

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 0141 574 1920.

Click on the headings to jump to a section.

CONTENTS

New Government Publications	2
Government, politics and public administration	3
Equalities and diversity	4
Business and economy	4
Education and skills	5
Housing	6
Planning, development and property	8
Environment	8
Transport, infrastructure and communications	9
Regeneration and community development	12
Health and social care	12
Crime, justice and rights	13
Obtaining full-text material	14

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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 Communities and Local Government

[Northern Powerhouse Enterprise Zones attracting a bigger share of jobs and investment \(news release\)](#)

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

[Billions fewer plastic bags on the streets \(news release\)](#)

Northern Ireland Executive

[New strategic direction for alcohol and drugs phase 2 fourth update report - July 2016](#)

Scottish Government

[Mental health in Scotland: a 10 year vision \(consultation\)](#)

[A new future for social security consultation on social security in Scotland \(consultation\)](#)

[Fund for aspiring politicians \(£200k to help disabled people stand for election\) \(news release\)](#)

[Right to buy ends in Scotland \(news release\)](#)

[Boost for renewable energy \(funding to support workforce and skills for the future\) \(news release\)](#)

[Supreme Court rules on 'named person' \(news release\)](#)

Welsh Government

[Welsh Language Strategy consultation](#)

[New £7m EU-backed investment in graduate career opportunities \(news release\)](#)

[A future demand-led fuel poverty scheme to succeed Welsh Government Warm Homes: Nest \(consultation\)](#)

[Back to contents](#)

Government, politics and public administration

Burton, Michael

Ref No: [A58252](#)

The new faces on the block (implications of new Ministerial appointments for local government), IN MJ, 21 Jul 2016, pp12-13

Journal article.

2016

Pages: 2

Considers the implications for local government of the new UK government established in July 2016. Discusses the future direction of devolution policy (including potential expansion to smaller cities) and business rate localisation, and the role of local government in the new industrial strategy. Considers the implications of changes in the structure of Whitehall departments. Outlines the way in which the local government agenda will be complicated by central government's focus on Brexit negotiations. Considers the implications for local government of the appointment of a new Chancellor of the Exchequer.

McInroy, Neil et al

Ref No: [B45998](#)

The real deal: pushing the parameters of devolution deals

Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute (SPERI)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/umjm302sBGh>)

2016

Pages: 28

Publisher's price: na

Presents ideas for a more progressive agenda for devolving powers and resources from central government to local areas. Suggests that, while a range of powers have been decentralised via city deals and other means, little attention has been given to how central government will reform and relate to the newly empowered cities and regions. Presents 11 ideas for more progressive devolution: local control over employment policy and support; new powers to develop local solutions to the housing crisis; devolving powers over land and property; securing better health outcomes through better funding and integration; tackling climate change from the bottom up; devolution and integration of all transport governance; freedom for and engagement with local anchor institutions; localising the banking sector; enhancing the role of universities in local economies; a new mechanism for distributing national lottery funding; and reinvigorate the public realm by democratising devolution.

Local Government Chronicle (ed)

Ref No: [A58262](#)

The agenda: politics (how the new Prime Minister and her government are likely to view councils and approach devolution), IN Local Government Chronicle, No 7677 21-28 Jul 2016, pp10-13

Journal article.

2016

Pages: 4

Presents a collection of articles looking at how the new Prime Minister, Theresa May, and her government are likely to view councils and to approach devolution. Offers a brief view of the early signs. Includes an article assessing what policy approach May is likely to take. Examines her time as a councillor, the impressions colleagues had of her, and the importance with which she apparently regards local government. Proceeds to describe her progress as an MP and as a minister. Notes her introduction of police and crime commissioners as a policy which she claims reflects her views on devolution, and her interest in increasing their powers. Outlines the views she has expressed recently on a range of policy areas including helping regional cities. Puts forward an interview with the then communities' secretary, Greg Clark, in which he argues that there is still momentum behind devolution, but that the case for it still needs to be fought, claiming that there are centralising tendencies in Westminster. Reveals his views on the establishment of elected mayors and associated authorities, and how this process should work. Considers his views on restructuring of local government. Provides a further article looking at Clark's opinions on fiscal devolution, and on funding for local government following Brexit.

