The Scottish Executive’s Social Inclusion and Equality Strategies set out its plans to take forward a vision for a just and inclusive society. This bulletin reports on a range of social research projects carried out in-house or commissioned by the Scottish Executive and Communities Scotland relating to these cross-cutting strategies. It provides an update of ongoing projects, information about recent and forthcoming publications and details of some of the new research likely to be commissioned over the coming months.

The Office of the Chief Researcher and research teams in the various Departments and Communities Scotland provide a social research service to the Scottish Executive and certain allied Departments. Research teams support the formulation, development and evaluation of the Scottish Executive’s policies and contribute to better delivery of services through the provision of evidence-based advice.
Social Justice

Ongoing Work

**Working for Families Monitoring and Evaluation 2004-2006**
*Contractor: ERI, Napier University*
*Due to be published: April 2007*
*Contact: Sinéad Power [0131 244 0681]*
Research to monitor and evaluate the Working for Families fund which started in April 2004. To assess the impact of the overall funding; to answer what is effective, for whom, in what circumstances and why; and to show, through cost benefit analysis, the trade offs between such benefits and the economic resources used.

**Working for Families Evaluation 2006-2008**
*Contractor: ERI, Napier University*
*Due: July 2008*
*Contact: Sinéad Power [0131 244 0681]*
Research to continue monitoring the Working for Families fund client data from 2006-2008 for the ten original local authorities and for the 10 new local authorities. To assess the impact of the overall funding; to answer what is effective, for whom, in what circumstances and why; and to show, through cost benefit analysis, the trade offs between such benefits and the economic resources used.

**Evaluation of Support to Lone Parents and Others to Sustain Employment**
*Contractor: BMG Research*
*Due to be published: April 2007*
*Contact: Sinéad Power [0131 244 0681]*
A qualitative evaluation of two initiatives which support lone parents and others to help them sustain employment, in order to explore the nature and effectiveness of the initiatives from the perspectives of project clients and staff.

**Money Advice Projects for Vulnerable Groups – Consultancy & Evaluation**
*Contractor: Scottish Poverty Information Unit (SPIU) with Money Advice Scotland (MAS)*
*Due to be published: March 2007*
*Contact: Sinead Power [0131 244 0681]*
Research to provide consultancy support and to monitor and evaluate the MA projects individually and collectively, in order to inform future initiatives meeting the needs of the target groups and to provide mainstream advice providers with information which will allow them to understand the issues which affect these client groups.

**Closing the Opportunity Gap (CtOG) Approach – Phase 1 Interim Evaluation**
*Contractor: Scottish Poverty Information Unit and Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion*
*Due: May 2007*
*Contact: Sinéad Power [0131 244 0681]*
The overall aim of the CtOG approach is to prevent poverty, provide routes out of poverty and to enable the Scottish population to sustain poverty free lives. The aim of this research is to analyse the progress that CtOG has made towards meeting its stated aims, objectives and targets and where appropriate to identify ways to measure this progress.

**Exploring the Take-up of Home Contents Insurance Amongst Tenants in the Social Rented Sector**
*Contractor: Hexagon Research and Consulting*
*Due: April 2007*
*Contact: Sinéad Power [0131 244 0681]*
The aim of this research is to explore the low take-up of home contents insurance amongst tenants in the social rented sector and recommended how take-up can be improved within this sector.

**Best Practice in Establishing and Monitoring Urban Regeneration Companies (URCs)**
*Contractor: Tribal*
*Due: May 2007*
*Contact: Sinéad Power [0131 244 0681]*
The aim of this research is to explore examples of best practice in the establishment of URCs in Scotland and to set in place a framework for the future monitoring and evaluation of URC’s.

**Vacant and Derelict Land Fund 2004-06**
*Contractor: Tribal*
*Due to be published: March 2007*
*Contact: Sinéad Power [0131 244 0681]*
The aim of this research is to evaluate the effectiveness of the Vacant and Derelict Land Fund 2004-06 in achieving its objectives i.e. tackle long-term vacant and derelict land; stimulate economic growth and job creation and promote environmental justice and improved quality of life.
Scottish Household Survey: Analytical Topic Report on Volunteering
Contractor: Blake Stevenson Ltd.
Due: May 2007
Contact: Jonathan Wright [0131 244 7558]
An analysis of SHS data on volunteering, seeking in particular to identify lessons with regard to barriers and attractions for volunteering, that will arise from the revised set of questions first asked in 2005. There will also be some discussion of trends in the data and comparisons with other volunteering surveys.

Older People Research Programme
Contact: Jacqueline Rae [0131 244 0291]
Due to be published: March 2007
• Age and Experience – Developing the Strategy for a Scotland with an Ageing Population: Consultation Analysis
  Contractor: George Street Research

• A Strategy for a Scotland with an Ageing Population: Qualitative Research with the General Public
  Contractor: Ipsos MORI
  Qualitative research conducted with people of varying age and from different socio-economic and equality groups to gain an understanding of their attitudes towards: the ageing population; their aspirations for old age and perceived barriers to fulfilling those aspirations; and their perceptions of change needed to support an ageing population.

Public Sector Professional Qualifications and Violence Against Women Curriculum
Contractors: Blake Stevenson Ltd
Due: May 2007
Contact: Sara Dodds [0131 244 0427]
The research will identify the extent to which training on supporting women against gender based violence exists across the different professions in the public sector, and assess the strengths and weaknesses of current training to inform future development.

Gender Audit of Statistics: Comparing the Position of Women and Men in Scotland
Contractor: Esther Breitenbach
Due to be published: March 2007
Contact: Dharshi Santhakumaran [0131 244 7571]
This research will collate and analyse Scottish Executive and other available statistics that are able to be disaggregated by sex across key policy areas. The audit will provide an expert and informed description of the data and relate these findings to specific policy areas.

Communication Support Needs – A Review of the Literature
Contractor: Professor James Law, Queen Margaret University College
Due: May 2007
Contact: Dharshi Santhakumaran [0131 244 7571]
This research reviews the existing literature on the needs and experiences of people with communication support needs in order to help define and assess the scale and range of needs. It is anticipated that the review will inform two further phases of research, which will involve research with people with communication support needs and with service providers.

Multiple and Complex Needs: Programme Evaluation
Contractors: Cambridge Policy Consultants Ltd
Due: August 2008
Contact: Leyla Charlaft [0131 244 7371]
The research will identify key, generic lessons of what works and what doesn’t across 14 pilot projects funded by the Multiple and Complex Needs Initiative and share learning from these projects with relevant service providers and policy makers. The research aims to identify what interventions in the programme most effectively impact on how people with multiple and complex needs are made aware of, access, engage with and move through services to achieve successful outcomes.
Forthcoming Research Studies

Monitoring of the Scottish Compact

Contractor: To be commissioned
Contact: Jonathan Wright [0131 244 7558]
This research will provide information on the effectiveness of the Compact between the Voluntary Sector and the Executive.

Further forthcoming research projects including invitations to make Expressions of Interest will be announced on the Scottish Executive Social Research website at:

www.scotland.gov.uk/socialresearch.

Publications

Literature Review on Providing Services for People with Multiple and Complex Needs

Contractor: Ann Rosengard Associates
This review evaluates existing research to understand the processes through which people with multiple or complex needs engage, or do not engage, with services to resolve their problems and identifies good practice. Link to report here

Review of Voluntary Sector Support Services: Perceptions of Users and Providers

Contractor: Rocket Science
Published, February 2007
This study involved a survey of and focus groups with voluntary organisations, as well as interviews with support providers to identify the issues with regard to coverage of support services for the voluntary sector in Scotland.
Research Findings Link to report here
Report Link to report here
Online Survey Annex Link to report here

Closing the Opportunity Gap Scoping Study

Contractor: Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion (CESI) and SPIU
Published: May 2006
In tackling poverty and disadvantage in Scotland and building on the Social Justice Milestones, the Scottish Executive’s Closing the Opportunity Gap (CtOG) approach focuses on a number of key policy areas: employability, educational attainment, health improvement, community regeneration, service development in rural areas and financial inclusion. CtOG comprises 6 overarching objectives and 10 targets, announced in July and December 2004 (respectively). In addition to Closing the Opportunity Gap (CtOG) target monitoring, this scoping study aimed to provide options to help synthesise and assess the impact of CtOG as a whole.

