



# Rapid Review: Measuring Social Cohesion

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in collaboration with Belong: The Cohesion and Integration Network

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**Belong** – **The Cohesion and Integration Network** is a charity and membership organisation with the vision of a more integrated and less divided society. Belong connects, supports and mobilises people and organisations across sectors and neighbourhoods via its digital platform, events, training programmes and resources to improve the practice and policy of integration and cohesion.

The Centre for the Study of Group Processes (CSGP) is based in the School of Psychology at the University of Kent. Founded in 1990 by its director, Professor Dominic Abrams, the CSGP is at the heart of the School's excellent international reputation for experimental and applied social psychological research on groups and intergroup relations. Its research includes topics such as prejudice across the lifespan, collective action, social influence, leadership, group decision making, and community and political psychology.

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# **Executive Summary**

This rapid review collates and synthesises a wide collection of measures used to capture social cohesion within the UK. We review measures used across 23 different data sources, taken from the academic and grey literatures, and from several large-scale social surveys administered in the UK. Our central conclusions are:

- In the academic and policy fields social cohesion has not been defined, conceptualised, or indeed measured consistently during the last 20 years. Therefore, this report adopts a comprehensive framework for assessing social cohesion based on the conclusions of The British Academy's recent Cohesive Societies programme. This adopted a multidisciplinary focus involving a steering group and experts from across the entire Academy (Humanities and Social Sciences). A central purpose was to move beyond specific discussions around current issues (e.g., social integration, impacts of Brexit), and to distil the central conceptual features of cohesion. The programme involved multiple workshops, including roundtables convened by the Centre for Science and Policy, and yielded literature and policy reviews (Baylis et al., 2019, Donoghue & Bourke, 2019), as well as a review of the role of faith and belief (Pennington, 2020). To determine what needs to be measured we therefore refer to the five central elements that emerged from the BA's work: identity and belonging; the social economy; meaning and mechanisms of social responsibility; cultural memory and tradition, and; care for the future.
- Operationally, across the 23 sources, 300 measurement items and (coincidentally) 23 different aspects of cohesion were captured. The most commonly measured aspects have been social trust, belonging and identity, civic engagement, tolerance toward others and political engagement. The coverage and details of measurement of each aspect were inconsistent across data sources and no single source captured all 23 of them. We organised these different aspects into six broad themes: trust, identity, local connections, prejudice and intergroup relations, politics and social order, and external indicators.
- There are important gaps both in the match between the conceptual landscape and what has been measured so far, and in the structures, coordination and comparability of measurement. Several issues must be addressed in order to achieve a more complete method of measuring social cohesion.
  - The level of locality assessed by particular measures has been inconsistent across data sources, and across themes. Some aspects, such as neighbourliness, inherently targeted more localised areas. A more standardised description of each level or multiple levels of locality needs to be defined and a more consistent mode of measurement adopted if data are to be comparable across time and place.
  - Comparison across data sources is currently difficult because different sources measure the same aspect of cohesion using different words, phrases or

- formats. Substantially more data analytic work (i.e. factor analysis, construct validity, reliability analysis) is needed to assess which items are comparable for capturing social cohesion and which are not.
- O The usability of current measures is limited by both the availability and the granularity of current data sources. As well as attending to what is measured, there needs to be careful planning to ensure the data that are yielded will be sufficient, accessible and usable both by members of communities and their representatives and different levels of administration and governance.
- We recommend that, where possible, measures should:
  - o Address the five BA elements with similar weight to each.
  - o Include measures applicable at different levels of locality so that local cohesion can be seen in the wider context.
  - o Address both intergroup and intragroup dimensions of cohesion.
  - Assess people's own behaviour and perceptions; capture their perceptions of their relationships with others within and across communities; and assess actual and perceived change in these relationships over time.
  - We also recommend a layered approach in which social cohesion is measured more frequently and fluidly at more local levels than at regional or national levels, respectively, with periodic convergence on timing of measurement with the national timetable.
- We also conclude that the greatest value in measuring cohesion is not the potential to compare or rank different areas, but to be able to identify the particular challenges and opportunities relevant for different places and levels of aggregation and which reflect the diverse features that can strengthen or weaken societal resilience at all levels.

