

# Neighbourhood *Planning*



## Sources of information and Statistics for your Neighbourhood Plan Area

### Introduction

There are many sources of information that you may need to help you develop your neighbourhood plan and this document provides guidance on the different types of data sets available to you and where the data can be found.

Providing evidence for your policies is crucial and data can help with this, but you need to ensure that you are only collecting data that is relevant to your vision and objectives. The data sets used should be the correct ones for the area covered by your neighbourhood plan, they should be up to date and the amount of data should be proportionate to your requirements. Having too much data, or incorrect data could make things more difficult.

### Key documents to consult

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the national policy on planning matters which all authorities have to follow.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

The Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One and Part Two) sets out planning policies for the borough.

[http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/your\\_council/policies\\_and\\_performance/council\\_plans\\_and\\_strategies/planning\\_policy/current\\_local\\_plans.aspx](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/your_council/policies_and_performance/council_plans_and_strategies/planning_policy/current_local_plans.aspx)

The most recent Census was undertaken in 2011. Data is available at parish level and the Census Parish Data Guide (July 2016) provides information about the data available and its limitations.

[https://inside.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/find\\_out\\_more/datasets\\_and\\_statistics/statistics/census\\_2011/census\\_2011\\_parish](https://inside.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/find_out_more/datasets_and_statistics/statistics/census_2011/census_2011_parish)

**OCSI Reports** - OCSI Reports are profiles of communities which present data on population, housing data, culture, equality, economics, social issues, services, transport, connectivity, environment and governance. Data is gathered through the 2011 Census and other government sources and is presented in graphs and

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diagrams. The organisation, Cheshire Community Action, can provide these profiles at a cost of £50 per report (there is a 10% discount for CCA members). They are available at parish or 'settlement' level. They are useful document for pulling together an early profile of an area, however you need to be aware that there may well be small differences between the data provided in these profiles and the data published from Census 2011.

To order a report from Cheshire Community Action, please email [enquiries@cheshireaction.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@cheshireaction.org.uk)

## Statistics and Geography - what to use and when

Small area statistics are available for a range of different small geographies. Many of these come from the 2011 Census (particularly the parish statistics) however there are some other useful sources of data.

It is important when statistics are quoted to be clear about the geographical area they refer to and also to choose the geographical area that most closely covers the area of the neighbourhood plan. For example parish data (where available) may be a better fit to the neighbourhood plan area than ward data, but the parish data may not match up exactly with the Neighbourhood Area.

### Geography

There are many different geographic unit types and their boundaries frequently do not align. The following bullets explain the main geographies it is useful to be aware of when gather statistics for your neighbourhood plan.

#### Administrative boundaries

- **45 wards** in Cheshire West and Chester - electoral wards (sometimes known as unitary wards) are the base unit of UK administrative geography, being the areas from which local authority councillors are elected. New ward boundaries were created in Cheshire West and Chester in 2019. More information on the individual ward profiles can be found [here](#).
- **166 civil parishes** in Cheshire West and Chester - parishes and their councils are the most local level of government. Unlike electoral wards/divisions however, parishes are not found in all parts of England and there are two large unparished areas within West Cheshire. Not all parishes have a parish council,

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some smaller parishes have parish meetings and parish councils can cover more than one parish area.

## Statistical boundaries

- 1109 **output areas** (OAs) – output areas have been used for data collection and output of Census data since the 2001 Census. They were designed by the Office for National Statistics. They have a minimum size of 40 resident households and a minimum population of 100 but the recommended size was rather larger at 125 households.
- 212 **lower layer super output areas** (LSOAs) in Cheshire West and Chester - these are a geography designed by the Office for National Statistics to improve the reporting of small area statistics. They are built up from groups of output areas (typically five). They have a minimum population of 1,000 and an average population of 1,500.
- 47 **middle layer super output areas** (MSOAs) these are a geography designed to improve the reporting of small area statistics. They are built up from groups of lower layer super output areas and are constrained by the 2003 local authority boundaries used for 2001 Census outputs. They have a minimum population of 5,000 and a mean population of 7,200.

## Further information

- For more detailed information, the Office for National Statistics has a [Beginners Guide to Geography](#).

## View geographical boundaries

You can view standard geographical boundaries (wards, parishes, LSOAs and OAs) for area around your neighbourhood plan area using the **map viewer** available on the Neighbourhood Statistics website [www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk)

The user can type in the name of the place they want to view on the map and then tick to select the geographies they want to show on the map (for example parish, ward, LSOA and OA).

