



**NATIONAL
HOUSING
FEDERATION**

GREAT PLACES COMMISSION FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Guide to evidence and data

In its final recommendations, the Great Places Commission identifies the need for housing associations to understand their local communities, use resources efficiently and robustly, measure and promote their impact.

Good data is an essential to these goals. This document introduces some of the data and statistical resources that housing associations can use to support and evidence the implementation of the Great Places Commission's recommendations.



If you're looking for local data, it's a good idea to start by checking what local partners have already done. Local authorities, for instance, publish Annual Monitoring Reports (AMRs) of planning in their area, as well as a range of materials from their various departments. Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) also publish detailed analyses which may be useful to housing associations, such as Strategic Economic Plans. Local health trusts and other organisations (depending on the topic of interest) may also publish useful documents.

It might be worth getting in touch with local partners about your work. Not only can they share existing evidence, but it may create opportunities for partnership working.

HOUSING COUNTS



Data covers: homelessness, house prices and affordability, employment, income and welfare

Across: regional, counties and local authority breakdowns

Available at: www.counts.housing.org.uk

This convenient tool is designed for housing associations. It covers a range of indicators that are useful for gathering statistics relating to housing and disadvantage in your area. Several indicators can be combined into charts, and most indicators are available over a long time period. You can use these statistics to demonstrate the scale of the housing challenges in your area. The Federation's Home Truths tool allows you to create customised reports for your area, based on data from the Housing Counts tool.

LOCAL ECONOMIC IMPACT CALCULATOR



Data covers: housing stock, employment, earnings and house prices

Across: local authority, combined authority, local enterprise partnership, or region

Available at: www.housing.org.uk/resource-library/browse/local-economic-impact-calculator-1/

This calculator allows housing associations to estimate the local economic impact of investments in new affordable homes and day-to-day activities such as repairs and maintenance. This includes estimates of the value added to your local area through your work, in terms of both direct and indirect impacts, as well as the number of jobs created.

GREAT PLACES RESOURCE LIBRARY



Data covers: reports and other resources relating to Great Places.

Available at: www.greatplaces.housing.org.uk/take-part/resource-library

This resource library features reports, briefings and data sources relating to placemaking, local economies, regeneration, inclusive growth, communities and other relevant areas. International examples and learning are included, as well as regional examples and analyses.

UK CENSUS



Data covers: demographics, family, housing, education and employment.

Across: regional, local authority, ward, and even smaller geographical divisions. Can also be broken down at person, household, family, dwelling, or communal establishment level.

Available at: www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011

The census, conducted every 10 years, contains a huge amount of data relating to the nation and how people live. The census is the basis for many official figures including the total population count. It can be broken down to very small areas and may provide useful information for locally-based organisations wishing to evaluate their impact.

OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS (ONS)



Data covers: economy, employment and labour, people, population and communities, business, industry and trade.

Available at: www.ons.gov.uk

The ONS is the UK's recognised national statistical institute, and publishes an enormous wealth of data across a range of areas concerning government administration. Data on crime¹, business activity², GVA³, and housing affordability⁴ are available which may be of use to organisations undertaking regeneration work. The **Nomis area reports**⁵ may be of particular interest.

“Anchor organisations, including housing associations, should commit to asset-based community development. This identifies and mobilises community’s strengths and targets resources accordingly. Its objective is to ensure that services to promote wellbeing and opportunity are delivered most effectively to those who need them most.”

Great Places Commission recommendation, 2019

OTHER SOURCES



Depending on the focus of your project, you may wish to consult other sources such as:

- Government surveys such as the **English Housing Survey**⁶, **Labour Force Survey**⁷, **Wealth & Assets Survey**⁸. A full list of government surveys can be found on the **Online List of Government Statistical Surveys**⁹.
- The Department for Work and Pensions' **StatXplore**¹⁰ and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)'s **Open Data for Communities**¹¹.
- **Police data**¹² for local crime statistics
- **Public Health England**¹³ for local health data
- **Housing and economic needs assessments**¹⁴ by local authorities
- Large survey datasets administrated by universities such as **Understanding Society**¹⁵ (University of Essex) or those managed by the **Centre for Longitudinal Studies**¹⁶ (University College London).
- The NHF's **Supply Survey**¹⁷ which covers the number of homes delivered by housing associations by tenure and area.
- Centre for Cities publicises **regeneration case studies**¹⁸ and The Guardian maintains a **section on regeneration**¹⁹.
- Grants Online also maintains regular **updates on grants for neighbourhood renewal and regeneration**²⁰.

QUESTIONS?



Contact research@housing.org.uk

REFERENCES

- ¹ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/recordedcrimedataatcommunitysafetypartnershiplocalauthoritylevel>
- ² <https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/business/activitysizeandlocation/datasets/ukbusinessactivitysizeandlocation>
- ³ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/grossvalueaddedgva/datasets/regionalgrossvalueaddedbalancedbylocalauthorityintheuk>
- ⁴ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/datasets/ratioofhousepricetoresidencebasedearningslowerquartileandmedian>
- ⁵ <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/home/profiles.asp>
- ⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/english-housing-survey>
- ⁷ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/surveys/informationforhouseholdsandindividuals/householdandindividualsurveys/labourforcesurvey>
- ⁸ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/debt/methodologies/wealthandassetssurveyqmi>
- ⁹ <https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/archive/about/surveys/survey-control-unit/online-list-of-government-statistical-surveys/index.html>
- ¹⁰ <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/webapi/jsf/login.xhtml>
- ¹¹ <https://opendatacommunities.org/home>
- ¹² <https://www.police.uk/>
- ¹³ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/phe-data-and-analysis-tools>
- ¹⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/housing-and-economic-development-needs-assessments>
- ¹⁵ <https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/>
- ¹⁶ <https://cls.ucl.ac.uk/>
- ¹⁷ <https://www.housing.org.uk/topics/new-homes/supply-survey/>
- ¹⁸ <https://www.centreforcities.org/case-study-library/case-studies-city-centre-regeneration/>
- ¹⁹ <https://www.theguardian.com/society/regeneration>
- ²⁰ <https://www.grantsonline.org.uk/news/neighbourhood-renewal-and-regeneration/>

NATIONAL HOUSING FEDERATION

The National Housing Federation is the voice of housing associations in England. Our vision is a country where everyone can live in a good quality home they can afford.

Our members provide two and a half million homes for six million people. And each year they invest in a diverse range of neighbourhood projects that help create strong, vibrant communities.

National Housing Federation

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