## Introduction

This rapid review reports conclusions from an assessment of the current state of theory, research and quantitative measurement on social cohesion in the UK. This review was commissioned by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to inform Dame Sara Khan's independent review of social cohesion and resilience. In the course of the rapid review, we aimed to assess four main objectives: 1) the usefulness of current measures of social cohesion at capturing cohesion at local, national, and regional levels, 2) provide an evaluative framework for considering a potential set of candidate metrics for measuring social cohesion within the UK 3) address the frequency and quantity that data may need to be collected in order for a meaningful analysis of social cohesion, and 4) consider comparable measurement examples from other fields to inform the process of evidence collection for social cohesion. We primarily focussed on measures used within the last 10 years but considered earlier measures where relevant.

We begin by introducing the concept of social cohesion and how we decided upon the scope of measurement to be reviewed. We then report the type and range of measures that have been deployed in various surveys and assessments. From that collection of measures we set out the predominant themes, or areas of measurement, and then suggest criteria against which to evaluate candidate measures for a basket of indicators. We also consider the steps and decisions that will need to be taken to achieve a coherent measurement framework. Despite the time and resource constraints for this review, we have tried to be as thorough and inclusive as possible.

# **Defining Social Cohesion in Theory and Practice**

The concept of social cohesion has been of interest to scholars and policymakers since the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Burns et al., 2018). In that time, the definition and conceptualisation of social cohesion has undergone substantial change from political, social, and economic viewpoints. Comprehensive reviews and chronologies of social cohesion are provided by Baylis et al. (2019) and Bottoni (2018). Alongside these historical developments, social cohesion has long been recognised as important for community outcomes including community resilience (Jewett et al., 2021) and social progress (Borisov & Vinogradov, 2018). It is also considered to have important outcomes for individuals, such as their subjective wellbeing (Lalot et al., 2022). However, despite common ground, neither the academic nor policy literature have reached consensus on the definition of social cohesion, or indeed on what its constituent parts must be (for comprehensive reviews see Chan et al., 2006; Fonseca et al., 2019; Schiefer & van der Noll, 2017).

As a relatively recent background to the present review, we refer to the British Academy's *Cohesive Societies* programme, chaired by Abrams and supported by a cross-disciplinary steering group that included the Academy's vice presidents for social sciences, humanities, publications, and policy and international affairs, as well as substantial involvement from the policy directorate. The reviews conducted in that programme therefore provide a sound and consensual basis for developing a measurement framework. The programme's multidisciplinary approach developed its framework from the bottom up – starting with a consultation across the whole of the Academy's 1000 or so Fellows, and building on that

through a series of focused literature and policy reviews (Baylis et al., 2019, Donoghue & Bourke, 2019), as well as a review of the role of faith and belief (Pennington, 2020). The programme also involved multiple policy workshops and several roundtables in collaboration with the Centre for Science and Policy. A central purpose of the programme was to move beyond specific discussions around current issues (e.g., social integration, impacts of Brexit), and to distil the central conceptual features of cohesion. Much of this is summarised in a scoping review (British Academy, 2019).

Some of the conclusions from the programme highlight the nature of the challenge for measurement. Although social cohesion may defy a single definition, it broadly encompasses the things that make communities, groups and societies a coherent entity. Key elements identified by the BA programme are:

- identity and belonging
- the social economy
- meaning and mechanisms of social responsibility
- cultural memory and tradition
- care for the future.

Cohesion is not, therefore, limited to 'good relations', 'tolerance' or absence of conflict. Baylis et al. (2019) pointed to eight manifestations addressed by different definitions of cohesion: a sense of belonging; homogeneity of attitudes; regard for diversity; participation and collaboration; rules and institutions that rely on consensus; wealth or income equality; equal access to resources; and finally personal and collective autonomy. Different theorists, researchers and practitioners, attach different levels of importance to these various elements, reflecting whether they prefer to focus on cohesion as a state to be described, or on cohesion as a political, economic, and social process,

To accommodate these different perspectives and emphases, our review combined a top down (theory-led) and bottom up (evidence-led) approach. We used theory from prominent perspectives on social cohesion, including Chan et al. (2006), Bottoni (2018), as well policy reports from the Home Office and other Government Departments to provide parameters around what measures to search for, and we used the measures most widely used as a way of inferring what might comprise the main elements of cohesion.

