

Media Release

New analysis reveals trends in the unmet needs of carers in Leeds

Context

The Networked Data Lab is a collaborative of advanced analytical teams across the UK. They are working together on shared challenges and promoting the use of analytics to improve health and social care. Thanks to the Leeds Data Model, the NHS in Leeds and Leeds City Council are one of five partners across the country who have successfully bid to take part in the initiative.

The project will look at how partners can work together to use data to improve health and care in the UK, including addressing COVID-19 and widening health and care inequalities. It will do this by identifying and analysing six data sets over six years. Involving people with lived experience in each of the projects is key to enhance the data being explored.

Alex Brownrigg Data Scientist said:

"From an analytical perspective, it has been challenging to understand the support for unpaid carers in Leeds, so the lived experience of carers and know-how of service providers has been invaluable in building a clearer picture"

Patricia McKinny, ICB volunteer on the project said:

"The NDL project on unpaid carers in Leeds involved a diverse group of people with lived experience from the outset. Their contribution was highly valued, and their perspective gave the data analysts valuable context on the topic, a collaborative model with people's voices being heard".

Analysis in Leeds highlights areas for further investigation, nationally and locally:

- Low numbers of people registering as a carer with their GP
- Unpaid carers tend not to look after their own health needs
- Low numbers of carers being referred for a carers assessment
- Low numbers of carers having a carers assessment
- Confusion over the system, especially for those for whom English is not their first language
- People would value an accessible carers road map
- More awareness around carers assessment

High-quality data and analysis will play a crucial role in targeting preventative interventions, planning services, and improving the health and support for unpaid carers. In Leeds we have already started to look at how we can improve the quality of data which was an immediate byproduct of the networked data lab projects.

The development of integrated care system (ICS) intelligence platforms with fully linked datasets across primary, secondary, mental health, social and community care, will be a major step forward. For more information please click here [Topic three: Needs of unpaid carers - Leeds Health and Care Partnership \(healthandcareleeds.org\)](https://healthandcareleeds.org)

Ends

Notes to editors

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About the Networked Data Lab

The Networked Data Lab is a collaborative network of advanced analytical teams across the UK. Led by the Health Foundation, we work together on shared challenges and promoting the use of analytics in improving health and social care. Using linked data, we aim to understand and solve the toughest health and care issues facing the UK today.

- The Networked Data Lab is comprised of the following partners:
- The Aberdeen Centre for Health Data Science (ACHDS) which includes NHS Grampian and the University of Aberdeen
- Public Health Wales, NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS), Swansea University (SAIL Databank) and Social Care Wales (SCW)
- Imperial College Health Partners (ICHP), Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI), Imperial College London (ICL), and North West London CCGs
- Liverpool ICB and Healthy Wirral Partnership
- Leeds ICB and Leeds City Council

About the Health Foundation

The Health Foundation is an independent charity committed to bringing about better health and health care for people in the UK.

www.health.org.uk