## Parishes

Care needs to be taken when looking at parish results from the 2011 Census. The tables published by ONS are at parish level and not parish council level and for some small parishes, no results are available. In some cases, the results quoted for

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a parish are actually for an area larger or smaller than the parish. This is because ONS has calculated parish results by summing the results for output areas (OA) and in some cases, a number of OAs will fit neatly into a parish but in some cases they do not. For more information please read '2011 Census – data for parishes', which is available as part of the neighbourhood planning toolkit.

## Data

### 2011 Census data

There is a wealth of information available from the 2011 Census for a range of geographies including parishes (and OAs, LSOAs, MLSOAs and wards), for example:

- Population (by single year of age)
- Ethnicity and religion
- Housing (includes single pensioner households, lone parents, tenure and central heating availability)
- Economic activity (includes unemployment, hours worked and occupations)
- Health (includes general health, limiting long term conditions and carers).

Some data tables available at parish level cover a single topic, for example health and others show results for more than one topic, for example health by age.

The tables published by ONS so far are available on the NOMIS website:

<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011>. Detailed below is a sample of the 2011 Census tables available. For all 2011 Census tables (listed below), we suggest you use the 'wizard query' button to select the geography you are interested in and specific statistics you want from the table.

### Population Demographics

Total population	<a href="https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks101ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks101ew</a>
Population density, total male population and total female population	2011 Census table KS101EW: Usual resident population

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Population – age profile	<a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks102ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks102ew</a> 2011 Census table KS102EW: Age structure
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Further 2011 Census tables are also available on population change, ethnicity, country of birth, language spoken and religion.

## Housing

Households by composition  The number of certain types of compositions of people in households, such as by age and number of people.	<a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks105ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks105ew</a>
Number of dwellings  Number of self-contained units in which people live	<a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks401ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks401ew</a>
Household type: Such as: detached, semi-, terraced, flats etc	<a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks401ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks401ew</a>
Household tenure:  Owned/mortgages, rented (private/social), second homes	<a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks402ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks402ew</a>
Housing in Poor Condition  Average household size, central heating, number of rooms and bedrooms, occupancy rating of households (based on both rooms and bedrooms)	<a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks403ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks403ew</a>
Dwelling stock by Council Tax Band	<a href="http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk">www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</a>



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House Prices	<a href="http://www.hometrack.co.uk">www.hometrack.co.uk</a>
Council Tax bands, median house prices, affordability ratios	Produces a charged for report on housing statistics OCSI Reports
Average house values by price	<a href="http://www.rightmove.co.uk/house-prices-in-my-area.html/svr/3105;jsessionid=DF4FB6C44CB2C5D2DB8419B5FD29E8A5">http://www.rightmove.co.uk/house-prices-in-my-area.html/svr/3105;jsessionid=DF4FB6C44CB2C5D2DB8419B5FD29E8A5</a> Rightmove - information by post code and time
Percentage of stocks sold per annum	<a href="http://www.landregistry.gov.uk/public/house-prices-and-sales">http://www.landregistry.gov.uk/public/house-prices-and-sales</a>
Percentage of social housing properties let in year which are family sized	Contact local landlords
Percentage of social housing properties let in year which are suitable for older persons	Contact local landlords
Number of households registered for housing need	Contact local landlords
Average number of households applied/considered for social rented	Contact local landlords
Housing need and demand  The quantity of housing required for households who are unable to access suitable housing without financial assistance and the quantity of housing that households are willing and able to buy or rent.	<a href="http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cw_lp_part_two/ev_base/ev_docs">http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cw_lp_part_two/ev_base/ev_docs</a>  Cheshire West and Chester Strategic Housing Market Assessment

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<p>Housing land availability</p> <p>How many units can be accommodated on identified sites and the timeframes for when these sites are likely to be available. Constraints associated with bringing potential sites forward and how and when these can be removed to help improve the potential for housing.</p>	<p><a href="http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cw_lp_part_two/ev_base/ev_docs">http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cw_lp_part_two/ev_base/ev_docs</a></p> <p>Cheshire West and Chester Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment</p>
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## Travel

<p>Average distance travelled to fixed place of work and time taken to travel to nearest employment centre (LSOA geography only)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/acs05-travel-time-destination-and-origin-indicators-to-key-sites-and-services-by-lower-super-output-area-lsoa">www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/acs05-travel-time-destination-and-origin-indicators-to-key-sites-and-services-by-lower-super-output-area-lsoa</a></p>
<p>Average travel time to nearest hospital, supermarket, work by public transport/walking (LSOA geography only)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/acs05-travel-time-destination-and-origin-indicators-to-key-sites-and-services-by-lower-super-output-area-lsoa">www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/acs05-travel-time-destination-and-origin-indicators-to-key-sites-and-services-by-lower-super-output-area-lsoa</a></p>
<p>Number of people that work from home</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/qs701ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/qs701ew</a></p>
<p>Method of travel to work</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/qs701ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/qs701ew</a></p>