The absence of an agreed definition has inevitably resulted in an array of different approaches to measuring social cohesion. The academic literature has offered several prominent models for measurement of social cohesion. For example, Bottoni (2018) used survey measures, building on earlier work from Chan et al. (2006) and Whelan and Maître (2005).

Bottoni conceptualises social cohesion as consisting of *subjective* and *objective* indicators at *micro* (relationships between individuals), *meso* (relationships between social groups), and *macro* (connections and relations between society and institutions) levels. Bottoni used measures from the *European Social Survey* to validate their proposed model of social cohesion, successfully establishing empirical support (i.e., the validity and reliability of the social cohesion measures and model) across several European countries.

Large-scale UK social surveys, such as the *Understanding Society* and *Community Life* surveys, have also included several items to assess social cohesion. In some cases, these

include academic instruments that have been empirically validated, such as the use of Buckner's (1988) neighbourhood cohesion instrument in *Understanding Society*. Measures from different surveys have adopted individual items that appear, at face value, to capture similar constructs at a semantic level. However, their equivalence has not been established empirically.

Other research has adopted external indicators of social cohesion rather than individual level, attitudinal or perceptual measures. For example, the 2019 *Home Office Indicators of Integration* includes markers such as the percentage of people registered to vote or the percentage of people reporting trust in the police as indicative of levels of social cohesion. Likewise, and although not focussing explicitly on social cohesion but cohesion related constructs, Onward's (2020) *Social Fabric Index* offers indicators such as the number of community-owned pubs per capita or the share of people with no religion. In contrast to survey-based measures, these indicators represent more objective markers of social cohesion (rather than residents' subjective perceptions of things like neighbourliness) and are typically sourced from census data and other societal metrics rather than questionnaire sources. Some indicators are also aggregated from survey-based measures, such as the Home Office indicator "the percentage of people reporting a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood". As is the case with survey-based measures, it is necessary to question whether the objective indicators do effectively capture social cohesion or instead reflect something else.

In sum, the lack of a clear and consensually agreed definition of social cohesion has translated into differing approaches to its measurement and there is a plethora of potential measures available. Primarily, metrics or indicators of social cohesion come from two sources: large scale social surveys or external indicators. In both cases, we conclude that: there are important gaps in current understanding of how comprehensively, accurately or validly the various metrics capture the essential elements of social cohesion.

## Measures of Social Cohesion

Measures of social cohesion were identified from a rapid review of academic and grey literature as well as several large-scale social surveys. We endeavoured to identify a comprehensive set of relevant measures that had been used within the UK between 2010 and 2023. Along with our initial assessment of relevant literature, we also invited our advisory panel and DLUHC to suggest additional sources for the review. Throughout this and the following sections we refer to survey questions as 'items' or 'measures', external indicators as 'indicators', and to the domain of cohesion that these items or indicators capture (e.g. social trust, neighbourliness) interchangeably as aspects and constructs. When referring to the BA's framework we use the term elements.

The final set of sources of measures and indicators, and a summary of the constructs assessed within each survey are presented in Table 1. The table lists these alphabetically. The conceptual grouping of the measures is addressed later (see Tables 2 and 3). Full details of the items used within each survey, categorised by construct, are available in the appendix.

Table 1 shows that we identified 23 different sources of social cohesion measures and indicators. Across these sources we were able to distil 23 constructs that were captured by the various items and measures. The majority of these have been used in the previous four years (since 2019).

The meaning of the labels we applied to each construct in Table 1 is explained below.

**Belonging/Identity** – The degree to which people feel they belong to or identify with a particular area.

**Civic Engagement** – Peoples' engagement in community-based activities or activities that address issues of public concern, such as volunteering, participating in civic consultation, or attending sport and leisure facilities.

