

GM Policy Hub update | October 2022

Welcome to the October 2022 GM Policy Hub update. This update marks the first anniversary since our public launch, and we share news of our [upcoming GM Policy Hub seminar series](#), along with details of recent work on [race equality](#) and [children and young people's wellbeing](#).

If you are interested in learning more about any of the research featured in this update, please get in touch with [Terri Lucas](#).

GM Policy Hub seminar series

Policy@Manchester's lunch and learn series is back, with a new look. The GM Policy Hub seminar series aims to bring local policymakers and researchers together to explore some of the biggest challenges facing the city region. Drawing topics from engagement with local authorities, and in the context of the cost of living crisis, our November event will focus on poverty and deprivation in Greater Manchester.

The poster features a light pink background with a central white box containing text and graphics. At the top left is the University of Manchester logo, and at the top right is the GM Policy Hub Seminar Series logo. The central text reads: 'Power, poverty and place: Why the local matters'. Below this, it lists the speakers as Carl Emery & Louisa Dawes, the time as 1:00-2:30pm, and the date as Thursday 24 November. The location is given as 2B.026 Flat Lecture Room, Engineering B, University of Manchester, Oxford Road. The graphics include a blue 3D bar chart on the left and a yellow 3D bar chart on the right.

Power, poverty and place: why the local matters

At the current rate of reduction, it will take over 500 years for 'disadvantaged' children to match the exam success of their 'advantaged' peers.

This event welcomes keynote speakers Carl Emery and Louisa Dawes who will explore the current levels of poverty, associated metrics, and its impact on children, schooling and communities in Greater Manchester. They will examine the dominant one-size-fits-all model as it applies to the attainment gap and explore alternative localised approaches. The seminar will also include a case study presented by Manchester Food Bank.

Date: Thursday, 24 November 2022, 1pm - 2.30pm

Venue: 2B.026 Flat Lecture Room, [Engineering B](#), The University of Manchester

To register: [email Sol Hallam](#) with your name, job title and organisation

If you, or someone in your team, is interested in attending, you can [find out more about the event here](#).

Race equality in Greater Manchester

In 2021, the report of the [Independent Inequalities Commission for Greater Manchester](#) emphasised the need to put wellbeing and equality goals at the heart of the Greater Manchester Strategy. They recommended the development of a Race Equality Strategy.

This led to a collaboration between the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and the [Centre for Dynamics of Ethnicity \(CoDE\)](#). The scope of the planned research was extended because of feedback from the Race Equality Panel to include evidence of the experiences of racialised minorities that went beyond the duties and powers of GMCA. Dr Nigel de Noronha, Research Associate in CoDE, developed an [analysis of race equality issues in Greater Manchester](#).

The findings from this report can be used to support race equality activity in private, public and voluntary organisations, and empower communities to hold those with power to account for tackling racial inequality.

Read the [full report](#) or the accompanying [policy blog](#).

Place and young people's wellbeing

Policy@Manchester is one of [#BeeWell's](#) coalition partners, and we recently commissioned the [Education Policy Institute \(EPI\)](#) to analyse the [#BeeWell wellbeing data](#) as it links to other publicly available datasets, down to a neighbourhood level. EPI found that neighbourhood characteristics are correlated to different domains or drivers of wellbeing:

- Young people's wellbeing and affect appear to be slightly negatively affected by higher levels of income disparities in their area, while their life satisfaction is not.
- More health deprived areas were associated with fewer young people reporting good health and more young people reporting experiences of discrimination related to a disability.

- Neighbourhood crime risk was associated with fewer young people reporting they felt safe or that people in their area were trustworthy.
- A higher density of sports facilities was associated with better self-reported physical health, higher engagement with physical activity, and more young people reporting there were things to do in their free time.
- A higher density of charities serving children and young people was weakly related to higher wellbeing at the neighbourhood level.

The analysis is available in a [report by EPI](#), and the data has also been incorporated into the [#BeeWell neighbourhood dashboard](#).

Current and upcoming areas of work

We are currently working on policy activities and resources on the following themes.

- [Health Inequalities](#) – a collection of thought leadership pieces on the causes of, and solutions to, disparities in health and health outcomes
- [Energy Futures](#) brings together insight and analysis exploring challenges of our net zero goals, rising energy costs, and delivering the aims set in the Energy Security Strategy

About the GM Policy Hub

Within Policy@Manchester, the GM Policy Hub seeks to build relationships between researchers and regional stakeholders to resolve societal challenges and optimise collaborative opportunities across the region.

The Hub is a dedicated resource for GM policymakers to access academic expertise to help inform evidence-based policymaking.

Connect with us

We have put this content in a format that we hope you will find easy to use, but please do feedback to us on this, and let us know what information you would like to see in future. If you do not want to receive these emails in future, please let us know by emailing terri.lucas@manchester.ac.uk

You can also sign up to our [weekly Policy@Manchester newsletter](#) to be kept up to date with new blogs and publications, providing academic expertise and insight on pressing policy issues, as well as contributions to evidence sessions, upcoming events, and more.