to develop the necessary skills and experience; access to appraisal, informational, instrumental and emotional support; and starting the acceleration process early.

**The power of personalisation (personalised learning and development for employees), IN Training Journal, Nov 2018, pp22-25**

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 4

Looks at ways in which organisations can deliver more personalised learning and development for employees. Outlines the development of performance-based marketing using social media, suggesting that the use of personal insights and built-in feedback loops should be used to improve learning and development processes for employees. Discusses ways to collate workplace-relevant data relating to employees, including recruitment and human resources information, and to develop agile techniques and practices to support learning and development. Considers the importance of developing an agile learning culture to enable organisations to adapt to changing circumstances, highlighting nine key leadership principles and ways for organisations to develop personalised learning practices.

[Back to contents](#)

## Business and economy

Hughes, Nick; Parsley, David

Ref No: [A62903](#)

### **Markets: ports, airports and rail freight, IN Property Week, Vol 85 No 48 7 Dec 2018, pp41-43, 47-48**

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 5

Looks at the increase in investment in Northern ports such as Liverpool and Hull as new infrastructure projects are funded which could transform the region's ports into hubs of global trade. Considers that these ports have the capacity to take 20% of the container trade currently going to Dover and Southampton and that this might become necessary in the event of a Brexit no-deal scenario causing ports to be overwhelmed by extra checks and controls. Outlines the creation of Liverpool2 and the upgrading of the Humber ports as well as the commercial developments which are taking place in the areas. Discusses the West Midlands Interchange (WMI) a strategic rail freight interchange (SRFI) being developed in South Staffordshire by Four Ashes. Explains that the SRFI is designed to take goods off the roads and onto the railway, increasing efficiency of distribution and reducing carbon dioxide emissions. Considers that it will create over 8,000 direct jobs, the same number of indirect jobs and make local businesses more competitive. Describes how the developments will be future-proofed as they will not be completed for over a decade.

Dupont, Jonathan

Ref No: [B51965](#)

### **Powering the Midlands Engine: how to build a Local Industrial Strategy**

Policy Exchange

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/FKny30mTSqL>)

2018

Pages: 76

Publisher's price: 10.00

ISBN: 9781910812594

Looks at the issues that affect regions across the UK, and uses the Midlands region as a case study of the different approaches a local industrial strategy might take in tackling its productivity challenges. Argues that while every area is different, the same tensions and common themes are likely to reoccur across the UK. Considers why there is such a large variation in economic productivity across the UK, and why the Midlands has fallen behind London. Assesses the strengths and weaknesses of the Midlands economy, considering whether it is being held back by a lack of investment, or if other factors are equally to blame. Suggests how local industrial strategies should focus on new opportunities and the comparative advantage of their region. Addresses the policy steps that should be taken in the Midlands with regard to advancing the government's five foundations of productivity in the region: ideas, people, infrastructure, business and place.

Raikes, Luke; Millward, Leah; Longlands, Sarah

Ref No: [B51966](#)

### **State of the North 2018: reprioritising the Northern Powerhouse**

Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/pNGc30mVNMq>)

2018

Pages: 64

Publisher's price: na

Presents the IPPR North's fifth annual State of the North report, setting out and discussing five priorities for northern leaders in the next phase of the Northern Powerhouse agenda, and making recommendations in relation to each. Argues that while the original Northern Powerhouse focused almost entirely on the major city regions of the North, in the next phase, it must draw on all assets and focus on a diverse range of places including towns, cities, rural areas and natural assets. Contends that where the original Northern Powerhouse focused on supporting technologies and some frontier industries, in the next phase, it must improve productivity and economic justice across all priority sectors. Suggests that in the next phase, the Northern Powerhouse agenda must continue to prioritise transport investment, but also improve the social infrastructure of the North. Notes that the original Northern Powerhouse focused on productivity, but asserts that it should now focus on economic justice. Reflects, finally, that while the original Northern Powerhouse was led by the chancellor and delivered by central government agencies, the next phase must be led by the North.