Link to report here

Full Cost recovery in the Voluntary Sector

Contractor: GEN Consulting
Published: February 2007
Report on costs and impacts of the implementation of the principle of Full Cost Recovery in the public sector contracts with the voluntary sector.
Research Findings: Link to report here
Report: Link to report here
**Ongoing Work**

**Scotland’s Health, Housing & Regeneration Project: The Health Impacts Of New Social Housing And Regeneration Initiatives**

Principal Investigator: Prof. Ade Kearns, Dept. of Urban Studies, University of Glasgow  
Due: End 2007  
Contact: Peter Craig [0131 244 4077]

A longitudinal study comparing mental and physical health in households re-housed into new social housing and households resident in social housing in the same areas, to ascertain the nature, extent and duration of any changes in health, and features of housing and regeneration programmes associated with them.

**Measuring Health, Variations In Health and Determinants Of Health In Scotland**

Principal Investigator: Dr A Leyland, MRC Social and Public Health Sciences Unit  
Due: Ongoing  
Contact: Peter Craig [0131 244 4077]

Programme of work to explore the social and spatial patterning of health, including development of measures of inequality, and factors influencing rural disadvantage.

**Evaluating the Impact on Population Health and Inequalities in Health of (mainly) Non-Health Sector Policies, Programmes and Projects In Scotland**

Principal Investigator: Dr Mark Petticrew, MRC Social & Public Health Sciences Unit,  
Due: Ongoing  
Contact: Peter Craig [0131 244 4077]

Work to develop methods to assess the impact of interventions to reduce health inequalities, and develop, implement and evaluate interventions to improve the life circumstances and health of disadvantaged and socially excluded groups through changes in social and physical environments.

**Publications**

**Health Inequalities in Scotland: Decennial Report on Socioeconomic and Spatial Variations in Health around the 1991 and 2001 Censuses**


For final summary reports of completed studies, see the CSO website ([www.show.scot.nhs.uk/cso](http://www.show.scot.nhs.uk/cso)). The full reports are available from the authors.
Ongoing Work

**Understanding Child Contact Cases in Scottish Courts**
*Contractor: Newcastle University Centre for Family Studies*
*Due: March 2009*
*Contact: Debbie Headrick [0131 244 4389]*
The primary aim of this project is to enhance understanding of how child contact cases are conducted within Scottish Courts and how people experience them. The research team are collecting the perspectives of: practitioners such as lawyers, sheriffs and court staff, parents and carers and children. They are using a mixed method approach which includes a survey at two points in time of solicitors’ clients involved in court action in respect of child contact; family activity days with parents and children; analysis of court files; observations of court hearings; a survey of lawyers and interviews with sheriffs and other court staff.

**Survey of Child Contact Actions in Scotland**
*Contractor: MRUK*
*Due: April 2007*
*Contact: John Galilee [0131 244 6938]*
This survey of 500 respondents is collecting Scotland wide data on the volume and nature of contact arrangements made inside and outside of court by divorced / separated parents who have children aged 16 or under, and how these arrangements are enforced. It is hoped that the survey will provide information on: the number of, and age / background of parents who have a child aged 16 or under from a previous relationship whose main residence is with them or the other parent. The type of contact arrangements agreed, and how they were negotiated. How these arrangements have been organised and actioned, and why they were set-up. Satisfaction with current arrangements and also their durability. The level of contact made between the non-resident parent and children). The volume of and reasons for non-compliance of contact arrangements, as well as the breach of such orders.

Publications

**A Survey of Sheriff Clerks’ Perspectives on Child Contact Enforcement in Scottish Sheriff Courts – Research Findings**
*Contractor: Professor Fran Wasoff, CRFR, University of Edinburgh*
This research findings document presents the findings of a small scale survey and information gathering exercise on sheriff clerks’ perspectives on child contact enforcement in Scottish sheriff courts completed in June 2006.
Communities Scotland

Communities Scotland is a Scottish Executive agency. Its Research and Evaluation Team is responsible for managing and commissioning research on housing, regeneration and broader community-related issues. Research in Communities Scotland is commissioned and managed centrally within the Scottish Centre for Regeneration and locally from Communities Scotland Area Office Network.

Ongoing Work

Scottish Health, Housing and Regeneration Project (SHARP)
Consultant: Professor Ade Kearns and Professor Mark Petticrew, University of Glasgow
Due: Summer 2007
Contact: Elinor Devlin [0141 305 4092]
This is a longitudinal study of the effects on people’s health and wellbeing of moving into new general purpose social housing. SHARP aims to examine: to what extent rehousing into new socially rented dwellings delivers improvements (or otherwise) for occupants in terms of housing conditions, neighbourhood conditions, housing management performance and sense of community; whether these improvements are associated with changes in a person’s neighbourhood and landlord as well as rehousing itself; to what extent people who are rehoused experience changes in their physical health, health behaviours and mental health and well-being, and whether these health changes are sustained over time; and whether rehousing within a regeneration area (Social Inclusion Partnership) provides additional residential or health gains.

Glasgow Community Health and Wellbeing Research and Learning Programme (GoWell)
Consultant: Dr Carol Tannahill (Glasgow Centre for Population Health), Professor Phil Hanlon and Professor Ade Kearns (Department of Public Health, University of Glasgow) and Professor Mark Petticrew (Social and Public Health Sciences Unit at the Medical Research Council).
Due: GoWell is a ten year programme expected to run until September 2015.
Contact: Elinor Devlin [0141 305 4092]
Go-Well is a longitudinal study of the processes and impacts of housing improvement and neighbourhood transformation undertaken within the City of Glasgow. Go-Well aims to: describe and understand the changes taking place in communities in Glasgow as a result of housing improvement and community regeneration; assess the resulting changes that occur in structures, processes and outcomes over a ten year period; synthesise and interpret the study findings in relation to the challenges of creating sustainable communities through neighbourhood transformation in an urban context; contribute to community and practitioner awareness and understanding of health issues and enable community members and regeneration practitioners to take part in the programme; and share best practice and knowledge of ‘what works’ for health and well-being with housing, regeneration and health sector practitioners nationally and more widely.

Evaluation of the Implementation of Regeneration Outcome Agreements (ROAs)
Consultant: Andrew Fyfe, ODS Consultants, Glasgow
Due: May 2007
Contact: Elinor Devlin [0141-305-4092]
The Community Regeneration Fund (CRF) is designed to help Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) achieve the Closing the Opportunity Gap (CtOG) objective of “regenerating the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods, so that people living there can take advantage of job opportunities and improve their quality of life”. This research is designed to evaluate the implementation of the CRF. The research aims to: assess the experience of planning, developing and implementing ROAs; explore experiences and lessons learned from the move to an outcome-based approach to community regeneration; consider the success of the CRF and ROAs in targeting multiple deprivation, and make recommendations for future guidance; explore how proportionality concerns affect the delivery of area based programmes; assess the impact of the CRF and ROA approach on wider CPP activities, and projects from previous targeted regeneration programmes; and identify lessons for the CRF from other outcome based community regeneration approaches in the UK.
Review of the Availability and Use of Evidence in the Community Regeneration Fund

Consultant: Ian Clark, Tribal
Due: May 2007
Contact: Elinor Devlin [0141-305-4092]

The Regeneration Outcome Agreement (ROA) approach is intended to be an evidence based approach, with evidence being used in a number of ways, including: to establish what local need suggests the priorities for expenditure should be; to select the most effective interventions; and to demonstrate evidence of impact. This research reviews the national and local evidence bases that are available to Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) and Communities Scotland for use in planning, delivering and monitoring ROAs and the Community Regeneration Fund.

Publications

Developing Good Practice for Effective Community Engagement and Housing Needs Assessment for Minority Ethnic Communities.

Consultant: Andrew Fyfe, ODS Consultants Glasgow
This research developed a Good Practice Guide/checklist for identifying housing needs across all tenures and related services of Minority Ethnic communities tailored specifically to the Scottish context and applied locally. The research evaluated and made recommendations for effective consultation and meaningful engagement with members of Minority Ethnic communities.

