

Parental risk factors and children entering care

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End date: January 2024

Achievements

Data Linkage

Created a Dataset of Households

293,373 Households with one or more child between 3 and 17
2,763 of them had one or more child enter care between 2016 and 2020

Linkage to health data to identify risk factors in adults in households:

- Drug misuse
- Alcohol misuse
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Bipolar
- Schizophrenia
- Other Psychotic Disorders
- Eating Disorders
- Self-harm
- Assault at home
- Learning Disabilities
- Learning Difficulties
- ASD
- ADHD

Linkage to Education data
Ethnicity
Special Educational Needs
Free School Meal Eligibility

Linkage to Birth Data
Biological mothers

Completion of 5 stages of analysis

Achievements

Findings

1. What are the differential effects when risk factors occur in different household members?

Biological mothers
Other women
Men,

Single parent households most risk factors had much bigger impact in households headed by women than men

2. What is the interrelationship between the risks and deprivation / poverty?

Some of the effects of deprivation were due to the risk factors examined, but deprivation still had an effect over and above the risk factors and free school meals

No evidence that risk have different effect in different levels of deprivation

Some interactions with Free School Meals

Achievements

Findings

3. Local authority effects

How much of the existing differences between local authorities is due to different levels of risk factors

Are the effects of risk factors the same in different local authorities?

Focus groups in local authorities where the rates of care were lower than expected

4. Child factors

Do the risk factors explain differences in the likelihood of care entry for children in with different characteristics

How do the characteristics of the child impact on the effects of the risk factors

Child's ethnicity

Child's sex

Child's age

Child's SEN

5. Changes over time

Are the effects of risk factors the same during different time periods?

Can this account for the increases in the numbers of children in care over this period?

Next Steps

Completion of Public involvement sessions

Consultations with parents whose children have been involved with social care services carried out throughout project. Final consultations due in November.

Completion of Dissemination Activities

- One article already submitted
- Four more in different stages of preparation
- Health and Care Research Wales report
- Blogs and briefings for CASCADE

Continuing presentations with local authorities

Already presented to JSWEC and EuSARF, ADSS conference, Social Care Wales Heads of Service in two local authorities CASCADE webinar

Future Plans

**Health and Care
Research Wales Social
Care Fellowship**

**What affects the chances of
children's successful reunification
from care?**

**Survey with
social
workers**

**SAIL based
analysis**

Interviews