Datavores of local government: using data to make services more personalised, effective and efficient (Nesta discussion paper)

NESTA (National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/HUqt302QBCf>)

2016

Pages: 31

Publisher's price: na

Presents preliminary findings about how the use of data is changing how local government works, the most effective use cases emerging in the UK, and critical factors required for these projects to be successful. Notes that governments are using data analytics to predict events such as the potential of child abuse or likeliest locations for house fires; councils are combining data sets from across local government and the wider local public sector to enable deeper population level analysis; in some councils, the combination of sensors, Internet of Things technologies, and data are improving traffic management, tracking air pollution, and making more efficient use of infrastructure; councils have made considerable use of geo-spatial data to improve services, such as optimising waste collection routes; and through open data portals and analytics hubs, councils are becoming more transparent and better engaged with their residents. Suggests local authorities should adopt a problem-oriented mindset to working with data; enable data sharing through use of case-oriented information government protocols, and invest in the data science capacity needed to perform analysis and integrate large data sets.

[Back to contents](#)

Equalities and diversity

Brown, Dr Duncan

Ref No: [B45997](#)

The power of parity: a study of how Lewisham Council achieved gender equality at senior levels, the learning and implications

Institute for Employment Studies (IES)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/raRn302szKU>)

2016

Pages: 42

Publisher's price: na

Looks at the ways in which the London Borough of Lewisham has achieved gender equality at senior management level, drawing on interviews and focus groups involving council staff. Describes the continuing gender pay gap in the UK, including the 'glass ceiling' effect evidenced by a lack of women in the most senior management positions, and the position in local authorities generally. Outlines the situation in Lewisham Council, including current diversity and HR policies, and employee attitudes to gender equality. Presents the results of stakeholder interviews, focus groups and questionnaires, including history, rationale/business case and the current culture and environment. Provides a summary of key conclusions, learning and implications for encouraging gender equality in senior management levels in organisations.

[Back to contents](#)

Business and economy

Anon.

Ref No: [B46002](#)

UK Powerhouse: spreading economic growth across the UK

Irwin Mitchell LLP

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/WQVI302sMcY>)

2016

Pages: 16

Publisher's price: na

Examines economic growth across the UK, and in the major cities, in the first quarter of 2016, and considers the potential impact of transport improvements in the Northern Powerhouse. Indicates that the UK economy slowed in the first quarter of 2016, with the construction and manufacturing sectors continuing to drag down growth. Looks at growth in UK cities, indicating that Milton Keynes led the way in terms of GVA growth and Stoke-on-Trent in terms of employment growth. Outlines the proposed transport improvements in the Northern Powerhouse, and suggests that transport investments in isolation will not unlock the true potential of the region.

The geography of creativity in the UK: creative clusters, creative people and creative networks

NESTA (National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/Q3Dg302Gu1h>)

2016

Pages: 46

Publisher's price: na

Investigates the geography of creativity in the UK. Presents the findings of a systematic mapping of the UK's creative industries using Office for National Statistics data, combined with geographical analysis of data on the supply of university graduates and research and a novel 'big data' analysis of social networking activity. Gives local policymakers economic reasons to care about the creative industries around them, while pointing out some potential threats to the health of the sector, business fragmentation and regional concentration. Highlights the diversity of UK creative clusters in terms of their location, industrial structure and sectoral composition. Measures local industry networking using web data from Meetup.com, a platform which is used to organise networking events. Shows the levels of networking between different creative clusters in the UK, as well as the international connections of UK clusters. Identifies 47 creative clusters in the UK. Finds that: the creative industries are growing more rapidly than other sectors in most parts of the country; rapid growth has been experienced in all sub-sectors that make up the creative industries, but particularly in service activities like design, software and digital, and advertising; and creative clusters have a dominant presence in London and the South-East of England.

Anon.

Ref No: [A58267](#)

A change of gear (industrial strategy), IN Economist, Vol 420 No 8999 23-29 Jul 2016, pp19-20

Journal article.

(Article available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/F9A8302zXni>)

2016

Pages: 2

Looks at the new prime minister's approach to industrial strategy, noting that Mrs May has indicated interest in: raising productivity, progressing infrastructure projects, promoting more housebuilding, and support for the city-regions. Suggests that such a strategy would involve helping particular sectors of the economy but there are concerns that even a limited industrial strategy could tempt the government to go further by propping up loss-making industries. Reflects on the approach taken by the prime minister following the sale of a Cambridge-based tech company, noting that future takeovers would be assessed on an individual basis. Concludes that the government is likely to spend more time trying to retain investment and may grant concessions to industries such as car manufacturers, to help mitigate the effects of paying EU tariffs.