Publications (report, Good Practice Guidance and Précis) are available on Communities Scotland website. A ‘How To…’ guide to engaging Minority Ethnic communities is available on the Scottish Centre for Regeneration website at www.ce.commuitiesscotland.gov.uk

Assessing the Housing Needs of Minority Ethnic Groups in North and South Lanarkshire

Consultant: Andrew Fyfe, ODS Consultants, Glasgow
This research, commissioned jointly by North Lanarkshire Council, South Lanarkshire Council and Communities Scotland, assessed the housing needs of ethnic communities in both local authority areas. Detailed recommendations and action plans have been produced for each local authority. A number of recommendations have been produced for Communities Scotland focussing on how the process of assessing housing needs of minority ethnic communities can be facilitated at a national level.

A report ‘Assessing the Housing Needs of Minority Ethnic Communities’ – good practice for housing providers is available from Sandra Grief at Communities Scotland, 01698 392120. A ‘How To…’ guide to community engagement with minority ethnic communities is available on the Scottish Centre for Regeneration website at www.scr.commuitiesscotland.gov.uk.

Further details about Communities Scotland research reports are available at CLICK HERE
Ongoing Work

Evaluation of Community Warden Schemes
Contractor: GEN Consulting
Due to be published: Spring 2007
Contact: Liz Levy [0131 244 6547]
An evaluation to inform and improve the implementation of community warden schemes, and to assess the impact of this initiative on the lives of people affected by antisocial behaviour and poor quality environments.

Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) and Scottish Crime and Victimisation Survey (SCVS)
SCJS 2007-9 to be commissioned
SCVS 2006 contractor: BMRB
Contact: Barry Stalker [0131 244 6934] / Beth Macmaster [0131 244 2053]
The SCJS (the new title for the SCVS) is a large scale household survey which collects data about people’s experiences of, and attitudes towards, crime as well as other crime related issues, such as anti-social behaviour and policing. Estimates generated by the survey are used to complement police recorded crime statistics, and experience of victimisation may be analysed by various socio-economic variables. The most recently published data are from the 2004 Scottish Crime and Victimisation Survey. Findings from the 2006 face-to-face SCVS will be published in Summer 2007. Fieldwork for the new SCJS will begin in October 2007, with findings available from Summer 2008.

Evaluation of Intensive Interventions for Families at Risk of Eviction for Anti-Social Behaviour.
Contractors: Heriot-Watt University and Sheffield-Hallam University
Due: October 2008
Contact: Liz Levy [0131 244 6547]
Evaluation of three ‘Breaking the Cycle’ demonstration projects that are being run in South Lanarkshire, Falkirk and Perth and Kinross and aspects of the Dundee and Aberdeen Families Projects.
Ongoing Work

Scottish School Leavers’ Survey
Contractor: Scottish Centre for Social Research
Due to be published: March 2007
Contact: Susan Whittaker [0131 244 0055]
The aim of this longitudinal study is to provide longitudinal data about the transitions of young people from completion of compulsory education at 16 through subsequent education, employment and training to the labour market. Analysis of each sweep of the data includes work on disadvantaged young people, the NEET group, and attainment.

Educational Experience of Asylum Seekers
Contractor: Thomas Coram Research Unit
Due to be published: June 2007
Contact: Susan Whittaker [0131 244 0055]
This work will focus on the experiences of asylum seeker and refugee children in school education in Scotland.

Evaluation of Skills for Work Pilot
Contractor: NFER
Due: October 2007
Contact: Jackie Horne [0131 244 0740]
This research is evaluating the development and piloting of new Skills for Work (SfW) courses. SfW courses have been developed to meet the need for practical, experiential or vocational courses, principally for S3 and S4 pupils. They are intended to provide progression pathways to employment, training or further education. The evaluation will inform the roll-out of the programme.

Early Years Longitudinal Survey – ‘Growing up in Scotland’ – Sweep Two
Contractor: Scottish Centre for Social Research (SCSR) and Centre for Families and Relationships (CRFR)
Due: January 2008
Contact: Sharon Davidson [0131 244 2652]
The primary objective of the survey is to address a significant gap in the evidence base for early years policy monitoring and evaluation. It will collect information about the experiences of young children and their families from birth to age 5 and provide the basis for tracking their development into adolescence. The data will also serve wider policy research requirements for cross sectional analysis of issues affecting children and young people. It represents a major investment in the CYP evidence base with a specific focus on children in vulnerable groups.

Some qualitative follow up work will also be commissioned (with the same contractors) to explore in more detail the views of some of the South Asian parents in the main sample of the ‘Growing up in Scotland’ study.

Children in Need: Examining its use in practice and reflecting on its currency for proposed policy changes
Contractor: Dr Kay Tisdall and Vicky Plows, Edinburgh University
Due: April 2007
Contact: Sharon Davidson [0131 244 2652]
This sponsored research project sought to examine the use of ‘children in need’ in Scottish local authority policy and practice, and its currency for proposed policy changes in children’s services. Current Scottish Executive guidance on Integrated Children’s Services Plans sets out specific requirements for plans’ structure and contents. These requirements do not include making specific reference to children in need. The project consists of: a literature and research review; a content analysis of all local authorities’ Integrated Children’s Services Plans; a survey of ‘practice team’ managers in children’s social work services; and discussions with fieldwork teams in two local authorities, selected on the basis of the active use of children in need in plans and reported by managers.

Forthcoming Work

Evaluation of Extended Preschool Provision for 2 year old pilot programme.
Contractor: To be appointed
Contact: Sharon Davidson [0131 244 6252]
The Scottish Executive is commissioning an evaluation of the extended pre-school provision for
2 year old pilot programme. This pilot programme is being taken forward by Glasgow, North Ayrshire and Dundee local authorities (LAs) to provide good quality pre-school experiences for vulnerable children with a view to making an impact on and improving their well-being and overall development, including; behavioural, cognitive, social, emotional and psychological development.

Parents Access to and Demand for Childcare in Scotland

Due: April 2007
Contractor is DTZ Consulting in collaboration with Research Resource and Duddleston Harkins
To assess perceptions of current access to and parental demands for childcare in Scotland. The project seeks to establish the issues that affect parents’ use of childcare, the reasons for using a particular type of childcare and whether there is evidence of any unmet needs in terms of childcare provision in Scotland. This project will seek to repeat some of the core features that were included in the previous Parents Access to and Demand for Childcare Studies.

Published

Review of Strategies to Address Gender Inequalities in Schools
Contractor: Universities of Glasgow and Strathclyde
Published: May 2006
This research is mapping and evaluating strategies to address gender inequalities in Scottish schools. The project is reviewing the relevant literature to understand the causes of gender differences in attainment and of variations across the genders in school experiences (subject choices, career aspirations, self esteem, perception of gender roles, and access to vocational training and so on). This is complemented by an assessment of current practices addressing these gender issues in primary and secondary schools in Scotland, with a view to highlighting examples of good practice through case studies. Link to report here

Evaluation of Enquire
Contractor: University of Edinburgh
Published: August 2006
An evaluation of Enquire, the Scottish advice and information service for additional support for learning, which is managed by Children in Scotland and funded by the Executive. The first phase of the research considered the effectiveness of the current services provided by Enquire, while the second phase focused on the long-term provision of ASfL support, post 2007.
Link to report here

Behaviour in Scottish Schools research (2006)
Contractor: NFER
Published: October 2006
The Scottish Executive has committed to tackling problems of indiscipline, including violence and bullying, that exist within schools, both in the classroom and in the wider school environment. To monitor progress, the Executive has committed to ‘regular major surveys of teachers’ and pupils’ experiences and perceptions of behaviour and discipline in schools’. The 2006 study, which seeks to collect the views of teachers, pupils, additional support staff and education authorities aims to offer a comprehensive view of behaviour in Scottish schools.
Link to report here

Evaluation of Extended Schools Pilots in Scotland
Contractor: York Consulting
Published: September 2006
Evaluation of two pilots in Aberdeenshire and Fife looking specifically at whether childcare is a barrier to going back to work for lone parents. Link to report here

Early Years Longitudinal Survey – ‘Growing up in Scotland’ – Sweep One
Contractor: Scottish Centre for Social Research (SCSR) and Centre for Families and Relationships (CRFR)
Published: January 2007
The primary objective of the survey is to address a significant gap in the evidence base for early years policy monitoring and evaluation.
Link to report here
### Ongoing Work

**Intensive Support and Monitoring Services (ISMS) Evaluation**  
*Contractor: DTZ Consulting and Research*  
*Contact: Fiona Timpson [0131 244 0741]*  
*Due: July 2007*

A two-year study evaluating the ISMS programme in seven pilot local authority areas. The evaluation seeks to establish how ISMS has been implemented in each of the pilot areas, considering issues such as the areas motivation to participate, how they have structured themselves to deliver ISMS, the assessment process, partnership working, service provision, resources and costs involved in implementing and running ISMS, and their monitoring and evaluation arrangements. It also includes a policy and research review, accessing relevant information on the legislation, from best practice elsewhere, in the academic literature and from other sources in order to help to understand the origins of ISMS and lessons that have been or could be learned from elsewhere.