**The economic consequences of the Brexit deal***Centre for Economic Performance (CEP)**(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/aD7h30mXEaw>)*

2018

Pages: 15

Publisher's price: na

Considers the economic implications for the UK economy of the proposed Brexit deal, if it is approved and implemented. Compares the deal with two other possible scenarios: remaining in the EU (the 'baseline'); and no deal - a situation in which there is no agreement between the UK and the EU - World Trade Organization (WTO) outcome. Uses the Centre for Economic Performance trade model, which is a Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) model, to model the economic impact of the 'deal' and WTO scenarios. Analyses the impact of changes on trade and productivity, migration and public finances (considering the cost of the 'divorce bill', the UK's current contributions to the EU budget and the broader impact of Brexit on the economy). Assesses, in particular, the impact on UK GDP and GDP per capita. Shows that, relative to staying in the EU, UK income per capita declines by 1.7% in the 'deal' scenario, but by 3.3% in the WTO case.

Anon.

Ref No: [A62914](#)**Outlook and appraisal, IN Fraser of Allander Institute Economic Commentary, Vol 42 No 4 Dec 2018, pp5-24***Journal article.**(Article available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/dxBw30mYBoB>)*

2018

Pages: 20

Publisher's price: na

Reports on Scotland's economic performance. Draws on data from the Scottish Government, Labour Force Survey, the OECD and other sources. Highlights trends in the global economy and looks at the performance of the UK economy as a whole. Looks at trends in the Scottish economy including information on: GDP growth since 2013; employment, unemployment and inactivity rates; sector contributions to annual GDP growth; oil prices; residential property sales; relative poverty; productivity performance; youth employment/unemployment; earnings; business activity; the retail sector and sales growth; and consumer confidence. Includes labour market forecasts and forecasts for Scottish economic growth, including the Scottish Fiscal Commissions forecasts up to 2022. Examines the impact of the recession on different sectors of the economy and assesses the state of the Scottish economy ten years after the financial crisis. Highlights the current low levels of unemployment and high employment rates. Examines the potential impact of Brexit on Scotland's economic prospects.

Shaheen, Faiza et al

Ref No: [B51983](#)**The Great British regression: Brexit and inequality***Centre for Labour and Social Studies (CLASS)**(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/HNJd30mXEGO>)*

2018

Pages: 38

Publisher's price: na

Presents a collection of essays exploring how a hard Brexit or no deal might impact on inequality, wages, private investment and public spending and services. Considers the impact of different scenarios going forward on regional investment (Olivier Sykes and Andreas Schulze-Bäing). Discusses the impact of Brexit on EU investment and spending (Prof Özlem Onaran), looking in particular at the impact on public investment, and concluding that the economy will be further affected through the effects on trade, migration, the depreciation of the pound, public budget, and private investment. Explores the potential impact on low income women, race and gender-based inequalities (Dr Sara Reis). Suggests that Brexit may have a negative impact on industries that employ more women, and that rising food prices may also have a negative gender impact. Considers the consequences of abolishing statutory minimum wage protections as part of a future post-Brexit trade deal, especially for low-waged employees in the UK (Howard Reed). Highlights the negative effects of Brexit and the risks to the UK economy.

[Back to contents](#)

## Employment, jobs and careers

Cullinane, Carl; Montacute, Rebecca

Ref No: [B51964](#)

### Pay as you go? Internship pay, job quality and access in the graduate jobs market

Sutton Trust

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/rJxu30mTP6n>)

2018

Pages: 58

Publisher's price: na

Looks at internship pay, quality and access in the graduate jobs market. Uses a survey of business decision makers, job advertisement data, a survey of young graduates, and a survey of staffers working in MPs and Peers' offices in Westminster. Considers how common internships are in terms of provision and take-up. Investigates internship pay. Examines access to internships. Reflects on the law in relation to internships. Explores the quality and outcomes of internships. Addresses internships in British politics. Finds that internships are an increasingly integral part of the graduate job market, yet are characterised by many features that are socially exclusive and afford advantages to those from better off backgrounds, serving as a drag on social mobility. Argues, therefore, that internships play a role in perpetuating the disproportionate influence of those from well-off backgrounds in many of the country's top professions, and suggests that tackling the issue of unpaid internships is crucial to improving social mobility in the workplace. Concludes that it is necessary to make existing internships better for those doing them, along with improving access to the best opportunities by reducing the social exclusion caused by lack of pay, and making application processes transparent and open to all. Makes recommendations for government, employers and other bodies.