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Number of cars or vans per household	<a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks404ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks404ew</a>
Locations of footpaths and cyclepaths	<a href="https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/CWAC/webmapping/">https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/CWAC/webmapping/</a> Select add data, select leisure and culture, select footpaths, walking or cycling

## Energy

Consumption of ordinary domestic electricity and gas (LSOA geography)	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/lsoa-electricity-and-gas-2011-experimental">www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/lsoa-electricity-and-gas-2011-experimental</a>
Type of central heating	<a href="https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/qs415ew">https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/qs415ew</a>

## Water

Flood risk Areas at risk of flooding	<a href="http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cwc_lp/ev_base_1/fra">http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cwc_lp/ev_base_1/fra</a> Strategic Flood Risk Assessments <a href="https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/">https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/</a> Government website flood maps
Capacity issues around key infrastructure Includes water infrastructure	<a href="http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cwc_lp/ev_base_1/fra">http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cwc_lp/ev_base_1/fra</a> CWAC Water Cycle Strategy



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Water Quality	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/north-west-river-basin-district-river-basin-management-plan">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/north-west-river-basin-district-river-basin-management-plan</a>  North West River Basin Management Plan  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dee-river-basin-district-flood-risk-management-plan">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dee-river-basin-district-flood-risk-management-plan</a>  River Dee Basin Management Plan
Waste Water	<a href="http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cwc_lp/ev_base_1/fra">http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cwc_lp/ev_base_1/fra</a>  Cheshire West and Chester Water Cycle Study

## Environment

Key Environment Statistics (LSOA level) Includes: Air emissions, ambient air quality, Commercial and Industrial Floorspace and Rateable Value Statistics bient air quality, Land Use Statistics (Generalised Land Use Database)	<a href="http://www.ons.gov.uk/help/localstatistics">www.ons.gov.uk/help/localstatistics</a>  Look in 'topics' / then 'physical environment')
Nature designations  Areas designated with special legal protection for biodiversity on site	<a href="http://www.magic.gov.uk">www.magic.gov.uk</a>  Select get started and once on the interactive map, select designations
Local wildlife sites	<a href="https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/CWAC/webmapping/">https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/CWAC/webmapping/</a>  Select add data, then environment and planning and then select Local Wildlife Sites
Green Belt	<a href="https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/CWAC/webmapping/">https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/CWAC/webmapping/</a>  Select clear all, under common policies, select Green Belt

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<p>Agricultural land quality</p>	<p><a href="http://www.magic.gov.uk">www.magic.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Select get started, on the interactive map select landscape, select landscape classification, select Agricultural Land Classification</p>
<p>Open space</p> <p>The provision and quality of open space, such as parks, allotments and sport pitches</p>	<p><a href="http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cw_lp_part_two/ev_base/oss_pps">http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cw_lp_part_two/ev_base/oss_pps</a></p> <p>Cheshire West and Chester Open Space Study</p>
<p>Waste and recycling facilities including locations</p>	<p><a href="http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/waste_and_recycling.aspx">http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/waste_and_recycling.aspx</a></p> <p>Cheshire West and Chester Waste and Recycling</p>
<p>Landscape character</p> <p>The distinct and recognizable pattern of elements that occur consistently in a particular landscape. Includes particular combinations of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, land use, field patterns and human settlement</p>	<p><a href="https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/planning-and-building-control/total-environment/landscape-character-assessment.aspx">https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/planning-and-building-control/total-environment/landscape-character-assessment.aspx</a></p> <p>Cheshire Landscape Character Assessment</p> <p>See the map to find out what Landscape Type your neighbourhood plan falls under. Then select the document/s on Landscape Types relevant for you neighbourhood plan for more detail.</p>
<p>Historic environment</p> <p>Information on buildings and areas of historic importance</p>	<p><a href="https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/CWAC/webmapping/">https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/CWAC/webmapping/</a></p> <p>Select environment and planning, where there is information on archaeology, listed buildings, conservation areas and monuments.</p>

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<p>Air Quality Management Areas</p> <p>Areas designated as having bad air pollution</p>	<p><a href="https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/pests-pollution-food-safety/pollution-and-air-quality/pollution-and-air-quality.aspx">https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/pests-pollution-food-safety/pollution-and-air-quality/pollution-and-air-quality.aspx</a></p> <p>Cheshire West and Chester Air Quality Management Areas</p>
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## Economy