Connection/ Social Provision / Social Relations – Peoples' level of social connection and engagement with friends, family, neighbours, and others.

**Economic Indicators** – The economic strength, stability, and equality of an area.

**Embeddedness** – The length of time people have spent and plan to spend living in an area. **Free From Discrimination** / **Respect** – Perceptions that people in an area respect each other based on various dimensions (e.g. religion, ethnicity) or whether discrimination is a problem within an area. This includes peoples' own reports of whether they themselves have been discriminated against.

**Health Indicators** – Items that assess the general health (e.g. mortality rates, smoking prevalence) and health infrastructure (e.g. the number of good or outstanding GP surgeries) within an area.

**Human Capital and Education** – Education markers such as school attainment and other human capital indicators such as literacy rates and fluency in English.

**Inter-Group Unity/Division** – Perceptions of unity or division between different social groups and identities, as well as within groups.

**Legitimacy of Institutions / Democracy** – The extent to which institutions (e.g. Government) are seen as working in the interests of the people. This includes perceptions of democracy, satisfaction with Government, and political efficacy.

**Neighbourliness** – Perceptions that people within a local area support each other and form a close-knit community.

**Openness/Tolerance of Others** – The extent to which people are tolerant of people from different backgrounds and would be willing to cooperate and socialise with them. This includes perceptions that peoples' local area is one where different groups get on well together.

**Political Engagement** – The extent to which people engage in political activity. This includes things like voting behaviour, signing petitions, or contacting politicians or Government officials.

**Political Trust** – The extent to which people trust politicians or Government as a whole. **Population Stability** – The net amount of internal and international migration within an area. **Public and Social Infrastructure** – Physical infrastructure that facilitates community engagement, such as internet access, the number of community centres and parks and green spaces.

**Social Mixing and Contact** – The frequency of contact people have with people from different backgrounds. This includes the demographic diversity of an area or group (e.g. friendship groups). We distinguish this from items under "Openness/Tolerance of Others" in that social mixing refers primarily to the presence of contact with others but does not assess the quality of that contact.

**Social Order** – Levels of crime and the extent to which people feel safe in an area.

**Social Trust** – The extent to which people trust other people.

**Trust in Institutions** – The extent to which people trust societal institutions, such as the police, the legal system, or the media.

**Trust in Political Leaders** – The extent to which people trust political leaders such as the Prime Minister or local council leadership.

**Willingness to Help Others** – Peoples' willingness to help other people or perceptions that other people are willing to help.

Willingness to Improve Neighbourhood – Peoples' willingness to engage in activities that would improve their local neighbourhood.

Table 1 also shows how frequently each set of measures has been present across data sources. The most frequently assessed constructs are: social trust; belonging and identity; civic engagement; openness and tolerance towards others; and political engagement. Less frequently measured constructs include trust in political leaders, a willingness to help improve the neighbourhood and population stability.

Some sets of items have been used in multiple waves in or across survey series (e.g. several questions in the *Community Life* survey were taken from the discontinued *Citizenship Survey*) or across surveys that ran in the same time period (e.g. questions from the *European Values Study* were often also used in the *International Social Survey* and vice versa). If the complete non-overlapping set of items and metrics were to be used in a single assessment it would involve over 300 different measures. This underscores the need to consolidate into a more manageable subset.

**Table 1.** Constructs and Indicators of Social Cohesion by Data Source

Indicators/ Constructs  Data Source	Belon ging/I denti ty	Civic Enga geme nt	Conn ectio n/ Social Provi sion / Social Relati ons	Econ omic Indic ators	Embe dded ness	Free From Discri mina tion / Resp ect	Healt h Indic ators	Hum an Capit al and Educ ation	Inter- Grou p Unity /Divis ion	Legiti macy of Instit ution s / Dem ocrac y	Neigh bourl iness	Open ness/ Toler ance of Other s	Politi cal Enga geme nt	Politi cal Trust	Popul ation Stabil ity	Publi c and Social Infras truct ure	Social Mixin g and Cont act	Social Order	Social Trust	Trust in Instit ution s	Trust in Politi cal Lead ers	Willin gness to Help Other s	Willin gness to Impro ve Neigh bourh ood
Beyond Us and Them	х	х	х						х		х	х	х	х					х		х		х
Bottoni (2018)		х	х							х	х	х	х						х	х			
British Election Study										х			х	х									
British Social Attitudes Survey									х	х		х					х		х				
Centre for Ageing Better	х										х				х				х			х	
Centre for Longitudinal Studies (e.g. Next Steps, Millennium Cohort Study)			х											х					х				
Chan et al. (2006)	х	Х										х	Х						х	Х		х	
Citizenship Survey	х	х			х	х				х	х	х	х				х	х	х	х			