Koslowski, Alison; Duvander, Ann-Zofie

Ref No: [A62912](#)

### Basic income: the potential for gendered empowerment? IN Social Inclusion, Vol 6 No 4 2018, pp8-15

Journal article.

(Article available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/hlOX30mXhw6>)

2018

Pages: 8

Looks at whether the introduction of a basic income might lead to greater gender equality and empowerment, drawing on examples of Swedish interventions which aim to reduce gender inequalities. Defines a universal basic income as an income paid by a political community to all its members on an individual basis, without means test or work requirement. Explores the idea of a basic income as a means of improving the fairness and efficiency of distributing money and empowering citizens, and providing the potential for greater human flourishing. Explains that the universal worker model is concerned with human dignity, the right to work and economic independence, leading to the potential for greater human flourishing by being engaged in paid activity that is meaningful to a community. Discusses universal basic income and gender equality issues and the potential benefits to women, and draws comparisons between basic income and existing cash for care policies. Looks at the universal (paid) worker model or work line in Sweden and parental leave policies that aim to reduce gender inequalities. Concludes that there is a lack of clarity over whether a basic income payment would challenge gender inequalities.

International Labour Organization (ILO)

Ref No: [B51974](#)

### Global Wage Report 2018/19: what lies behind gender pay gaps

International Labour Organization (ILO)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/y7T430mR8zC>)

2018

Pages: 159

Publisher's price: na

ISBN: 9789220313473

Analyses global and regional wage trends and examines the gender pay gap around the world. Draws on previous studies and information from: the European Commission, AMECO (Annual macro-economic database); ILO Global Wage database; ILOSTAT; IMF World Economic Outlook database; OECD Earnings database; and the World Bank Open database. Compares wage growth in high-income countries and in low- and middle-income countries. Shows that global wage growth in 2017 was lower than in 2016, and fell to its lowest growth rate since 2008, remaining below the levels observed before the global financial crisis. Assesses the standard measures used to estimate gender pay gaps and proposes a complementary measure - the factor-weighted gender pay gap. Examines gender pay inequalities and estimates that: using average hourly wages, the (weighted) global gender pay gap is approximately 16%; and using median monthly wages the gender pay gap goes up to 22%. Discusses what lies behind the 'unexplained' component of

the gender pay gap, including the lower returns for education of women within the same occupations, the effects on wages of the feminisation of occupations and workplaces, and the effect of the parenthood status of women and men on their respective wages. Highlights the motherhood pay gap and suggests a number of policy measures that might help to achieve pay parity between women and men. Describes the Swiss equal pay tool for small firms.

[Back to contents](#)

## Education and skills

Anon.

Ref No: [A62900](#)

### **Early-intervention literacy programme to increase attainment at GCSE, IN 14-19 Learning and Skills Bulletin, No 282 5 Dec 2018, p13**

*Journal article.*

2018

Pages: 1

Reports on the long-term benefits of a school-based literacy programme, Reading Recovery, which targeted poorly performing five- and six-year-old children and gave them daily one-to-one reading sessions with specialist teachers. Finds that ten years after the intervention the children were twice as likely to gain five good GCSEs, including English and Mathematics, compared with those in the comparison group who had not had the intervention. Reports that the children were less likely to leave school with no qualifications than the comparison group and required no intensive special-needs support. Calculates that, for every £1 invested, the programme had the potential to return up to £4.30 to UK society by improving long-term outcomes for each child. Considers that the children would have higher lifetime earnings due to increased employment and higher wages and would save local authorities money as they were less likely to need a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan.

Local Government Association

Ref No: [B51958](#)

### **A better start: supporting child development in the early years**

Local Government Association (LGA)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/CCBo30mTPIv>)

2018

Pages: 27

Publisher's price: na

Considers how to support child development in the early years. Sets out the reasons why the early years are so essential to future outcomes and wellbeing. Looks at the measures being taken by local authorities to bring together health, social care and early education services to create a more holistic approach to identifying and meeting the needs of young children and their families – making provision more efficient and effective. Offers an idea of the increasing range of interventions available to address particular issues early, before they escalate into more damaging and expensive problems. Presents a series of case studies highlighting the importance of evidence-based practice, and of local authorities and area partnerships making sure that they commission provision and implement changes which fully reflect the particular local needs and priorities of their communities.