[Back to contents](#)

Education and skills

Hughs, Deirdre et al

Ref No: [B46048](#)

Careers education: international literature review

Education Endowment Foundation (EEF)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/26eM302vIM5>)

2016

Pages: 102

Publisher's price: na

Provides an overview of the evidence-base underpinning careers education, and its impact on pupils' skills and outcomes. Uses a literature review of 73 studies focused on careers education, and 23 exploring the impact of part-time employment. Sets out the context of the impact assessment. Offers an overview of the literature, identifying different types of intervention: careers provision; enterprise; ICT and careers education; job shadowing; mentoring; transformative leadership; volunteering; work experience; and work-related learning. Discusses the impact of these on educational outcomes such as attainment level, participation in education and/or training, and sustainable progression. Looks at the impact on economic and employment outcomes; earnings. employee retention, likelihood of finding work and/or congruence with the work environment, transition from education to work, social mobility, and reductions in those not engaged in education, employment or training. Explores the impact on social outcomes; cultural capital, community engagement, confidence, resilience, self-esteem, improved non-cognitive skills and/or mental health well-being, and not engaging in criminal activity. Considers the educational, economic and social outcomes of part-time work. Offers some

findings about the features of particularly effective careers education. Concludes that a limitation of the literature is the breadth of activities examined across different studies, and that the literature on quasi-experimental and experimental studies is weak.

Malone, Karen; Waite, Sue

Ref No: [B45995](#)

Student outcomes and natural schooling: pathways from evidence to impact report 2016

Outdoor and Experiential Learning Research Network (OelResNet)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/5RPb302nK3k>)

2016

Pages: 27

Publisher's price: na

Looks at ways to measure the impact of learning in natural environment settings on student outcomes. Describes the health and learning benefits of outdoor learning and summarises the results of evidence-based reviews on learning in natural environments. Considers the policy context, and proposes a framework for the outcomes required for students. Identifies the key challenges in demonstrating impact and the ways in which they can be addressed. Makes recommendations for implementation, including: adopting the proposed outcomes framework; and establishing a strategic policy/research hub for outdoor learning.

Anon.

Ref No: [B45999](#)

The right combination: CBI/Pearson education and skills survey 2016

Confederation of British Industry (CBI)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/41gm302nJEr>)

2016

Pages: 52

Publisher's price: na

Presents the results of an education and skills survey undertaken in 2016, involving responses from some 500 organisations employing more than 3.2 million people throughout the UK. Indicates that demand for higher level skills is rising fast, and that businesses are building paths to progression and higher productivity. Considers the role of apprenticeships and the impact of apprenticeships levy. Identifies the key issues in shaping a successful schools and further education system, and highlights the role of strong partnerships between schools and business in smoothing the path from education to work. Considers what businesses look for in graduates, and ways to ensure that graduates have the necessary skills.

[Back to contents](#)

Housing

Hayman, Allister; Palumbo, Daniele

Ref No: [A58248](#)

Predicted household growth shows scale of housing crisis, IN Property Week, Vol 83 No 29 22 Jul 2016, p11

Journal article.

2016

Pages: 1

Looks at the implications of new household growth projections for housing, focusing in particular on the situation in London. Outlines the projected 5.3m growth in the number of households in England by 2039, and the scale of challenge this presents in building new houses. Provides statistical information for London, highlighting the areas of London with the highest projected household growth and the areas with the largest change compared with 2012 household projections. Identifies growth hotspots outside the South East and indicates trends in other parts of England.

Anon.

Ref No: [B46000](#)

The state of the nation's housing: an ILC-UK factpack

International Longevity Centre - UK (ILC-UK)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/JRnA302sLnF>)

2016

Pages: 24

Publisher's price: na

Looks at the key issues relating to housing in the UK, drawing on analysis of official statistics and datasets. Provides an overview of the 'good, the bad and the ugly' points. Describes the UK housing market, including trends in home ownership, house prices and housebuilding. Considers the quality of UK housing, including occupancy levels and health-related adaptations. Looks at the future of housing, outlining demographic trends and housebuilding levels. Identifies five priorities: getting serious about supply; planning for local needs; preparing for a future of renters; making sufficient home adaptations; and adapting to changing needs.

