

The New Place Survey: Recent Publications cont.

Technical Manual

The Place Survey Technical Manual aims to provide Local Authorities all the information required to run the survey in their localities, including the timetable for the survey, sampling methods and the sampling frame, options for running the survey in two tier areas, and how to submit survey results to the Audit Commission. The manual also provides advice on the strategies local authorities can use in order to maximise response rates.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/placesurveymanual0809>

Other documents

- Annex A: The Place Survey Questionnaire
- Annex B: The Place Survey Technical Annex
- Place Survey question bank

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/placesurveymanual0809>

Cefas - the internationally renowned scientific research and advisory centre has already carried out a comprehensive survey involving key stakeholders as part of their new project in Western Channel, using a sole provider to trawl through data. For further information please visit:

[http://www.cefas.co.uk/data/fisheries-science-partnership-\(fsp\)/20082009-programme.aspx](http://www.cefas.co.uk/data/fisheries-science-partnership-(fsp)/20082009-programme.aspx)

Government Social Researchers: Rapid Evidence Assessment Toolkit

A new on-line 'Rapid Evidence Assessment Toolkit', published by the Government Social Research Unit, aims to help government social researchers provide timely responses to policy questions.

Chief Government Social Scientist and Head of the Government Social Research service (GSR) Professor Paul Wiles feels that Rapid Evidence Assessments (REAs) can provide quick summaries of what is already known about a policy or practice.

Although it uses systematic review methods to search and appraise literature and other sources of information, REAs differ from

systematic reviews in that the extent of the search is guided by time and resource constraints.

Shortening the process in this way necessarily limits the comprehensiveness of the searching and other review stages. REAs are not a panacea, but if used appropriately can usefully balance rigour with speed in providing answers.

The Rapid Evidence Assessment Toolkit can be found at www.gsr.gov.uk.

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