Montacute, Rebecca

Ref No: [B51959](#)

### **Access to advantage: the influence of schools and place on admissions to top universities**

Sutton Trust

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/o1ZK30mVMtS>)

2018

Pages: 49

Publisher's price: na

Returns to some of the issues raised in a 2011 report which looked at university acceptance rates, including how those rates differed by school type and area. Looks at who is accepted to which universities, and who is applying to those universities. Uses data for schools and colleges in England, covering the UCAS application cycles 2014- 15, 2015-16 and 2016-17. Discusses access to higher education, access to elite universities, access to Oxbridge, and the role of schools. Considers applications and acceptances by school type and by comprehensive school type. Examines regional differences in terms of acceptances by local education authorities. Explores differences by school attainment. Assesses the A level results of acceptances. Concludes that access to higher education is improving, and that there is now a high level of access overall for students who apply, however, gaps remain persistent, especially at the most highly regarded institutions. Makes recommendations for universities and for schools.

McNally, Sandra

Ref No: [A62913](#)

### **Apprenticeships in England: what do we know?, IN CentrePiece, Autumn 2018, pp2-5**

Journal article.

(Article available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/pjWa30mYC1i>)

2018

Pages: 4

Summarises the findings of 'Apprenticeships in England: what does research tell us?' (2018, Ref B51207), a study into apprenticeships in England, and makes reference to more recent findings. Discusses the increase in apprenticeship starts since 2008, driven mainly by starts among those aged 25+, and to a lesser extent among those aged between 19 and 24. Looks at the differences between the apprenticeship system in England and other European countries (Austria, Germany, Switzerland). Notes that in most countries, apprenticeships are more geared towards training new entrants, not, as in England, retraining those already in the workforce. Highlights evidence of the decline in the number of apprenticeship starts since the introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy in April 2017, and considers some of the reasons behind this. Includes an example of where a reform of apprenticeships directed at improving quality (by increasing duration) involved a reduction in apprenticeship starts. Discusses means of assessing the value of apprenticeships and considers the idea of estimating the effect of completing an apprenticeship on earnings. Highlights evidence that the effect of completing an apprenticeship on earnings is two to three times larger for the 19-24 age group than for the 25+ group. Concludes that whether or not apprenticeships add value depends on the sector and the circumstances of the people who take them on.

Davidson, Jenni

Ref No: [A62899](#)

### **Fully immersed (Gaelic-medium education), IN Holyrood, No 414 3 Dec 2018, pp30-33**

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 4

Looks at the challenges in delivering Gaelic-medium education in Scotland. Explains the use of teaching through Gaelic in primary schools, with around 5,600 children being educated in Gaelic in 13 local authority areas. Highlights the successes of Gaelic-medium education in terms of educational attainment, indicating that the Scottish government plans to expand provision. Discusses the challenges faced in creating a new generation of Gaelic speakers and in dealing with a shortage of Gaelic teachers and resources. Considers the uneven provision of Gaelic-medium education across Scotland, highlighting initiatives by Highlands, Glasgow and Edinburgh councils to introduce and expand provision in their areas. Considers issues arising from their being no right to secondary education provision through the Gaelic-medium, highlighting the challenges faced by a secondary school in Glasgow.

Kashefpakdel, Elnaz; Newton, Olly; Clark, Janet

Ref No: [B51977](#)

### **How are schools developing real employability skills?**

Edge Foundation

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/yyBr30mXIMp>)

2018

Pages: 52

Publisher's price: na

Looks at how schools are developing employability skills among pupils. Draws on: existing literature assessing the skills and behaviours young people need to find work and progress in the workplace; discussions with professionals involved in recruitment; and the findings from a survey of 626 secondary school teaching staff in England. Identifies seven employability skills (problem solving, communication, self-management, teamwork, creativity, numeracy, digital skills) and five 'competencies' (confidence, drive, resilience, reflection) found to be most frequently cited by employers. Looks at how these skills and competencies are being developed in different school-based environments. Finds that: 90% of teachers believe that the top five skills and two of the four competencies cited by employers are developed in school; and teachers believe that teamwork, confidence, communication, creativity and problem solving are the top skills and competencies developed through extra-curricular activities. Observes that current government policy, such as the narrower curriculum and increased content and exam-focus of GCSEs and A levels, are standing in the way of young people developing the skills necessary for working life (32% of teachers said changes to the Key Stage 3 curriculum have been detrimental to developing the skills and attitudes needed, and 47% of teachers believe that there are fewer opportunities to develop employability skills and competencies since the introduction of the reformed GCSEs and A levels).