**Effective Approaches to Risk Assessment: An International Literature Review**  
*Contractor: Social Work Research Centre, University of Stirling*  
*Due to be published: March 2007*  
*Contact: Fiona Hodgkiss [0131 244 0092]*

The 21st Century Review of Social Work (2005) identified the need to develop new organisational approaches to risk management and risk assessment which promotes excellence in social work and a renewed culture of learning from mistakes. This literature review identifies the key differences in risk assessment and management in criminal justice, community care and child protection and assesses different organisational cultures, how risk is defined by key agencies and what the implications of the findings are for a common understanding and language of risk.

**Examining the use and impact of family group conferencing**  
*Contractor: Social Work Research Centre, University of Stirling*  
*Due to be published: March 2007*  
*Contact: Fiona Hodgkiss [0131 244 0092]*

The aim of the work is to review research and practice in family group conferencing in children’s services and to understand broadly how the approach is being used in Scotland and more widely in the UK.

**Evaluation of the Implementation of Local Area Coordination in Scotland**  
*Contractor: Social Work Research Centre, University of Stirling*  
*Due to be published: March 2007*  
*Contact: Fiona Hodgkiss [0131 244 0092]*

Local area co-ordination (LAC) was introduced to Scotland in 2000 following a national review of services to people with learning disabilities. LAC is seen as an innovative way to support individuals and families and to strengthen communities’ capacity to be inclusive. This 11 month study examined lessons from the implementation of LAC, explored its outcomes and assessed the scope for future development.

**Scottish Social Attitudes Survey 2006: Young People and Crime Module**  
*Contractor: Scottish Centre for Social Research*  
*Contact: Fiona Timpson [0131 244 0741]*  
*Due: June 2007*

The Scottish Social Attitudes Survey is an annual study of social attitudes across Scotland and is based on a random sample of 1,600 people. This module of questions seeks to gather information on the perception of young people and youth crime within Scottish communities and forms a repeat of a similar module in 2004.
Child Protection Reform Programme (CPRP) Process Review
Contractor: University of Dundee, Brigid Daniel
Due to be published: March 2007
Contact: Amanda Carty [0131 244 0618]
This project reviewed three key issues: how the CPRP was planned and implemented, the aims in planning the programme in this particular way and whether or not the process was successful. Data was collected by means of focus groups, a web-based survey and interviews with staff inside and outside the Scottish Executive and with child protection professionals.

Early Years and Childcare Workforce Consultation
Contractor: The Research Shop
Due to be published: March 2007
Contact: Amanda Carty [0131 244 0618]
This consultation sought the views of childcare and childcare-related organisations and individual childcare workers. Workshops were also carried out with early years and childcare managers, training providers, local authorities and individual workers. The draft report has been received and will be commented upon then likely published in March 2007.

Exploring the interface between service responses to the needs of LGBT young people and child protection policy and practice
Contractor: LGBT Scotland and TASC
Due to be published: May 2007
Contact: Amanda Carty [0131 244 0618]
This project reviews two key issues: whether the child protection reform programme process was effective and whether it addressed policy and practice amongst key child protection professionals. Data was collected by means of focus groups, a web-based survey and interviews with staff inside and outside the Scottish Executive and with child protection professionals.

Evaluation of Reading Rich Project Pilot
Contractor: NCH Scotland and Scottish Book Trust
Due: November 2007
Contact: Marie-Amélie Viatte [0131 244 0227]
This project forms the first of a wider programme of pilots and evaluations supported by the Executive which will explore the effectiveness of options for improving educational attainment of looked after children. The Reading Rich pilot comprises a number of projects that aim to increase exposure to literature and reading experiences within a range of residential and foster settings.

Improving the educational attainment of looked after children: identifying good practice amongst 18 local authority pilots
Contractor: University of Strathclyde
Due: June 2008
Contact: Marie-Amélie Viatte [0131 244 0227]
The overall aim of this research is to learn and disseminate lessons (through good practice guidance) on what works in local authority interventions designed to improve the educational engagement, experience and attainment of looked after children.

Evaluating the use of self-evaluation indicators for care settings and schools in improving the educational outcomes of looked after children and young people: pilot study in Glasgow
Contractor: University of Strathclyde
Due: November 2007
Contact: Marie-Amélie Viatte [0131 244 0227]
This case study aims to evaluate a pilot interdisciplinary training on the educational needs of looked after children and young people and the use of self-evaluation indicators in one learning community in Glasgow.

National Fostering and Kinship Care Strategy: analysis of responses to the consultation
Contractor: George Street Research
Due: May 2007
Contact: Marie-Amélie Viatte [0131 244 0227]
The aim of this project is to analyse and report on the responses received during the consultation on the Scottish Executive’s Fostering and Kinship Care Strategy, and to produce a database of these responses.

The YouthLink Being Young in Scotland Survey: 2007 sweep
Contractor: MRUK
Due: June 2007
Contact: Marie-Amélie Viatte [0131 244 0227]
BYIS runs every two years and generates information on young people between the ages of 11 and 25 living in Scotland. This year, SEED is placing 7 questions relating to the visibility and effectiveness of youth work organisations. Another part of the Scottish Executive is also buying into the 2007 sweep to ask questions about civic participation.
Evaluation of the Columba 1400 Careleavers Programme
Contractor: York Consulting
Publication: expected March 2007
Contact: Marie-Amélie Viatte [0131 244 0227]
This project is a an evaluation of a two year pilot programme whose aim is to enhance the experiences of young people moving from residential care to independent living.

Publications

My Turn to Talk
Contractor: Children in Scotland
Published: April 2006
Contact: Amanda Carty (0131 244 0618)
This sponsored research project explored looked after children's perceptions of and experiences of meetings (including Looked After Care Reviews and Children's Hearings). The project identified and assessed the adequacy of mechanisms used that facilitate looked after children's participation in (or input at) meetings and the summary of the report has been published on the SE website. Link to report here.
The full report can be found on the Children in Scotland website:
http://www.childreninscotland.org.uk/myturn

Secure Accommodation in Scotland
Contractor: University of Stirling
Published: September 2006
Contact: Sam Coope (0131 244 0754)
‘Secure Accommodation in Scotland’ was conducted to increase understanding of the use and effectiveness of secure accommodation. It also examined the circumstances in which open residential or community based services might provide an ‘alternative’ to secure placement. It found that secure accommodation was generally successful in the short term at keeping young people safe, and brought about educational and health benefits.

Learning at a distance supported by ICT for Gypsies and Travellers: Young people’s views
Contractor: Dr Pauline Padfield, University of Edinburgh
Published: April 2006
Contact: Amanda Carty, [0131 244 0618]
The main aim of this piece of sponsored research was to examine Gypsy and Traveller young people’s educational experience and aspirations of learning at a distance (from school) supported by ICT and has been published on the SE website. Link to report here
The summary report can be found at Link to report here
Ongoing Work

Young People’s Awareness and Experience of EMAs and their Impact on Young People’s Choices and Pathways

Contractor: York Consulting
Completion Date: April 2007
Contact: Linzie Liddell, (0141 242 0260)
Qualitative research to explore Educational Maintenance Allowances (EMAs) and young people at risk of being NEET (not in education, employment or training). The study will gather evidence on young people’s awareness and experience of EMAs and their impact on young people’s choices and pathways. The research will also aim to assess the impact of EMAs on those young people at risk of becoming NEET.

