

# Sport Wales: Exploring the contributions of sport and physical activity to the well-being goals, using the National Survey for Wales

## Organisation/ department background

Sport Wales is the national organisation responsible for developing and promoting sport and physical recreation in Wales. Sport Wales is also responsible for the distribution of significant amounts of grant funding across a broad portfolio of sports activity in Wales. We fully subscribe to the Welsh Government's vision for a physically active and sporting nation, as outlined in their strategies Climbing Higher and Creating an Active Wales.

We aim to not only improve the level of sports participation at grassroots level but also provide our aspiring athletes with the support required to compete successfully on the world stage. For further information about Sport Wales, please visit: <http://sport.wales/>

The intern will be based in the Sport Wales’ **Insight team** who are currently exploring survey results from the National Survey for Wales. The internship will provide an opportunity to gain an insight into the work of Sport Wales, to apply research and statistical skills and to further develop generic skills such as writing for a non-technical audience.

More information on the National Survey for Wales is available [here](http://www.gov.wales/nationalsurvey).

## Background

The [Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act](http://gov.wales/legislation/programme/assemblybills/future-generations/?lang=en) is a new law that aims to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. It will mean that public bodies listed in the Act will need to think more about the long-term, work better with people and communities and each other, look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach, to create a Wales that we all want to live in, now and in the future.

To make sure we are all working towards the same vision, the Act puts in place seven well-being goals. The Act places a legal requirement on the Welsh Government to set national indicators which will measure progress towards the achievement of the well-being goals. At the start of each financial year the Welsh Government must publish an annual progress report setting out the progress made over the last year against the national indicators. The list of the indicators laid before the National Assembly for Wales, can be found [here](http://gov.wales/docs/desh/publications/160316-national-indicators-to-be-laid-before-nafw-en.pdf).

The [National Survey for Wales](http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/national-survey/?skip=1&lang=en) will be used to measure progress against many of these national indicators. The survey is a large scale, face to face survey of a random sample of over 10,000 adults a year. It provides robust information on people’s views about a wide range of issues which are of interest to the Welsh Government. The survey includes a wide range of topics such as childcare, volunteering, personal health, sport participation, culture, internet use, use of and views on public services (e.g. health, education and local authorities), poverty, and well-being.

## Project brief

The aim of this project is to analyse the National Survey for Wales data to identify relationships between sport, physical activity and other information that is collected in the survey. The project will also investigate the areas where sport policy and service delivery could have a key role to play in influencing the wellbeing of future generation’s national indicators.

The proposed project involves carrying out regression analyses to identify the key drivers (such as demographics, income, qualifications, wellbeing, experiences and views) of outcomes against sport and physical activity. Investigation will include broader exploration of sport and physical activity to the wellbeing goals.

The outputs will be a series of short reports similar to [this one](http://gov.wales/docs/caecd/research/2017/170301-national-survey-who-most-likely-strong-sense-community-en.pdf), following the type of approach set out in this [technical report](http://gov.wales/docs/caecd/research/2017/170413-national-survey-technical-report-approach-regression-analysis-en.pdf).

The National Survey for Wales collects information for 15 of the 46 national indicators, including indicator no 38 “Percentage participating in sporting activities three or more times a week”.

The researcher will:

1. Analyse the relationships between sport, physical activity and other survey responses using descriptive statistics and correlation analysis. For example, qualifications, employment, illnesses, personal well-being, mental health, loneliness, poverty, visits to the outdoors, diet, alcohol consumption etc.
2. Carry out logistic regression analyses to identify the key predictors for:

* Participating in sport
* Wanting to participate more in sport
* Being physically active
* Adopting the 5 healthy behaviours
* Volunteering in sport
* Being a member of a sports club

1. Identify how sport participation and physical activity contribute to the 7 wellbeing goals.
2. Draft a short report on the results of the analyses.
3. Give a presentation on the results of the project.

The internship would last for a period of around 4 months (exact length can be negotiated).

**The anticipated project outcomes**

* A report summarising the approach taken and the results. We are keen that the findings are presented in a simple and engaging way that is accessible to a non-technical audience, to help ensure that they are used in policy decision-making. As an example of how we have previously presented regression findings, please see the series of six “Who is more likely…” reports at <http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/national-survey/?tab=current&lang=en>.
* Annotated syntax for carrying out the analysis, including all data preparation work (e.g. recoding of variables).
* A presentation to analytical colleagues on the findings of the analyses.

**Student specification**

## The student must have:

* Strong data analysis skills including of regression analysis and experience of working with quantitative survey data.
* Experience in handling/manipulating data, in SPSS.
* The ability to produce cross-tabulations, well designed charts and to produce concise, well written documents presenting technical material in an accessible format.

## Start date of internship

## January 2018 (exact start date negotiable)

## Security

The Welsh Government’s vetting procedures (which apply to temporary as well as permanent staff) involve the completion of a Baseline Personnel Security Standard (BPSS) application form and a Security Questionnaire for the purpose of security vetting.

This process requires the applicant to produce in person three original forms of identification documents, one of which should be photographic (passport, new driving license), one document should showing their current address, plus one of: a utility bill, birth certificate, P45 or P60.

## Queries

Any queries relating to the post or application process should be directed to:

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Chris McGowan ([chris.mcgowan@gov.wales](mailto:chris.mcgowan@gov.wales))

Or you can call us on: 03000 256 685