[Back to contents](#)

Hildrey, Chris

Ref No: [A62897](#)

### **Addresses for the homeless, IN RIBA Journal, Vol 125 No 12 Dec 2018, pp40-41**

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 2

Discusses the Proxy Address system which works with local government, postal services and the financial sector to reconnect those facing homelessness with support services. Explains that when people become homeless they are unable to receive mail and so key services (such as benefits, a bank account and job applications) are out of reach to them. Argues that without access to these services people are more vulnerable to problems such as mental ill-health and substance abuse. Considers that the problem may get worse with time as the number of rough-sleepers has risen by 169% since 2010 and over 70,000 households are at risk of being moved on with little warning. Explains that the Proxy Address system is essentially a database which provides homeless people with a consistent address by linking them with empty properties (of which there are more than 500,000 in England). Notes that there is no physical interaction with the property and the post is redirected by the Royal Mail before delivery. States that the first live trials of the system are due to take place in Lewisham.

Anon.

Ref No: [A62901](#)

### **How would the sector cope with a no-deal Brexit, IN Inside Housing, Vol 35 No 47 7 Dec 2018, pp12-13**

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 2

Discusses how the housing sector would cope in the event of a no-deal Brexit. Suggests that if a down-turn was triggered by such a scenario then the housing market would be hit. Describes how housing associations have modelled the worst-case scenarios and considers that future housing developments would be reduced. Suggests that shared-ownership may be vulnerable in a downturn and that houses planned for sale may be switched to social rented. Discusses the need for the government to inject more cash into the system noting that in the case of a no-deal Brexit public finances might be stretched. Explains that many associations have been taking on additional liquidity in case they cannot get loans from banks in the future. Outlines other problems which may be encountered such as the increasing cost of materials due to a falling pound and potential labour shortages if foreign workers were kept out by an immigration deal.

Smith, Henry et al

Ref No: [B51858](#)

### **Planning for affordable housing**

Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/QoQ430mw47a>)

2018

Pages: 56

Publisher's price: na

Assesses how the planning system is performing in delivering affordable housing. Sets out the outcomes of research that the Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA) has carried out with over 120 councils about the challenges and opportunities that the planning system presents; whether or not the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) will make a difference; and what needs to change. Outlines the current context in England in planning for affordable housing, in particular the policies in place at national government level which impact on the delivery of affordable homes across the country. Presents 13 recommendations to government on how the planning system can be improved to deliver more high-quality and genuinely affordable housing, focusing on what can be achieved both through structural changes to the planning system and by improving the existing system through changes to planning guidance and other legislation. Suggests that these recommendations must be accompanied by a significant central government investment programme in social housing, not taken as replacements for it.

Airey, Jack

Ref No: [B51960](#)

### **Building for the baby boomers: making a housing market for an ageing population**

Looks at the shortage of homes suitable for older people and its impact on society, including families and younger people. Discusses demographics, housing and health. Considers older people's capacity in the housing market. Reflects on moves in later life in terms of tenure, why people move, appetite to move, and what would enable more people to move. Examines what homes older people need and want. Explores how to expand existing provision. Argues that to close the supply gap, a focus on building is needed with more homes required across all tenures and all price points – something that the authors suggest requires action from the government, local authorities and housebuilders. Indicates that a legal and regulatory platform is needed which enables new models of retirement housing and a new tier of innovative providers to emerge. Contends that local authorities must improve the sheltered housing stock they already own, and support the development of new retirement housing in their areas. Asserts that private providers should spot the gap in the market and build retirement homes, for ownership and rent, that older people want to live in. Concludes that the aim should be bringing about a societal change in attitude towards downsizing – and for it to be seen as a natural progression in someone's life.