Stewart, Jill; Dhesi, Surindar

Ref No: [A58201](#)

Affordable warmth: housing strategies for older people, IN Housing Care and Support, Vol 19 Jul No 1 2016, pp23-31

Journal article.

2016

Pages: 9

Consolidates policy, research, evidence and good practice around strategies tackling fuel poverty and affordable warmth for older people aged over 60, to support the development of more effective services, and to tackle physical and mental health inequalities. Draws together current policy, research, evidence and local good practice through desktop analysis, supported by qualitative data from four longitudinal studies and semi-structured interviews. Finds that the depth of fuel poverty increases with age, particularly the over 75s, and that physical and mental ill health are affected. Notes that there are an increasing number of tools to help estimate health care costs, around cost effectiveness of interventions, and there is a real need for more local evidence about what is working well, how and why. Determines, however, that there is no mandatory requirement for fuel poverty strategies and suggests that more creative local strategies are required. Argues that the emphasis on integrated care provides new impetus and scope to encourage preventative services. Concludes that we need to focus more on older people, and to better understand thermal properties of aging housing stock and how best to intervene to protect and improve health and safety, and that emerging approaches need to overcome artificial statutory and non-statutory divides and move towards sustainable, evidence based affordable warmth strategies.

Wilson, Wendy; Barton, Cassie

Ref No: [B45980](#)

Extending a voluntary Right to Buy to housing association tenants (England) (House of Commons Library briefing paper no 07224)

House of Commons Library

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/5Rjd302uPXXK>)

2016

Pages: 47

Publisher's price: na

Discusses progress with current legislation (Housing and Planning Act 2016) to extend the Right to Buy (RTB) scheme for council house tenants to housing association tenants. Outlines the background to the statutory RTB scheme which has seen the sale of almost two million council properties since 1980. Provides further data on past RTB sales. Outlines the key points of the voluntary RTB (VRTB) scheme put forward initially by the National Housing Federation (NHF) as a compromise agreement between the government and housing associations. Outlines progress and comments on aspects of VRTB such as funding; eligibility; exemptions; portability; replacement of housing stock (the commitment to one for one replacement of houses); non-compliant housing associations; fraud; and London specific problems. Outlines early findings from some of the five pilot projects set up, including from Saffron Housing Trust and Riverside in Liverpool. Discusses issues specific to VRTB such as the legitimacy of selling housing assets owned by charities/not for profit bodies, and funding issues such as whether the sale of council houses will compensate the housing associations for selling stock to tenants at a discount.

[Back to contents](#)

Planning, development and property

Creasey, Simon; Hardwick, Jennifer; Hunt, Mia

Ref No: [A58250](#)

The links effect (transport infrastructure), IN Property Week, Vol 83 No 29 22 Jul 2016, pp28-31

Journal article.

2016

Pages: 4

Looks at the impact of investment in transport infrastructure on cities in England. Explains that a British Property Federation team has been visiting different regions to assess property market prospects, and that the importance of investment in transport infrastructure emerged as the key theme. Presents six profiles illustrating the discussions at each event: Birmingham and the importance of HS2; Leeds and transport-based developments in West Yorkshire; Manchester and transport integration across northern cities; Liverpool and addressing the north-south divide through transport investment; Newcastle, and the impact of devolution on local politics; and Bristol, and the importance of maintaining existing infrastructure.

Chau, Vicky; Yager, Jessica

Ref No: [B46050](#)

Zoning for affordability: using the case of New York to explore whether zoning can be used to achieve income-diverse neighborhoods

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

(Report available on the internet at: <http://bit.ly/2aJPM5>)

2016

Pages: 34

Publisher's price: na

Describes the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing program (MIH), underway in New York, which will lead to a requirement that property developers create or fund affordable housing when they build new market-rate residential properties. States that this policy is important in order to maintain economically diverse neighbourhoods. Outlines the existing voluntary inclusionary housing program and the proposed mandatory one. Discusses constitutional laws protecting a citizen's property rights (Due Process of Law and Just Compensation) and examines how these might impact on the implementation of the new policy. Discusses the limits placed on the policy by state laws, outlining the three main areas of contention – whether New York would exceed its zoning powers; whether it would fall foul of prohibition on regulating rents; and whether MIH is an Ultra Vires tax (i.e. illegal). Argues that New York is well placed to justify its MIH policy and meet these legal challenges. Notes that the policy may be a model for other jurisdictions facing similar challenges with regard to the supply and demand of housing provision.