Indicators/ Constructs  Data Source	Belon ging/I denti ty	Civic Enga geme nt	Conn ectio n/ Social Provi sion / Social Relati ons	Econ omic Indic ators	Embe dded ness	Free From Discri mina tion / Resp ect	Healt h Indic ators	Hum an Capit al and Educ ation	Inter- Grou p Unity /Divis ion	Legiti macy of Instit ution s / Dem ocrac y	Neigh bourl iness	Open ness/ Toler ance of Other s	Politi cal Enga geme nt	Politi cal Trust	Popul ation Stabil ity	Publi c and Social Infras truct ure	Social Mixin g and Cont act	Social Order	Social Trust	Trust in Instit ution s	Trust in Politi cal Lead ers	Willin gness to Help Other s	Willin gness to Impro ve Neigh bourh ood
Community Life	х	х			х						х	х	х				х		х				
European Social Survey	х		х								х			х					х	х			
European Values Study	х	х								х		х	х						х	х			
Home Office Indicators of Integration	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х			х	х	х			х	х	х	х	х			
International Social Survey	х	х	х						х	х			х	х			х		х	х			
Janmaat (2011)	х	х		х						х		х						х	х	х			
Jenson (2010)		х		х			х	х					х				х		х				
Longitudinal Study of Young People in England						х						х											

Indicators/ Constructs  Data Source	Belon ging/I denti ty	Civic Enga geme nt	Conn ectio n/ Social Provi sion / Social Relati ons	Econ omic Indic ators	Embe dded ness	Free From Discri mina tion / Resp ect	Healt h Indic ators	Hum an Capit al and Educ ation	Inter- Grou p Unity /Divis ion	Legiti macy of Instit ution s / Dem ocrac y	Neigh bourl iness	Open ness/ Toler ance of Other s	Politi cal Enga geme nt	Politi cal Trust	Popul ation Stabil ity	Publi c and Social Infras truct ure	Social Mixin g and Cont act	Social Order	Social Trust	Trust in Instit ution s	Trust in Politi cal Lead ers	Willin gness to Help Other s	Willin gness to Impro ve Neigh bourh ood
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	х	х		х		х		х	х		х	х	х				х	х	х				
More in Common											х								х				
Onward (Social Fabric)		х		х			х	х		х			х			х		х		х			
Royal Voluntary Service	х		х																				
The Young Foundation	х	х		х			х	х		х	х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х				
UK Trust in Government Survey (ONS)																			х	х			
Understandin g Society	х	х	х		х					х	х	х					х		х			х	х
TOTAL	14	14	8	6	4	4	4	5	4	10	11	13	13	6	2	3	8	6	19	10	1	3	2

In summary, Table 1 shows that we identified 23 different sources of social cohesion measures and indicators. Across these sources we were able to distil 23 constructs that were captured by the various items and measures. The majority of these have been used in the previous four years (since 2019).

Across 300 different measurement items and 23 data sources, the most frequently assessed constructs have been social trust; belonging and identity; civic engagement; openness and tolerance towards others; and political engagement.

Less frequently measured constructs include: trust in political leaders; a willingness to help improve the neighbourhood; and population stability.

# **Evaluating Measures of Social Cohesion**

The following sections explain the relevance of the comparability of different items for measuring particular constructs, the usability of the data, and of assessment at different levels of locality when formulating measures of cohesion.