Mackintosh, Sheila et al

Ref No: [B51961](#)

### **Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) and other adaptations: external review**

University of the West of England (UWE)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/BUFi30mVqCq>)

Discusses changes to the disabled facilities grant (DFG) in England, providing an assessment of how the DFG is currently being used, and making evidence-based recommendations about how it should change. Uses analysis of data returns by local authorities combined with data from a series of freedom of information requests; consultation events with participants from local authorities, home improvement agencies and other organisations; interviews with staff from selected local authorities; collaboration with other researchers; meetings with representatives of national organisations and with the private market sector; telephone and email contact with academic and policy staff; and a short review of the academic, policy and practice literature. Considers the evidence relating to the current situation and the need for change in terms of: DFG funding; who receives the grant; types of adaptations and costs; costs and benefits to local authorities; processing arrangements and waiting times. Assesses the options to improve services in terms of: local delivery; working better together; the allocation of resources; other funding issues; the means test; regulation and the upper limit; developing a market; tenure and equality. Concludes that it is important to provide adaptations that are effective, well designed, fit with personal style and are not stigmatising by making the home look like a hospital, and provides a series of recommendations.

Henderson, Kate; Khan-Wheatley, Zafrin; Ryan-Collins, Dr Josh

Ref No: [A62896](#)

### **Bigger, better and still socially driven (housing associations), IN Social Housing (30 Years of Social Housing Dec 2018, Supplement), pp6-7**

Journal article.

Considers the future of housing associations looking ahead 30 years. Discusses the challenges faced by housing associations in maintaining their original social purpose, suggesting that improving the service offer to residents must remain their number one priority and highlighting research indicating that 340,000 new homes a year are needed of which 90,000 should be for social rent. Suggests that three factors will be key to housing associations surviving and thriving: delivering in partnership; innovation in design; and commitment to quality. Argues that there are reasons for optimism concerning affordable housing, indicating that the key issues and challenges are now better understood and that there may be a larger role for mutual and cooperative housing institutions in future.

Harding, Billy

Ref No: [B51980](#)

## **Ready to move on: barriers to homeless young people accessing longer-term accommodation**

Centrepont

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/YhEo30mZ5yK>)

2018

Pages: 31

Publisher's price: na

Explores the barriers faced by young people looking to move on from supported accommodation such as hostels. Draws on information from surveys of landlords in the private and social rented sectors, interviews with stakeholders, interviews with young people currently in supported accommodation and interviews with young people that have recently moved on from Centrepont accommodation. Highlights the following problems: a lack of affordable housing options; high rents and upfront costs; lower benefit rates for young people; private landlords' reluctance to let to tenants receiving benefits; low wages and insecure employment; local allocation policies; and a lack of security and quality control in the private rented sector. Recommends that: the government and local authorities should work together to increase the supply of housing that is genuinely affordable for young people; the government should guarantee long-term funding for private rented sector access schemes; the DWP should extend eligibility for the lower rate work allowance within Universal Credit to young people living in supported accommodation; the MHCLG should allocate a portion of the move-on fund announced as part of the Rough Sleeping Strategy specifically for young people leaving supported accommodation, to provide both housing and support; and social landlords should exercise flexibility in allocations policies to take into account young people's individual circumstances.

Blackman, David

Ref No: [A62895](#)

## **Smaller HAs team up for partner status, IN Social Housing, Vol 30 No 12 Dec 2018, pp6-7**

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 2

Looks at the development of strategic partnerships involving housing associations across England. Outlines the creation of a strategic housing partnership involving 15 housing associations to deliver affordable housing in London. Describes Homes England's approach to working with strategic partnerships to deliver affordable housing, indicating that £653 million is being provided to fund seven partnerships across England. Presents two case studies covering the Guinness and Stonewater and Vivid Group strategic partnerships. Discusses concerns about housing associations' excessive reliance on Section 1016 agreements, suggesting that they should buy more strategic land to help tackle the housing shortage.

[Back to contents](#)

## **Planning, development and property**

Owen, Jonathon

Ref No: [A62908](#)

## **The industry has created a monster (building regulations and fire safety), IN Building, No 49 7 Dec 2018, pp24-26**

Journal article.