[Back to contents](#)

Environment

Quilter-Pinner, Harry; Laybourn-Langton, Laurie

Ref No: [B46052](#)

Lethal and illegal: London's air pollution crisis

Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/8ymQ302zF3T>)

2016

Pages: 22

Publisher's price: na

Looks at the problem of air pollution in London. Examines the problem and its causes. Discusses current policy. Considers what could be done. Finds that London is breaking legal and WHO limits for NO2 and WHO limits for particulate matter; most air pollution in London is caused by road transport, of which diesel vehicles are the most polluting; it is likely that diesel cars will have to be completely phased out on London's roads over the next decade. Recommends policy changes for different governance levels: European level – tighter emissions standards, bringing forward the real world emissions testing regime; national level – progressively reform vehicle excise duty (VED) to disincentivise diesel vehicles, devolve VED rates to those cities that wish to go further; local level – expansion of new ultra-low emissions zone, progressive tightening of emissions standards, the aim of progressively phasing out diesel buses and taxis, new policies to promote alternative forms of sustainable transport.

Efficiency savings (assessing existing and new public realm lighting installations), IN Lighting Journal, Vol 81 No 7 Jul-Aug 2016, pp10-12
Journal article.

2016

Pages: 3

Explores how developing a new energy efficiency rating approach using BS EN13201-5:2015 has enabled Westminster City Council to assess existing and new public realm lighting installations more effectively. Considers the efficiency of lighting installations against their performance requirements; uses the indicator in terms of an energy efficiency rating A to G to build the minimum energy efficiency performance requirements into Westminster's lighting strategy, drawing on research from Spain, the Netherlands, and New Zealand. Assesses how over-lighting can be eliminated. Concludes that the approach is being taken forward by Westminster to give it a stronger position in setting energy performance targets for lighting installations, and to consider its existing lighting stock on an asset management basis.

Monk, Flick et al

Ref No: [B46058](#)

Fuelling the fire: the chequered history of underground coal gasification and coal chemicals around the world

Friends of the Earth (FoE)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/Ao2F302A6uC>)

2016

Pages: 58

Publisher's price: na

Outlines the current status of coal technologies including Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) and Coal Chemicals. Highlights key activities by companies and countries. Details the major climate and environmental risks posed by their development. Uses case studies from Australia, China, South Africa, the United States (US) and UK to document key developments across the world and help shine a light on the damage done by these industries. Suggests that they cause major risks to the environment in terms of air and water pollution. Reports that UGC threatens to be a major contributor to climate change. Finds that experience from around the world shows that these industries can be destructive. Indicates that these technologies should not be expanded and must be phased out if we are to keep global temperature rise to as safe a level as possible. Makes recommendations, such as calling for an end to public subsidies for existing UGC and Coal Chemicals.

[Back to contents](#)

Transport, infrastructure and communications

Henson, Robert

Ref No: [A58197](#)

Getting smarter: the rise of big data will change the way infrastructure is planned and managed, IN New Civil Engineering, Aug 2016, pp20-22, 24
Journal article.

2016

Pages: 4

Discusses the impact that big data will have on the way infrastructure is planned and managed. Looks at the example of Transport for London, with its ability to gather data from the oyster card. Addresses the potential for transport data to change decision-making from a focus on building capacity and resilience to one on making infrastructure responsive to the user. Notes concerns that the industry is not structured to respond to future changes. Identifies a developing skills shortage, with young people who may have IT skills not showing an interest in construction. Explains that the importance of regulatory and governance decision-making has increased. Presents the view of one expert, who argues that while big operators may try to find generic solutions it is often small developers who can provide solutions to small, simple problems. Describes the problem of a lack of data collection on railways, contrasting this with businesses that have successfully changed their business models to utilise technological developments. Reflects on the way open-source data, 3D printing and advances in building information modelling are now changing the way infrastructure is constructed, looking at the example of Wikihouse which enables consumers to create their own houses. Concludes that it is essential for infrastructure providers to keep up with the pace of change.