### Comparability of Items

With few exceptions, items in large scale social surveys that are used to assess social cohesion are not derived from an established instrument of social cohesion that has been empirically validated. Surveys may draw from a basket of individual items that assess just a few components of social cohesion, such as a sense of belonging, openness or tolerance towards others, and social mixing. Although these may have the advantage of continuity of use (e.g. Citizenship Survey items), this does not assure complete coverage, comparability with other data sources, or the quality of the data. Consequently, it is usually unclear whether any particular collection of items would allow wider inferences about social cohesion as a whole. The use of measures to comment on cohesion is therefore potentially ad hoc (drawing on what is available) rather than based on, or being located with reference to, a larger coherent framework.

A further difficulty is that different surveys have used different question wordings to assess what purports to be the same construct. For example, surveys assessing social trust have variously phrased questions as, "Generally speaking, would you say that people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?", or "How trusting of other people would you say you are", or "In general how much do you think people can be trusted?". Though appearing semantically close, there is insufficient empirical evidence to be confident that these different question wordings do equivalently assess the same construct. Crucially, even subtle changes to question wording can have a sizable impact on responses, and potentially lead to different conclusions (English, 2023).

Likewise, some items that are semantically close by may still tap slightly different constructs. For example, items identified as assessing feelings of belonging included wordings that measured belonging to an area (e.g., "How strongly do you feel you belong to your immediate neighbourhood"), emotional attachment (How emotionally attached do you feel to [country]?"), and feelings of closeness ("How close do you feel to your own town/city"). We should not take plausible interchangeability (face validity) for granted. It is unclear whether these items are comparable and whether all equally measure the same construct of "belonging" or whether the nuances mean that they assess different things. Furthermore,

although multi-item measures are statistically preferable, the space and time limitations of most surveys mean that constructs must often be measured using single or very few items. Therefore, establishing the equivalence of different items (past and potential) will help researchers select which to use and when.

In summary, additional statistical validation of the items used in surveys is necessary to address these ambiguities in comparability, and to enable interpretation and generalisability of findings.

#### **Usability**

Usability refers to the way that evidence from indicators can be accessed, analysed and used by others. Government or local authority analysts might be one audience for the evidence, but there is also a question of its availability to other sectors and levels, even perhaps local residents' associations. Quite apart from the challenges of data collection, it will be necessary to address how data should be collected and shared, for example with reference to the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR, 2023). Several factors constrain and determine the usability of particular measures for monitoring social cohesion. These factors differ depending on whether the measure represents an objective societal indicator (e.g., voter turnout at General Elections) or represents a more subjective opinion or perception measure (e.g., "To what extent do you agree that you belong to your neighbourhood?").

Many objective indicators, particularly those that can be derived from census data such as distributions of ethnicity or employment levels, may be readily available through sources such as the ONS. However, other metrics, such as the percentage of people attending community spaces where they mix with other people, may not be captured so easily and (for example) it may be difficult to distinguish whether a space is used frequently but by only a few, or rarely but by many. There is therefore a question over the availability and interpretability of data to effectively employ such objective indicators, particularly if levels of social cohesion are to be monitored at regular intervals.

Several large-scale surveys such as *Understanding Society* and *Community Life* routinely measure subjective indicators, such as feelings of belonging via self-reports. Although data are fairly readily available from these social surveys, its usability for informing local contexts is quite limited. The sampling in these social surveys generally precludes sufficient data being collected at neighbourhood level of granularity. Therefore, even if they manage to capture social cohesion within larger areas (e.g. regionally or nationally), and even if the amount of variance due to local differences can be statistically assessed, the smaller the area, the more limited is the scope to provide statistically reliable evidence for that particular area, meaning that supplementary work is likely to be required. These types of measures may be a little too blunt for the purposes of community-centred decision making, which seems likely to require more precisely targeted survey methods and a higher degree of local knowledge for implementation.

In sum, to enhance usability, as well as attending to what is measured, there needs to be careful planning to ensure the data that are yielded will be sufficient, accessible and usable both by members of communities and their representatives and different levels of administration and governance.