2018

Pages: 3

Reports on a Building Live discussion with a panel of experts on the government's soon to be published response to the recommendations of the Hackitt review into building regulations and fire safety. Discusses the potential new recommendations including having a proper communication route with residents, creating a national standard for fire safety qualifications and the creation of a new regulator, the Joint Competent Authority. Explains that insurance premiums have rocketed since the Grenfell Tower fire and suggests that some companies might pull out of the high-rise residential market due to the extra costs and risks. Discusses procurement and the need for good value to be more important than lower costs. Considers whether the construction industry has changed the way it works since Grenfell or whether it is waiting to be told what to do. Concludes that the sector will have to win back the trust that has been lost by the industry.

[Back to contents](#)

Mahamadi, Hima

Ref No: [A62904](#)

### **Redefining the rules about resettlement (asylum seekers), IN MJ, 6 Dec 2018, pp12-13**

*Journal article.*

2018

Pages: 2

Discusses the resettlement of asylum seekers in the UK. Reports that Andy Burnham, the mayor of Greater Manchester, has threatened to pull the city out of the asylum resettlement scheme as he thinks the North West (which accommodates a quarter of all asylum seekers in England) is taking on too great a share of the burden. Explains that under the asylum accommodation scheme private providers are given contracts to resettle people and choose to do so where the cheapest property is available. Considers that making accommodation mandatory for all councils without Government funding for the ensuing extra costs will make the situation worse not better. Suggests that there is a lack of communication between private providers and local authorities across the country. Describes how Bournemouth BC works with the voluntary sector to successfully provide supported accommodation for families. Cites the Government's Syrian resettlement programme, which worked with local government and provided funding, as a successful scheme. Considers the positive aspects of resettling refugees in communities where depopulation is an issue.

Dolan, Richard

Ref No: [A62911](#)

### **Virtual reality can change lives in social care, IN Local Government Chronicle, No 7737 6 Dec 2018, pp14-15**

*Journal article.*

2018

Pages: 2

Describes how virtual reality has been used within the social care sector by Tricuro, a care provider for Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole councils. Explains how a roadshow, which demonstrated a beach scene via a virtual reality headset, was taken round residential care and day service facilities including those for people with dementia. Reports that 97% of clients who tried out the equipment had a positive experience with many requesting other immersive experiences such as driving or flying. Considers that the technology opens opportunities for reminiscence work with dementia clients and enables benefits and efficiencies relating to health and social care to be explored. Considers that virtual reality and other emerging technologies enables Tricuro to explore new ways of keeping clients happier and healthier for longer.

[Back to contents](#)

## Obtaining full-text material

This bulletin contains references to online reports, books and journal articles.

To access the full text of items, click on the relevant reference number and you will be taken to the full item details on our website (you will have to login to the website). You can then access or request documents, including journal articles.

The URL link for online reports is given in this bulletin, or you can access them via the website.

Free postal loan of books can be requested by emailing [AskTheResearchTeam@idoxgroup.com](mailto:AskTheResearchTeam@idoxgroup.com) or calling 0333 011 1694. You only have to pay for return postage.

## Copyright

Any journal articles obtained through our service are protected by copyright legislation. You may not without the prior permission of the copyright owner:

- a) print out more than a single paper copy, which itself may not be further copied;
- b) retransmit the Digital Cutting to anybody else; or
- c) electronically store any copy of the document.

You can find out more about copyright from the Copyright Licensing Agency at <http://www.cla.co.uk>.

## Website and database access

You will need a username and password to access our database online. If you haven't already registered, go to <http://informationsservice.idoxgroup.com> and click the 'register here' link underneath the Login button.

## About the Idox Information Service

The Information Service specialises in resources in public and social policy and practice. It is staffed by a team of researchers who provide free tailored support to all members.

All members of the Information Service benefit from:

- Our online database of around 200,000 items, available 24/7 and updated daily
- A Weekly Bulletin highlighting new reports, journal articles and books
- Instant electronic supply of items in full text where copyright allows (otherwise loaned in hard copy)
- Updates and personalised Alerts on specific topics of interest to you
- Ask a Researcher – our free research and enquiry service to help you with your information needs.
- Briefings and analysis on current and emerging issues
- A customer support team to assist you in getting the best from the service

## Contact details

Mon – Fri: 9.00am–5.30pm

Tel: 0333 011 1694

Email: [AskTheResearchTeam@idoxgroup.com](mailto:AskTheResearchTeam@idoxgroup.com)

<http://informationsservice.idoxgroup.com>