Evaluation of Careers Scotland Enhanced Resource Pilot

Contractor: Pending
Completion date: July 2008
Contact: Paul Sloan, (0141 242 0262)
To evaluate the Careers Scotland Enhanced Resource Pilot. The pilot consists of making enhanced support from Careers Scotland available in selected schools in seven Local Authority areas with the aim of improving school leaver destinations and in the long term seeking to contribute to the reduction of the proportion of young people NEET in Scotland.

National Adult Learning Survey (NALS) 2005 Scotland Report

Contractor: Scottish Centre for Social Research
Completion date: April 2007
Contact: Gillian Little, (0141 242 5435)
This survey aims to meet the need for information on participation in ‘lifelong’ or ‘adult’ learning. The survey was designed to provide robust data, representative of the Scottish adult population as a whole, which could be used to inform Scottish policy on adult learning and to facilitate comparisons with findings on participation on adult learning in England and Wales.

Adult Literacy and Numeracy in Scotland (ALNIS): Refresh

Contractor: York Consulting
Completion Date: July 2007
Contact: Margherita Rossi, (0141 242 5786)
A ‘refresh’ of the original 2001 ALNIS strategy is underway. An evidence report was commissioned to present recent literature, as well as stakeholders views (forthcoming web publication) and to inform the updating of the ALNIS strategy. A consultation on the draft strategy will be issued in spring 2007. A consultation report is expected end of July. A final ‘refresh’ report is due.

Publications

National Evaluation of xlerate with xl

Contractor: CEM, Durham University
Xlerate with xl is aimed at young people in secondary school who are not achieving their full potential and who might be at risk of becoming NEET. The programme is provided by the Princes Trust Scotland (PTS) and Young Enterprise Scotland (YES) and is supported by the Hunter Foundation (THF) as part of their support for the Scottish Executive’s Determined to Succeed strategy. Link to report here

Evaluation of Post-School Psychological Services

Contractor: Psychology Consultancy Services
In April 2004 Post School Psychological Services (PSPS) Pathfinders were established representing an extension of the existing work of Local Authorities’ educational psychology services. The aim of the PSPS is to promote better outcomes for young people and to contribute to the reduction of the proportion NEET. PSPS has since the publication of the report been rolled out in further Local Authorities. Link to report here
Determined to Succeed and Young People at Risk of Becoming NEET. Part of the National Evaluation of Determined to Succeed Phase 1

Contractor: NFER
The results reported here are key findings from a small-scale qualitative study carried out by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) between February 2005 and October 2005 which examined the potential contribution of DtS to improving the outcomes of young people at risk of becoming NEET in both mainstream and non-mainstream settings.

Link to report here

Entitlement to Learning Scoping Study

Contractor: York consulting ltd.
This study reports the findings of a scoping study into learning entitlement. The study focussed on small groups of young care leavers and young people NEET as well as those who influence them. The research explored stakeholder views of learning entitlement and attitudes towards post compulsory education in order to explore whether a system of learning entitlement would be sufficient to encourage educational re-engagement of the groups concerned.

Link to report here

Looking to Learn: Investigating the Motivations to Learn and the Barriers Faced by Adults Wishing to Undertake Part-Time Study

Contractor: Ralph St Clair, CR&DLL, University of Glasgow
The research involved a review of the literature on adult participation in learning from 1990-2005 and the development of a model for understanding participation. The study lays out policy interventions that have the potential to support part-time participation by certain under-represented groups of adults in non-formal and formal education.

Link to report here
Ongoing Work

**Environment and Health Strategic Framework**

*Contact:* Vikki Milne [0131 244 0543]  
*Due:* Spring 2007  

The SE Health Department, and Environment and Rural Affairs Department are now in the process of developing a *Strategic Framework for Environment and Health*. The goal of the Strategic Framework is the development of better systems to pursue environments **consistent with and promoting of human health and well being** and a Scotland of equal opportunity. A key element of the Strategic Framework will be the development of the research evidence (in its broadest sense) that can inform policy and actions to tackle the strategic priorities.

Principles underpinning the Strategic Framework have been published in the Journal of Public Health Vol. 120, Issue 10 pp 887-988 (October 2006). [Link to report here.](#)

**Evaluation of the Noise Nuisance Service**

*Contractor:* DTZ Consulting and Research  
*Due:* April 2007  

*Contact:* Gillian Dalrymple [0131 244 0265]  

The overall aim of this project is to evaluate the operation of local authority Neighbour Noise Nuisance Services. The value for money of the services will be assessed and views and experiences of how anti-social behaviour noise provisions are being implemented will be gathered. The project consists of desk research, local authority case studies, consultations and a residents survey.

**Social Impacts of Flooding in Scotland**

*Contractor:* University of Dundee  
*Due to be published:* April 2007  

*Contact:* Nuala Gormley [0131 244 7331]  

Aimed at providing critical evidence on a range of social impacts for people living in areas of flood risk or flooding in Scotland. This research aims to establish the impacts upon people’s attitudes, behaviours and perceptions of their property, security and general well-being, and is particularly concerned with those living in disadvantaged circumstances already. It hopes to establish ‘what works’ with particular population groups and locations in relation to flood prevention campaigns and flood awareness schemes, while providing baseline data for future evaluation of the non-economic impacts of flooding in Scotland.
Health, Community Care and Mental Health

Ongoing Work

COMMUNITY CARE

Deferred Payments in Care Homes
Contractor: RP & M associates
Due: April 2007
Contact: Tom Lamplugh [0131 244 3533]
The research will explore care home residents’ and relatives’ knowledge and experience of deferred payment arrangements for care home fees and identify whether uptake of such arrangements could be increased.

Adult Support and Protection Bill: Review of literature on effective interventions
Contractor: University of Staffordshire
Due: April 2007
Contact: Tom Lamplugh [0131 244 3533]
Review of available evidence on what works in relation to interventions to prevent and detect the abuse of vulnerable adults and help and support the victims of abuse.

Summary of evidence on long term health conditions
Contractor: University of Edinburgh
Due: April 2007
Contact: Tom Lamplugh [0131 244 3533]
This study will draw together information from the Scottish Household Survey and Scottish Health Survey on the demographic and social characteristics of people with long term health conditions.

MENTAL HEALTH

National Programme for Improving Mental Health and Well-Being: Small Research Projects Initiative
Contractor: Angela Hallam [0131 244 2813]
The initiative offers funding to small, innovative research projects able to demonstrate a contribution to advancing the agenda of the National Programme in its aims of promoting mental well-being for all, preventing mental health problems and illness – especially depression and the prevention of suicide – supporting improvements in the quality of life, social inclusion, equalities and rights for people experiencing mental health problems, and addressing inequalities in mental health. The initiative has now been run three times and the following projects are in progress; e.g.:

- Restart for recovery: an evaluation of the Restart employment project
- Pathways to work? Narrative experiences of people on health-related benefits
- Young people’s views of mental health education in secondary schools
- Understanding stigma: young people’s experiences of mental health stigma
- All projects will be completed by March 2008.

Effectiveness of interventions to prevent suicide and suicidal behaviour: a literature review
Contractors: Liverpool University and Infotech UK Research
Due: April 2007
Contact: Alison Stout [0131 244 5332]
The project aims to provide a comprehensive review of the available evidence on the effectiveness of interventions aimed at preventing suicide and suicidal behaviour, both in key risk groups and in the general population.

