NIHR | Applied Research Collaboration

Impact Inclusion Innovation Investment

Analogue to digital

Place-based Longitudinal Data Resource

ARC North West Coast

The challenge
The Place-based Longitudinal Data Resource (PLDR) is a web-based resource that brings together datasets which track changes in the determinants of health and health outcomes, in specific places over time.

The PLDR was ARC North West Coast's response to a request by NHS and Local Authority partners for accurate data to support analysis of local interventions and their impact on the local community and their health. Partners were particularly interested in comparing areas where new service interventions had been introduced to areas where they hadn't. The move to a digital resource has enabled this to now take place across the local health and care system.

The approach
The PLDR uses local and national datasets, such as hospital admissions, budgets and prescribing, to calculate indicators for places over a period of time. These are scaled at neighbourhood, local government, regional and national level for maximum impact in using data innovatively.

As well as tracking interventions, PLDR allows health and social care providers to identify health inequalities in provision and evaluate and assist in planning for reconfiguration, at the touch of a button.

The impact
Organisations such as Lancashire County Council now use the platform for their pandemic intelligence planning and actions. It has been used by Durham Council in their Local Breakout Plan and by Merseyside Resilience Forum to help map resources. It has also been used in the report Communities at risk: The early impact of COVID-19 on 'left behind' neighbourhoods for the All-Party Parliamentary Group for 'left behind' neighbourhoods.

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