Image of Churchgate and Lee Buildings where the GMCA offices were located

Overview of the Data Fellowship

The data fellowship took place between July and September. Two projects were the main focus throughout this period: the GM Resident Survey and the Early Years Workforce Competency Framework (EYWCF). The data collected were relatively new since they were released not long before. As part of the data fellowship, analyses were conducted on individuals who had direct contact with young children. This included parents/caregivers of children under five years old and early-year practitioners.

Data Analysis

The data fellowship emphasised technical skills to report findings, encompassing bivariate and multivariate analyses. Each project involved collecting data analysis using pivot tables and producing a report. The GM Resident Survey concerned the sub-sample of parents/carers with children under five years old. The report project combined Waves 7 and 8 data. Data analysis on the EYWCF focused on the rollout in Stockport. As a confidence rating was the measure of the EYWCF, practitioners' average confidence rating alongside their average ratings for the statements and components were calculated. The confidence ratings measured practitioners' experiences working in the early years sector.

Findings

70.0% of all parents/carers with children under five years old who had debt were from households containing two adults. **50.0%** of these parents/carers reported that they did not easily manage their debt. Therefore, Figure 1 illustrates that this is a higher proportion than the overall population sample.

This poster informs about the experience of an 8-week summer Q-Step data fellowship at the Greater Manchester (GM) School Readiness Programme.

Key Skills Learnt

• Presentational style – a unique part of this experience was presenting and reporting personal findings and interests in the given datasets. Discussing original ideas that emerged from data collection made the presentation more personalised.

• Public speaking – not solely reading from the PowerPoint presentation verbatim but making direct eye contact with the audience was an effective way to engage with the GMCA research team.

• Time management – balancing key projects and meeting deadlines, such as working on a report with data collection from the Greater Manchester (GM) Resident Survey and the GM Early Years Workforce Competency Framework, a skill acquired in academia.

• Adaptability – the more explicit skill gained in the data fellowship was adapting to a new work environment. Work was not exclusive to the office where the GMCA offered a hybrid work environment. The flexible work environment was simple and convenient because it consisted of working in the workplace and remotely on some days.

• Networking – the recurring event of self-introductions in formal and informal settings was a simple yet effective way to network. During times in networking, discussions on current work took place.
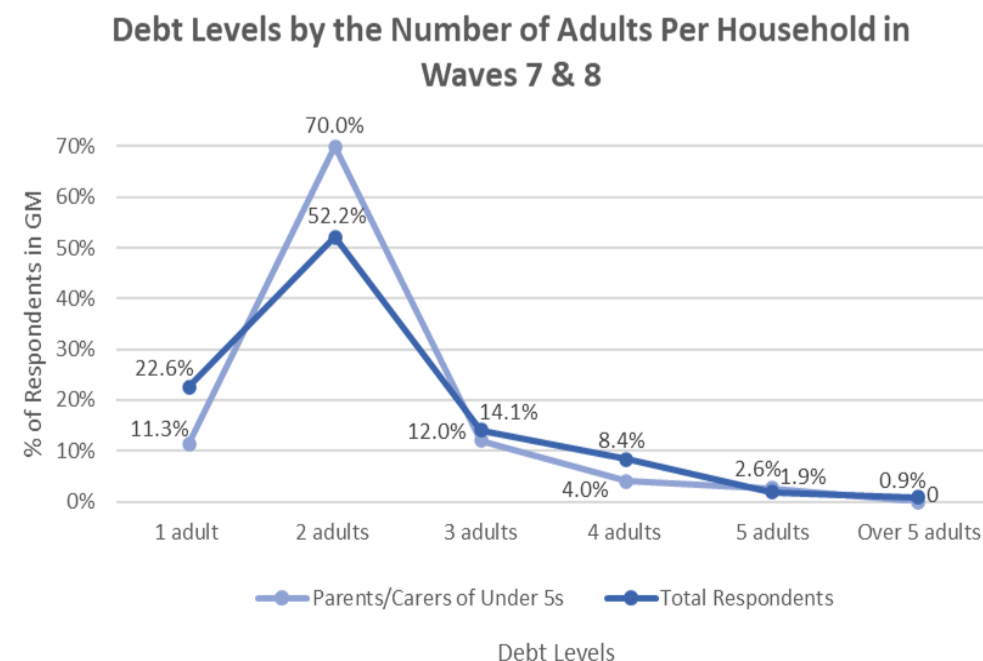
Figure 1. Line graph of data collected from the GM Resident Survey