## Capturing Social Cohesion at Different Levels of Scale and Locality

When considering choices about spatial levels it should, in principle, be reasonably straightforward to adapt survey items to address any chosen level(s) of locality. For example, general states of being could be adjusted to target a specific area (e.g. Generally speaking, would you say that most people *in your neighbourhood/in Britain* can be trusted, or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people *in your neighbourhood/in Britain*?), more generic indicators could be framed in the context of a certain location (e.g. adult literacy rates within a specific town, region, or across a whole country), and items that target one specific locality could be adjusted to target another (e.g., a shift from trust in MPs (national) to trust in local councillors (local or regional)).

Yet some terms, such as 'region' or 'area' are not very precise and may mean different things to different people. Different surveys use different ways of examining different levels of locality. For example, some surveys use the terms "neighbourhood" and "local area" interchangeably, whereas others present these as distinct levels. Some surveys leave the term "local area" to the interpretation of participants whereas others, such as *Understanding Society*, provide concrete descriptions of local area within their questionnaires, being defined as 'anywhere within a 15-20 minute walking distance of your home'. Even such apparently specific criteria may be problematic – having different implications depending on the local geography, concentration of amenities, quality and presence of pavements and so forth. The availability of data from other sources, such as the census, can provide some measures. However, other data such as the percentage of people attending community spaces where they mix with other people, may be harder to capture and may require more localised surveys.

In sum, to address questions of scale it will be helpful to establish a more standardised description and definition of different levels of locality and a more consistent mode of measurement for each level so that data can be compared across time and place.

Overall, a coherent framework for measuring social cohesion needs to be established that ensures comparability, usability and clearly specified levels of reference and locality.

# The Range and Extent of Measurement

We refer here to themes, constructs and items. These are the higher level area of measurement, specific concepts or 'things' to be measured, and the specific items designed to do the measuring. We also refer to external indicators, which means observable countable data that is not provided by individuals themselves. Table 1, above, showed which sources of data are available for the 23 constructs. Table 2, below, integrates these within six overarching themes: Trust, Identity, Local Connection, Prejudice and Intergroup Relations, Politics and Social Order, and also separately groups the External Indicators. Table 2 also conveys how many data sources have included each theme, and the ranges of numbers of items used to measure each theme.

It is apparent that both the deployment and the focus of measurement of these 23 constructs has been inconsistent. For example, in surveys addressing cohesion, items to measure the theme of trust have largely concentrated on the social capital concept of whether 'people' can

be trusted, but much less so on whether people trust politicians, leaders or institutions. Items to measure of belonging, as discussed earlier, have not had a consistent focus in terms of level of locality. Measures of local connection range from more concrete measures of civic engagement and neighbourliness (most popular) to more general measures of altruism, social mixing and embeddedness. Measures focusing on intergroup relations have more often addressed openness and tolerance towards others but rather neglected perceptions of potential differences and conflicts or experiences of discrimination, both of which might be more pertinent to cohesion. Measures of the political aspects of cohesion range from those covering direct political engagement, to more generic assessments of the legitimacy of our institutions or degree of social order/disorder, though it is notable that the latter, which might be most closely related to cohesion, has been measured least frequently. Finally, the set of external indicators is quite wide but they have not been used consistently in conjunction with other measures and so it is difficult to know how the two types of measure (external and other) are related.

The number of items used to measure each of these constructs has also varied quite widely. Many have been measured using a small number of items ranging between one and ten. However, in some cases more than 40 items have been used to assess a single social cohesion construct. For example, the *Home Office Indicators of Integration* includes 49 health related indicators that cover an array of metrics, such as the percentage of people registered with a GP, various mortality rates, and the number of days of hospital stays. Likewise, the *Community Life* survey includes several detailed questions that assess respondents' level of civic engagement by asking whether they belong to each of a number of groups and organisations or whether they have volunteered in a range of domains, such as education or animal welfare. Condensing such questions down to a valid and reliable indicator will require additional data collection and analysis.

In summary, the deployment and the focus of measurement of social cohesion constructs has been inconsistent. The number of items used to measure each of these constructs has also varied quite widely. There is a clear need to achieve a more condensed set of items and constructs that can be deployed as valid and reliable measure of cohesion, and this will require additional data collection and analysis.