Stone, Tom

Ref No: [A58208](#)

Ahead of the game (technological solutions to combat traffic jams on major roads caused by major events), IN Traffic Technology International, Jun/Jul 2016, pp16-17, 19, 21-22
Journal article.

2016

Pages: 5

Looks at the technological solutions being developed in Amsterdam to combat traffic jams on major routes caused by major events. Describes the problem – a large number of people travelling to an event leading to congestion, affecting these people and other road users. Suggests that sat-navs and variable message signs (VMS) are of limited use or make things worse. Outlines the Praktijkproef Amsterdam (PPA) or Practical Trial Amsterdam, which focuses on the city's orbital freeway, and is a collaboration of four government agencies, working with commercial companies and academics. Explains how phase one of the project tested, for commuters and those attending events at the Amsterdam Arena, roadside infrastructure, including in-road sensors, traffic signals and VMS. Looks at how these successfully regulated traffic levels due to the signals systems being connected and working together. Examines the second part of phase one – the in-car oriented testing of smartphone apps, providing individual information to drivers, offering multiple detours so all drivers are not diverted to the same route. Discusses how phase two of the project is now beginning to integrate the roadside and smartphone technology so that they work together. Reflects briefly on the potential technological solutions for managing pedestrian traffic around events. Concludes that it may be unthinkable in the future to travel to a major event without first downloading the app.

Transport Times

Ref No: [A58205](#)

Loudly and proudly calling (the Scottish Transport Awards), IN Transport Times, Jul 2016, pp18-23
Journal article.

2016

Pages: 6

Reviews the Scottish Transport Awards. Identifies each award and its winner, explaining what they have done to achieve this: public transport operator of the year – Lothian Buses; rail supplier of the year – BAM Nuttall; airport of the year – Glasgow Airport; most effective road safety, traffic management and enforcement – Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and South Lanarkshire Council; integrated transport project of the year – Scotrail, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and Transport Scotland, for Johnstone railway station park and ride; contribution to sustainable transport – Strathclyde Partnership for Transport; best practice in travel to school and work schemes – Fire Council; achievements in cycling – East Dunbartonshire Council; excellence in walking and public realm – Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, for the redevelopment of St Enoch Station; best bus service – Lothian Country Buses Service 113; accessibility project of the year – Scottish Borders Community Transport Services; most innovative transport project – The Scotrail Alliance, for the Borders Railway; excellence in technology and innovation – Clearview Intelligence, Transport Scotland and BEAR (Scotland), for use of intelligent road studs on the A720 Sheriffhall Roundabout; transport team/partnership – Amey and Transport Scotland, for handling the closure of the Forth Road Bridge; excellence in travel information and marketing – Transport Scotland, for its communications strategy. Provides further details of the projects and activities that led Aberdeenshire Council to win the Scottish local authority of the year award.

Butcher, Louise

Ref No: [B46057](#)

Brexit: how will it affect transport? (Briefing paper no CBP7633)

House of Commons Library

(Briefing paper available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/GVoG302BNaz>)

2016

Pages: 47

Publisher's price: na

Reports on how Brexit could affect transport. Discusses some of the pertinent issues in the four main transport policy areas: aviation, railways, roads and road-based public transport, and maritime. Sets out the EU's current role in UK transport policy. Sets out key EU legislation. Looks at state aid. Considers passenger rights and compensation. Explores aviation, including airspace change and single European sky, cheap flights and a new runway in the South East. Examines railways, including rail interoperability and technical standards, rail renationalisation and HS2. Addresses road haulage, driver licensing and testing, vehicle standards, and blue badges. Suggests that transport post-Brexit may not look wildly different to how it looks now, but much remains unclear and will continue to do so until negotiations are at a much more mature stage.