HEALTH

Evaluation of Well Men Services Pilots
Contractor: Department of Public Health and Health Economics Research Unit, University of Aberdeen
Due: Summer 2007
Contact: Imelda Hametz [0131 244 3740]
This project explores the use and effectiveness of well men services pilots funded by SEHD in promoting healthier lifestyles; providing health assessment, advice and support; and effectively engaging men, particularly the hardest to reach due to social exclusion.
### Early Impact of all New Compulsory Powers under the Mental Health (Care and Treatment)(Scotland) Act 2003

**Contractor:** Dr Jacqueline Atkinson, Dept of Public Health, University of Glasgow  
**Due:** May 2007  
**Contact:** Jamie Pitcairn [0131 244 3709]

The study aims to develop a detailed overview of the administration required by the new compulsory powers and assess the impact of this work on the workload, roles and responsibilities of a range of relevant professional groups. The study also aims to assess the opportunity cost of administrative work associated with the new Act, and recommend ways in which both individual tasks and processes could be improved.


**Contractors:** Ipsos MORI and Stirling University  
**Due date:** June 2007  
**Contact:** Angela Hallam [0131 244 2813]

The survey aims to examine the views and experiences of a representative sample of the adult Scottish population in relation to a spectrum of mental health-related issues; and to compare findings with the first and second survey (carried out in 2002 and 2004) and other relevant survey data.

### See me evaluation

**Contractors:** Scottish Development Centre for Mental Health, Institute of Psychiatry and Rethink  
**Due:** November 2007  
**Contact:** Alison Stout [0131 244 5332]

The evaluation aims to co-ordinate a detailed account of the development and activities of the ‘see me …’ campaign, determine the extent to which ‘see me …’ has met its own strategic objectives to date (and identify factors that have acted as facilitators and barriers), and make recommendations for the future development of anti-stigma work in Scotland.

### Determinants of suicide review

**Contractors:** Scottish Development Centre for Mental Health, Edinburgh University and Stirling University  
**Due:** January 2008  
**Contact:** Alison Stout [0131 244 5332]

The project aims to provide a comprehensive review of the literature on the risk and protective factors for suicide and suicidal behaviour.

### Experiences of Mental Health (Care and Treatment)(Scotland) Act 2003: A Cohort Study

**Contractor:** Dr Julie Ridley, Dept of Social Work, University of Central Lancashire  
**Due:** April 2008  
**Contact:** Jamie Pitcairn [0131 244 3709]

This qualitative study aims to explore the experiences of service users, their carers and a range of service professionals of living and working with the new Act. The study will also aim to make recommendations on the future development of mental health law in Scotland, and mechanisms for the feedback of stakeholder experience into the ongoing assessment and evaluation of the legislation.

### Use and impact of Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) in Scotland: a literature review and evaluation

**Contractors:** to be appointed March 2007  
**Due:** January 2008  
**Contact:** Angela Hallam [0131 244 2813]

The project aims to explore the development and implementation of ASIST in Scotland, and to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of the training programme.
Forthcoming research

Priorities for Health Research include:

Development of a major patient experience programme: This programme will involve surveys and other research methods and the analysis of existing local and national information on consultations and complaints. A decision will be taken as part of this work as to whether the Public Attitudes to the NHS in Scotland Survey will be re-commissioned in 2006/07 or whether other work will be commissioned in its place.

For further details contact Imelda Hamet
[0131 244 3740]

Priorities for Mental Health Research include:

1) Review of the Small Research Projects Initiative
2) Participative appraisal of the Scottish Recovery Network

For further details contact Angela Hallam [0131 244 2813]

Publications

The epidemiology of suicide in Scotland 1989-2004: an examination of temporal trends and risk factors at national and local levels
Contractors: Consortium led by Steve Platt, Research Unit in Health, Behaviour and Change, University of Edinburgh
The research brought together data on intentional self-harm and undetermined deaths among adults between 1989 and 2004 and broad population data, to establish trends in the incidence of suicide and variation in suicide rates by gender, age, social class, socio-economic deprivation and method.

[Report is due to be published 7 March 07]

Evaluation of the First Phase of Choose Life: the National Strategy and Action Plan to Prevent Suicide in Scotland
Contractor: Consortium led by Steve Platt, Research Unit in Health, Behaviour and Change, University of Edinburgh
An evaluation of the infrastructure put in place (nationally and locally) to support the implementation of Choose Life, and measurement of progress to date. The report provides recommendations that will guide the next phase of the action plan to achieve a 20% reduction in suicides in Scotland by 2013.

[Link to report here]

Evaluation of the Breathing Space Telephone Advice Line and Signposting Service for People Experiencing Low Mood or Depression
Contractor: Scottish Centre for Social Research
The evaluation assessed the development of the service to date and explored the effectiveness of the communication strategy and the telephone line in terms of reaching the target population of younger men. The report includes recommendations for future development of the service.

[Link to report here]

Evaluation of the Thrive initiative
Contractor: FMR Research
Evaluation of a counselling and support service based at the Sandyford Initiative in Glasgow, focused on male survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

[Small Research Projects Initiative – two page summary available]

[Link to report here]

How can community services support mental health and well-being?
Contractors: Outside the Box Development Support
The project focused on people experiencing mental health problems and members of community groups, exploring what keeps them well and ways in which community services can support mental health and well-being.

[Small Research Projects Initiative – two page summary available]

[Link to report here]
Health, Community Care and Mental Health

Self-help support groups: a study of their role in recovery from depression
Contractors: University of Edinburgh
The research aimed to identify the characteristics and structures of well-run self-help groups; the aspects of self-help groups which are most helpful to recovery from mental health problems; and challenges which need to be addressed
(Small Research Projects Initiative – two page summary available)
Link to report here

Understanding and promoting student mental health in Scottish higher education: a mapping exercise
Contractors: University of Strathclyde
The research mapped existing statistics, policy and provision for students with mental health problems and aimed to identify ways in which higher education institutions could adopt a more preventative approach
(Small Research Projects Initiative – two page summary available)
Link to report here

Raising awareness and promoting positive mental health and well-being among young people: the role of peer support
Contractors: Barnardo’s
The research explored young people’s views and experience of peer support as well as examining their strategies for coping with stress
(Small Research Projects Initiative – two page summary available)
Link to report here

Implementing a recovery approach in policy and practice: a review of the literature
Contractors: University of Glasgow
The literature review aimed to highlight the policy and practice contexts of relevant initiatives and their relevance to the Scottish context. It identified key points from the international evidence base and made suggestions as to where this evidence might be used to support policy and service development in Scotland
(Small Research Projects Initiative – two page summary available)
Link to report here

Mental well-being and behaviour in schools: promoting links between evidence and practice
Contractors: University of Teesside and University of Aberdeen
The project aimed to improve links between research and practice on mental health issues in schools. By consulting with research end users it aimed to improve the passage of evidence into practice and generate new research questions and themes for analysis which were relevant to practitioners and policy makers.
(Small Research Projects Initiative – two page summary available)
Link to report here

Practitioner-related usefulness of assessment and intervention tools in relation to looked after children
Contractors: Edinburgh Connect
The project aimed to monitor and begin to evaluate a new resource bank of assessment and intervention tools.
(Small Research Projects Initiative – two page summary available)
Link to report here

User perspectives of self-help and community signposting: Borders self-help and toolkit service
Contractors: Psychological Service, NHS Borders
The research aimed to examine how the service is used by voluntary and statutory agencies.
(Small Research Projects Initiative – two page summary available)
Link to report here
Housing and Planning

Ongoing Work

**Improving Access & Maximising Choice: The applicant's perspective of different housing allocation schemes**

*Contractor: Dudley Harkins*
*Due to be published: March 2007*
*Contact: Paul Tyrer, [0131 244 7570]*

The Scottish Executive has commissioned research to explore the experiences and perceptions of applicants for social housing. The study will cover applications for housing through different routes and within a range of approaches to allocations, including traditional needs based allocations, choice based letting and Common Housing Registers.

**Evaluation of Homelessness Prevention Activity**

*Contractor: School of the Built Environment, Heriot-Watt*
*Due to be published: March 2007*
*Contact: Paul Tyrer, [0131 244 7570]*

To identify and categorise the extent of activities being undertaken in Scotland by local authorities and their partner agencies to prevent homelessness, including the extent of any existing monitoring and evaluation. It will explore the views of key stakeholders on different approaches to prevention and identify what prevention activities seem to work best for particular ‘at risk’ groups.