<p>Total number of enterprises (MSOA level)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/query/construct/summary.asp?mode=construct&amp;version=0&amp;dataset=142">www.nomisweb.co.uk/query/construct/summary.asp?mode=construct&amp;version=0&amp;dataset=142</a></p> <p>(includes broad industry group and employment size)</p> <p>There is also information on NOMIS on business counts (i.e workplaces)</p>
<p>Economic activity</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks601ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks601ew</a></p>
<p>Hours worked</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks604ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks604ew</a></p>
<p>Industry of employment</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks605ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks605ew</a></p>
<p>Occupation</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks608ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks608ew</a></p>
<p>Job Seekers Allowance Claimants (and other Department of Work and Pensions benefits) (LSOA level)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/articles/807.aspx">www.nomisweb.co.uk/articles/807.aspx</a></p>
<p>Model based household income estimates (MSOA level)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/household_earnings_estimates_-_model-based_estimates_of_income_for_msoas">www.data.gov.uk/dataset/household_earnings_estimates_-_model-based_estimates_of_income_for_msoas</a></p>

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Employment Land Supply and Demand	<a href="http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cw_lp_part_two/sub/parttwosub">http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cw_lp_part_two/sub/parttwosub</a>
Information land designated for development which provides employment	Cheshire West and Chester Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment  <a href="http://data.gov.uk/dataset/annual_business_inquiry">http://data.gov.uk/dataset/annual_business_inquiry</a>  Annual Business Inquiry

## Social

Health (general health, limiting long term conditions, carers)	<a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks301ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks301ew</a>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/health-profiles">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/health-profiles</a>  Cheshire West and Chester Health profile  <a href="https://inside.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/find_out_more/datasets_and_statistics/statistics">https://inside.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/find_out_more/datasets_and_statistics/statistics</a>  Cheshire West and Chester Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
Indices of multiple deprivation (2015)	<a href="https://inside.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/find_out_more/datasets_and_statistics/statistics/indices_of_multiple_deprivation_2015">https://inside.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/find_out_more/datasets_and_statistics/statistics/indices_of_multiple_deprivation_2015</a>
Qualifications and students	<a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks501ew">www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/ks501ew</a>
Fuel poverty	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fuel-poverty-statistics">www.gov.uk/government/collections/fuel-poverty-statistics</a>
Working age DWP claimants	OCSI Reports  <a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/articles/807.aspx">www.nomisweb.co.uk/articles/807.aspx</a>

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Local services and facilities	<a href="http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cw_lp_part_two/ev_base/ev_docs">http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/cw_lp_part_two/ev_base/ev_docs</a>  Local Service Centre Methodology  <a href="https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/CWAC/webmapping/">https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/CWAC/webmapping/</a>  Information under Community and Living, Health and Social Care and Schools and Learning  Property Gazetteer  OCSI Reports: Includes information on road distance to different local services
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Known development sites  Sites with planning permission	<a href="https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/CWAC/webmapping/">https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/CWAC/webmapping/</a>  Select Environment and Planning and then select Planning Applications- Last 12 months only
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## Mapping information

Cheshire West and Chester Council interactive map shows built and nature conservation as well as public services including public rights of way, leisure centres, bus stops, schools, polling districts, allotments and many more.

<https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/cwac/webmapping>

Basemaps and related data (addresses etc) are available directly from Ordnance Survey. To access this information the parish council would need to obtain a Public Sector Geospatial Agreement (PSGA) via the Ordnance Survey website, if they haven't already done so. This was previously known as a Public Sector Mapping Agreement (PSMA). The PSGA is open to all public sector bodies (including parish councils) and enables downloading of data directly from OS and data sharing for specific purposes, without the need to sign contractor agreements. This does require



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the parish council to have GIS software in order to manipulate the maps and data.

<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-government/public-sector-geospatial-agreement>

Please be aware of licensing requirements in relation to printed maps. Documents will need to have a relevant licence.

## **Other general websites providing relevant data**

NOMIS (Official labour market statistics) [www.nomisweb.co.uk/](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/)

ONS (Office for National Statistics) [www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk)

Cheshire West and Chester Council – Key Statistics and Data

[www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/your\\_council/key\\_statistics\\_and\\_data.aspx](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/your_council/key_statistics_and_data.aspx)

Data.gov.uk [www.data.gov.uk](http://www.data.gov.uk)