HERE

Ref No: [B45986](#)

How autonomous vehicles could relieve or worsen traffic congestion

SBD

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/vwWG302sM2c>)

2016

Pages: 16

Publisher's price: na

Discusses the potential effects on traffic congestion of the increasing use of autonomous vehicles. States that global congestion is getting worse due to increased urbanisation and vehicle numbers. Outlines current policies to mitigate this – imposing tolls and traffic restrictions, car-sharing and improving traffic information. Reports that car manufacturers are developing new generations of autonomous vehicles where the driver will have less control. Explains that their success may depend on the creation of high-precision digital maps updated in real-time. Describes how the future impact of autonomous vehicles depends on the level of autonomy enabled and the level of adoption achieved. Outlines how these factors may interact over the short, medium and long term and explains how this could cause an increase in congestion levels when there are a mix of traditional and autonomous vehicles on roads. States that collaboration between industry stakeholders is crucial to the development of Collaborative Autonomous Cars and outlines the key areas crucial for their success – pooling data relating to roads, vehicles and infrastructure; having an aggregation platform which can share and process the data; and allowing sharing of data between autonomous and traditional cars.

Pryke, Stephen; Badi, Sulafi

Ref No: [B46049](#)

The hub and the place: an international study of the processes and stimulants of large transport hubs and the effects on urban developments in the UK, China and India

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://bit.ly/2a2sFhG>)

2016

Pages: 71

Publisher's price: na

Compares three mega rail transport hubs' infrastructure projects in the UK, China and India and examines the decision making processes involved in their planning and delivery. Looks at the following case studies: Kings Cross St Pancras Railway Station (UK); Guangzhou Railway Station (China); and Karkardooma Railway Station (India). Discusses aspects of each project in turn: background to the development; state and regulatory institutions involved; decision making and planning; financing; and the development of land adjacent to each hub. Discusses aspects specific to each project such as the land market in China and the environmental impact of developments. Outlines the key findings from each project and draws on them in making recommendations for decision-makers involved in such projects in the future. Highlights the importance of the relationships between the main agents in the decision making processes and the co-ordination and timeliness of decision making. Explains the importance of political and economic factors in the success of these projects.

Zodion, Lucy

Ref No: [B46036](#)

Our enlightened future: the journey to smarter cities

Lucy Zodion

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/WZ4c302oiCP>)

2016

Pages: 20

Publisher's price: na

Presents research into the opinions on smart cities of senior management from councils across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland conducted by DJS Research. Draws on interviews conducted in May and June 2016 to gather opinions on a number of topics including the drivers of smart cities, obstacles to smart cities and priorities for councils. Identifies six stages that councils pass through on their journey towards becoming a smarter, more connected city: in the dark - minimal awareness of 'smart cities'; ears pricked - awareness but no involvement; eyes and ears open - awareness and partial involvement; eyes, ears and minds alert - awareness and involvement; the enlightened - leader in smart cities, with an understanding of how technology can improve services and make the city more liveable in the future; and the connected city - delivering smart solutions and engaging citizens at every stage, from design to delivery. Highlights evidence of a lack of understanding within councils - over 80% of the 187 councils did not have an appointed lead for smart cities, and many confessed to a low awareness of the topic. Identifies barriers such as funding and resourcing, and lack of collaboration between services and departments. Notes that applying Wi-Fi connections to street lamps in city centres, was the most cited example of a smart solution already rolled out in cities.

[Back to contents](#)

Regeneration and community development

Browne, Dominic

Ref No: [A58184](#)

Small scheme, big legacy (a small-scale regeneration scheme), IN Surveyor, Jul 2016, pp34-35

Journal article.

2016

Pages: 2

Looks at a small-scale regeneration scheme in a street in Peterborough. Discusses the debate over the relative merits of small projects over large projects, pointing to the Eddington Report's recommendations on transport projects. Describes the problems in Central Avenue before regeneration: litter strewn on pavements, rundown space around commercial units; anti-social behaviour; congestion and lack of parking around a school. Points to the importance of a consultation process in the project. Outlines how this was carried out, and identifies what it found in terms of what residents wanted for the street. Explains what changes were made to meet these desires and solve the problems. Explores the underground challenges presented by utilities and drainage, revealing the methods used to tackle these, including the installation of sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS). Looks at the technical options considered for the SUDS and what was determined to be the best solution. Sets out the costs of the project. Concludes that legacies come in all shapes and sizes, but that it is how long they last and how much they help those around them that really matters.

[Back to contents](#)

Health and social care

Deloitte

Ref No: [B46004](#)

Birmingham children's services model: case for change

Deloitte

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/IFBH302sJGn>)

2016

Pages: 27

Publisher's price: na

Looks at Birmingham children's services improvement journey, including current challenges and critical success factors for achieving sustainable improvement. Considers the risks associated with change. Finds insufficient evidence to demonstrate that continuing to provide services in-house will sustain the desired continued improvements at the pace required. Sets out the case for change to inform consideration of moving to an alternative delivery model, such as a children's trust model.