**Allocations: Tensions between allocations policy and practice**

*Contractor: Craigforth*
*Due: April 2007*
*Contact: Lisa Taylor, [0131 244 7563]*

To explore possible tensions between housing legislation and policy relating to the allocation of social housing and the practice of implementing allocations policy on the ground. The research will explore the views of housing professionals working for local authorities and registered social landlords.

**An investigation into the Central Heating Programme’s impacts on Fuel Poverty**

*Contractor: Clear Plan UK and Logan Project Management*
*Due to be published: March 2007*
*Project manager: Elizabeth McNeill, [0131 244 7822]*

To investigate the effects of the first three years of the Central Heating Programme on reducing fuel poverty. The first two years’ reports are available online: the third year report is due in the Autumn.

**New Member States Migrants**

*Contractor: City of Edinburgh Council*
*Due: April 2007*
*Contact: Paul Tyrer, [0131 244 7570].*

To explore the experiences of migrants from the new EU member states, and the capacity of homelessness services to address their needs, in Edinburgh. It will explore the perceptions of those working in agencies in the fields of homelessness, housing and social care in Edinburgh as well as of migrants from the new EU member states. It aims to combine primary data from the research with existing information on migration to provide a community profile of migrants in Edinburgh. The initial research phase will inform the development of an information leaflet and work with agencies to assist them to meet needs.

**Housing and support needs of children and young people with experience of domestic abuse**

*Contractor: Centre for Research on in Education, Inclusion and Diversity (CREID), University of Edinburgh.*
*Due: June 2007*
*Contact Lisa Taylor, [0131 244 7563].*

Scottish Women’s Aid has commissioned (with funding from the Scottish Executive) research to explore the support needs of children and young people who have been rehoused as a result of domestic abuse. The study will provide information on the types of support children and young people who experience domestic abuse need when they move to a new area, what services are already available and how well these meet support needs. The study will make recommendations on what, if any, new services are needed and how to improve available services.
Research Review on vulnerable young people and their transitions to independent living
Contractor: Centre for Research on Families and Relationships (CRFR), University of Edinburgh
Due: March 2007
Contact: Paul Tyrer, [0131 244 7563].
A research review on vulnerable young people, especially looked after children, and what is known about their transitions to independent living, including different models of transition.

Residential Mobile Homes in Scotland
Contractor: Centre for Housing Policy, University of York
Due to be published: May 2007
Contact: Bob McFarlane, [0131 244 1697].
To provide an up-to-date picture of mobile home use in Scotland and to identify the nature and extent of any problems experienced by residents.

Review of Sheltered Housing in Scotland
Contractor: Centre for Housing Policy, University of York
Due: April 2007
Contact: Lisa Taylor, [0131 244 7563]
To review the role and condition of Sheltered Housing in Scotland. The research will form part of the review of housing for older people which is being undertaken by the Review of Older People’s Housing Working Group (ROOPH) and will contribute to other work across the Executive which is being carried out to inform the Strategy for a Scotland with an Ageing Population. The study will establish the supply and condition of sheltered housing stock in Scotland, addressing issues such as the changing role of sheltered housing, demand, costs and residents’ experiences of sheltered housing.

Supporting People Outcomes Frameworks
Contractor: DTZ Pieda Consulting
Due to be published: March 2007
Contact: Heather Dall, [0131 244 5523]
An investigation into the feasibility of producing a national outcomes framework for the Supporting People Programme. The research is looking at best practice in the field via case studies in 4 local authorities, and is progressing the development of a national framework, which could be offered to local authorities as a best practice model.

Housing Aspirations
Contractor: BMRB/Tribal
Due: September 2007
Contact: Jacqueline Rae, [0131 244 0291].
To explore the housing aspirations of people in different tenure positions in Scotland. The research will look at respondents aspirations not only to move into different tenures, but also what their aspirations are within their current tenure – for more space, a better neighbourhood. The research consists of a literature review, a large survey, and face to face interviews.

For further details about housing and planning research within the Scottish Executive please see ‘contacts’ at the end of the Bulletin. Forthcoming research projects and invitations to make Expressions of Interest will be announced on the Scottish Executive Social Research website at: www.scotland.gov.uk/socialresearch.

Publications
For copies of housing and planning reports go to: Link to Housing and Planning reports here
Local Government & Public Services Reform

Publications

**Improving Council Tax Collection In Scotland**

*Contractor: Prof. Glen Bramley, CRSIS, Heriot-Watt University*

*Published July 2006*

*Contact: Local Government and Public Services Reform Research [0131 244 4943]*

This project explores the reasons for the continuing difference in payment rates between Scottish local authorities, and between Scotland, England and Wales, in order to make recommendations for improving collection rates in Scotland. The project involves a combination of quantitative and qualitative approaches. The first stage involves statistical analysis of Council Tax collection data in Scotland, England and Wales to identify links between collection rates and relevant factors, including deprivation, population density, level of Council Tax, uptake of benefits/rebate, and ease of payment. The second stage involves interviews with local authority officials in 6 case study areas to explore issues around approaches to collection of Council Tax and any associated difficulties. Interviews were also carried out with a small number of non-payers of Council Tax and representatives from the money advice agencies in case study areas to explore reasons for and issues surrounding non-payment.

[Link to report here](#)
Forthcoming research studies

Rural Analysis of the Scottish School Leavers Survey

Contractor: In-house
Contact: Donna Easterlow [0131 244 4186]
This research will draw on the Scottish School Leavers Survey to explore the destinations – including to further education, training and employment – of young people leaving school in rural Scotland.

Publications

Three Case Studies of the Role of the Post Office within Rural Communities in Scotland

The aim of this research was to gather qualitative information on the role of the post office in rural communities, to stimulate and inform discussions about how the post office service can best be delivered in the future. The report was published in July 2006.

Rural Scotland Key Facts 2006: People and Communities, Services and Lifestyle, Economy and Enterprise

The purpose of this research was to summarise the key facts related to rural Scotland in order to provide a picture of the lives of its people. The publication is intended to be an easily accessible reference for statistics on rural Scotland. The Rural Scotland Key Facts 2006 was published in November 2006.

Forthcoming Publications

Benefits and Costs of Co-locating Services in Rural Scotland

This study focuses on the cost-benefits analysis of co-location in order to explore the widely-held assumption that co-location of services (in rural areas) leads to both cost-savings and improved access as a result of joint provision. The report will be published in March 2007, and will be the second in the ‘Improving Rural Services’ research publication series.

Evaluation of the Rural Voices Action Research Competition

Rural Voices was a two year pilot capacity building programme aimed at enabling rural communities to consult on aspects of local services of concern to them. Communities received financial and professional support from the Scottish Executive and an external Advisory Group in order to identify their own needs and become skilled at running their own consultations. More information on the Rural Voices pilot can be found at: Link to report here

This evaluation examined how and to what extent the pilot met its original objectives and providing an analysis of the associated costs and benefits, as well as exploring the concept of ‘community capacity building’ itself in more detail. The report will be published by the end of March 2007.

Evaluation of the Rural Community Gateway Website

The Rural Community Gateway website acts as a ‘one stop shop’ to provide information to, and share amongst, individuals, groups and organisations with an interest in rural issues. The Gateway is funded by the Scottish Executive, but is editorially independent of it. More information on the Rural Community Gateway can be found at: http://www.ruralgateway.org.uk

The evaluation examined how and to what extent the Gateway met its original objectives. It also explored with the users the possible future developments and improvements to the website. The report will be published by the end of March 2007.

Critical factors in the success of one-stop shops as a model of service delivery within rural locations.

This case study research explored the factors associated with the success, including sustainability, of one stop shops in rural Scotland. It found that one stop shops can be effective in improving the range and quality of services provided but that this depends on community motivation and involvement, adequate capital and revenue support, and careful attention to design and location. The report is due to be published by the end of March 2007.
Ongoing Work

Evaluation of the Incite Project: A pilot psychostimulant project in Aberdeen

Summary report to be published Spring 2007.
Contractors: Human Factors Analysts Ltd
Contact: Ruth Whatling [0131 244 3010]
This project evaluated the effectiveness of the Incite project highlighting areas of good practice and indicating how the service might be developed and improved in the future. The summary report suggests how its main findings might be applied constructively to the implementation and operation of similar psychostimulant drugs projects in Scotland.

Publications

The Scottish Executive Drug Misuse Research Programme 2004-2007 sets out the current programme of drug misuse research that the Scottish Executive supports and funds

Evaluation and Description of Drug Projects Working with Young People and Families Funded by Lloyds TSB Foundation Partnership Drugs Initiative (July 2006).

This research reports on the evaluation of a number of the projects within the Partnership Drug Initiative (PDI), a Scottish-based funding programme that promotes voluntary sector work with children and young people affected by substance misuse.

Review of Choices for Life (November 2006)

The Scottish Executive commissioned a review of Choices for Life – a number of events designed to promote healthy lifestyles and provide drug, alcohol and tobacco awareness to Primary 7 pupils before they make the transition to secondary school. The review considers how successful they were in promoting awareness of these issues.

Review of the evidence relating to volatile substance abuse in Scotland (September 2006)

This project is a review of the available evidence on volatile substance abuse (VSA) among young people in Scotland, particularly in relation to the prevalence and nature of VSA, successful prevention of VSA and effective communication of VSA information and messages.


The aim of this study was to develop and deliver a community-based health visitor intervention that will be used to determine the prevalence of continuing and delayed onset NAS in infants of substance misusing mothers; to produce recommendations for service developments; to measure the prevalence of delayed visual maturation in this group of infants; to evaluate the community-based structured health visitor assessment by comparing it to data from the existing service, and by canvassing the views of the professionals involved.

Process evaluation of Glasgow community addiction teams (September 2006)

The aim of this study was an evaluation of Community Addiction Teams (CATs) in East and North East Glasgow during the First Year of Operation. Its objectives were: to examine how addiction nurses and social care workers worked in practice within integrated teams; to assess the impact of integrated services from the perspective of service users and carers and to identify key factors which dominated the first year of operation in East and North East CATs that would assist organisational learning for future CATs across Scotland.
Looking Beyond Risk: Parental Misuse Scoping Study (July 2006)

This review scopes the literature on parental substance misuse, summarises key themes and gaps in the evidence base and identifies priorities for further work.

Link to report here

Low Level Heroin Markets – A Case Study Approach (July 2006)

This research provides a detailed picture of the buying and selling of heroin within 3 areas in Scotland. It involved qualitative research with police, local service providers, drug users, and community representatives.

Link to report here

Co-morbid Mental health and Substance Misuse in Scotland (July 2006)

The aims of this study were to describe and examine the nature and scope of existing service provision in Scotland for people with co-existing mental health and substance use problems. Specific aims include to identify the broad range of health and social care needs of people with co-morbid mental health and substance use problems; and their experiences of accessing and receiving services from health, social care, and voluntary organisations.

Link to report here
Ongoing Work

Tackling the Abuse of Off-Street Parking Facilities for Disabled People
Contractor: TTR
Due: Summer 2007
Contact: Sharon Glen [0131 244 0285]
To investigate and review measures used to combat the abuse of disabled parking bays and put forward best practice guidance.

Publications

Improved Public Transport for Disabled People
Contractor: TNS with TRi and TTR
Explores and assesses a wide range of potential improvements to public transport for disabled people.

Link to report here

Increasing Membership of the Children’s Traffic Club in Areas of High Social Deprivation
Contractor: ODS
Suggested ways of increasing uptake and use of the Children’s Traffic Club in Scotland in areas of high social deprivation.

Link to report here
Scottish Household Survey

The Scottish Household Survey is a major survey of the Scottish population, designed to provide representative information on the characteristics, composition and behaviour of Scottish households and the adult population, both nationally and at a more local level.

A new four year contract has been awarded to MORI Scotland, TNS and the Scottish Centre for Social Research to continue running the survey until the end of 2010. Questionnaire content is reviewed every two years; a revised questionnaire has just been introduced in January 2007.

Forthcoming research studies

Forthcoming SHS analytical topic reports to be published in 2007:

**Financial Inclusion**
Contractor: GEN Consulting
Contact: Sinead Power [0131 244 0681]

**Volunteering**
Contractor: Blake Stevenson
Contact: Jonathan Wright [0131 244 7558]

Publications

**SHS Analytical Topic Report 2006: Characteristics and Experiences of Unpaid Carers in Scotland**
Contractor: Dr Judith Harkins and Anna Dudleston, Dudleston Harkins Social Research Ltd
Link to report here (Web only publication)

**SHS Analytical Topic Report 2006: Long-Distance Commuting in Scotland.**
Contractor: MVA Consultancy
Link to report here

**SHS Analytical Topic Report 2006: Childcare**
Contractor: TNS System Three Social Research
Link to report here (Web only publication)

**SHS Analytical Topic Report 2005: Mode Choice**
Contractor: Lucy Barker & David Connelly, MVA
Link to report here

**SHS Analytical Topic Report 2005: Accessibility & Transport**
Link to report here

Hard copies are available from Scottish Executive Publication Sales, Blackwell's Bookshop, 53 South Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1YS. (tel: 0131 622 8283) or on request from the SHS project team (see Contacts list at the end of the bulletin).
Ongoing work

Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics
Contractor: Scottish Executive Departments, UK Departments and Associated Agencies
Due: On-going
Contact: John Fraser [0131 244 4092]
Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics (www.sns.gov.uk) aims to make the most of the wealth of small area information held within central government which can help inform the development and monitoring of national and local policy. SNS continues to develop its services and data sources to meet policy needs and a new version of the website went live on 6th February 2007. The improvements include:

- A whole new look to the site, for reasons of accessibility and to give a more modern, standardised feel;
- A set of 5 standard reports which give a variety of outputs for a set of pre-selected indicators and geographies;
- Data Download – A facility allowing the user to download data, metadata (the information describing a data set) and geography look ups and shape files; and
- A search function, new help text and improved metadata.

The 6th February update also included the new Community Planning Partnership and Multi Member Ward Geographies together with revised Health Board boundaries.

Measuring Deprivation
Contractor: In-house
Due: On-going
Contact: Tracey Stead [0131 244 0329]
Building on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 and 2006 (http://www.scotland.gov.uk/stats/), the Executive is now working to further develop measures of deprivation in line with recommendations from the ‘Long-Term Strategy for Measuring Deprivation’.

Review of Census Ethnicity Classifications
Contractor: In-house
Due: On-going
Contact: Charles Brown [0131 244 0324]
OCS, in partnership with the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) is currently leading a review of Census ethnicity classifications in Scotland. A series of further qualitative research has been provisionally planned for 2007 using i) focus groups to further explore issues around the acceptability of using colour in ethnicity classifications and ii) cognitive question testing to explore the impact of changes to the 2001 Census ethnicity classification on respondents understanding of the question and to ensure that the question yields the desired responses. The research will be conducted in partnership with ONS, to ensure that a joint approach is adopted that will yield comparable results for England, Wales and Scotland. A decision has yet to be taken on the precise details of the research and on whether ONS or an independent contractor will undertake the Scottish component of the research.

Office of Chief Statistician

The Office of the Chief Statistician (OCS) is part of the Office of the Permanent Secretary. Its role is to support key corporate policy areas and to support the development of the Statistician Group in the Scottish Executive.
Publications

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2006
Published: October 2006
The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2006 was published in October 2006. The 2006 index is based on the same geography (data zones) as the 2004 index and the same indicators where data sources allow. There also been improvements to methodology between the two indexes. OCS are now in the process of planning the next SIMD update.

Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics
(Quarterly updates)
The SNS internet site (www.sns.gov.uk) includes an increasingly wide range of small area socio-economic statistics, the site is updated with new statistics on a quarterly basis.

Social Focus on Deprived Areas
The Social Focus provides detailed information on the depth and concentration of poverty and disadvantage in deprived areas as defined by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). It was first published in 2005 using data from SIMD 2004. OCS will be updating the Social Focus on Deprived Areas using data from SIMD 2006 and it is currently intended to publish this during the second half of 2007 though work plans are still being agreed and a firm date has yet to be decided.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Contacts</th>
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