Asmussen, Kirsten et al

Ref No: [B46009](#)

Foundations for life: what works to support parent child interaction in the early years

Early Intervention Foundation (EIF)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/yKi8302uTQY>)

2016

Pages: 181

Publisher's price: na

Assesses evidence behind interventions available in the UK that aim to improve the quality of parent-child interactions up to the age of five in ways that lead to improved child development in terms of attachment, behaviour, and cognitive development. Finds that attachment security is a very important feature of child development; can be difficult to measure; tends to incur relatively high cost as it involves frequent contact with the vulnerable families for a period of a year or longer; but has relatively high impact with evidence of improving attachment security children's early language, and reducing child maltreatment. Explains that well-targeted programmes aiming to improve behaviour can keep problems from becoming worse and improve parent-child relations, tend to be relatively low cost and often based on group activity, and are of relatively short duration. Notes that social disadvantage is consistently linked to gaps in young children's cognitive and language development; childcare and pre-school settings make substantial contributions to cognitive and social and emotional development; and interventions with good evidence of being effective are medium cost, reflecting the fact that they are delivered to families individually over a period of a year or longer.

Health and digital: reducing inequalities, improving society: an evaluation of the Widening Digital Participation programme.

Tinder Foundation

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/WHLy302szan>)

2016

Pages: 34

Publisher's price: na

Reports on the key statistics, themes, and learnings from the Widening Digital Participation programme, which sought to provide people with skills to enable them to take charge of their own health, particularly in hard-to-reach communities. Indicates that the programme had significant scale and reach; targeted the most vulnerable patients; and led to respondents feeling more informed about their health and more confident in using online tools to manage their health, including that 54% of learners in need of non-urgent medical advice saying they would now go to the internet before consulting their GP. Suggests the programme led to a reduction in calls or visits to health services and a rise in the number of learners progressing to booking GP appointments or ordering repeat prescriptions online; that such behaviour change has led to significant cost savings to the NHS; and the programme's third year has provided a platform to test innovative models of care.

Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted)

Ref No: [B46045](#)**Unknown children – destined for disadvantage?**

Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted)

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/SZGL302o0Kj>)

2016

Pages: 57

Publisher's price: na

Presents the findings of a survey undertaken to evaluate the effectiveness of local authorities and early years providers in tackling the issues facing disadvantaged families and their young children. Explains that the survey involved an online questionnaire sent out to local authorities to collect information about the actions they were taking to fulfil their statutory obligation to provide early childhood services, and follow up visits to 15 local authorities and visits to 43 early years providers, including pre-schools and childminders. Finds that: tackling the issues facing disadvantaged families and their children requires leaders across children's services, health and education to understand the meaning of 'disadvantaged'; providing a joined-up service is crucial in tackling disadvantage (nine local authorities visited did not have a coordinated, strategic approach to tackling the issues faced by disadvantaged children); early assessments of children's health, learning and development were not benefiting enough families; too few early years leaders prioritised opportunities for disadvantaged children to have access to a high-quality education; the most successful local authorities had devised innovative ways to align national funding streams to ensure continuity of entitlement across a child's entire early education. Recommends that local authorities: publish strategies for meeting the needs of disadvantaged children and families so that local communities know what support is available; and ensure that early years pupil premium funding is devolved quickly to schools and settings with eligible children.

[Back to contents](#)

Crime, justice and rights

Anon.

Ref No: [B46062](#)**Action against hate: the UK Government's plan for tackling hate crime**

Home Office

(Report available on the internet at: <http://ow.ly/GJwp302BUeq>)

2016

Pages: 40

Publisher's price: a

Presents the UK government's plans to deal with hate crime in England and Wales. Describes the definition and incidence of hate crime, and the progress made to date in tackling it. Presents a plan of action for tackling hate crime, focused on: preventing hate crime by challenging underlying beliefs and attitudes; responding to hate crime in our communities; increasing the reporting of hate crime; improving support for victims of hate crime; and building understanding of hate crime through improved data. Highlights two key themes underlying the plan: working in partnership across communities; and joining up work across the hate crime strands to promote best practice.

[Back to contents](#)

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