**Table 2.** Thematic Groupings of Social Cohesion Constructs

Theme and number of separate times used	Construct	Frequency	Range of items
Trust (N = 21)	Social Trust	19	1-13
	Political Trust	6	1-5
	Trust in Institutions	10	1-18
	Trust in Political Leaders (4 each for Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition, and Local Council Leader)	1	12
Identity (N = 14)	Belonging/Identity	14	1-5
Local connection	Civic Engagement	14	1-42
(N=20)	Willingness to Help Others	3	1-2
	Neighbourliness	11	1-6
	Willingness to Improve Neighbourhood	2	1
	Social Mixing and Contact	8	1-26
	Connection/ Social Provision / Social Relations	8	1-5
	Embeddedness	4	1
Prejudice and Intergroup	Openness/Tolerance of Others	13	1-15
Relations	Free From Discrimination / Respect	4	3-7
(N = 14)	Inter-Group Unity/Division	4	1-15
Politics, Social Order	Political Engagement	13	1-12
(N = 16)	Legitimacy of Institutions / Democracy	10	1-4
	Social Order	6	1-4
External indicators (N = 7)	Health Indicators	4	1-49
	Human Capital and Education	5	2-23
	Population Stability	2	1-2
	Economic Indicators	6	1-16
	Public and Social Infrastructure	3	1-24

# **Candidate Metrics for Measuring Social Cohesion**

In Table 3 we offer an integration of the insights from the preceding assessment within a general framework to encapsulate the core elements required, and candidate measures for assessing, social cohesion. We refer to the five elements identified by the BA's review, and to measures which are items, a set of items, or other indicator that could potentially capture part or all of an element.

#### Criteria for Inclusion

The British Academy's (2019) scoping review, together with our assessment of the collection of social cohesion items gathered, point to several criteria for determining the relevance and suitability of different measures for each element. Selecting and testing the specific individual items for particular measures is an empirical task that requires time and resources beyond the scope of this rapid review.

First, we suggest that to be included, any construct should capture at least one of the five elements identified by the BA's Cohesive Societies programme. These extend the core components of previous conceptualisations of social cohesion in the literature (e.g. Bottoni, 2018; Chan et al., 2006) by including considerations of both the historical context of social cohesion (cultural memory and tradition) as well as its future sustainability (care for the future). We therefore identify the BA elements as a holistic and sufficiently wide net to capture social cohesion. We chose not to incorporate some of the additional aspects of social cohesion identified by Baylis et al. (2019) where those addressed causes and consequences of social cohesion rather than social cohesion itself. For example, inequality is crucially important. It may damage cohesion, or stem from a lack of cohesion. However, it is not the same as cohesion and should not be measured as an indicator of cohesion.

Constructs and measures of social cohesion should also satisfy a number of other requirements. They should be able to capture social cohesion at different levels of locality so that local cohesion can be seen in the wider context. They should be applicable to intergroup and intragroup dimensions of cohesion (for example, not just whether individuals connect to other individuals or members or other groups, but whether groups connect to other groups).

Care should also be taken about how to interpret aggregated data. Cohesion is not necessarily implied by the presence of similar behaviour or attitudes across a community. However, it does involve some consensus among people that they perceive themselves as part of a community. Therefore, it is necessary to measure people's perceptions of, and relationships with, one another.

Cohesion is also a dynamic process involving transition and change in response to changing circumstances. Therefore, even if repeated measurement is not possible, cross-sectional (single shot) assessment of cohesion should, at least in part, capture people's sense of change over time.

In summary, criteria for inclusion must address the concept of cohesion with sufficient breadth and depth, its historical as well as immediate context, perceived structural relations between groups and communities, and perceptions of community change over time.

## A Potential Item Set and its Gaps

In Table 3, we have suggested for each element of cohesion, an existing data source that contains a potentially suitable set of measures. Our suggestions reflect how far, relative to available alternatives, the measures broadly satisfy the criteria described earlier. The framework in Table 3 is based on an assessment of these measures at a semantic level. However, the statistical robustness of measures to be adopted in the proposed evaluation framework will require additional data testing to assess their reliability and validity as measures of social cohesion. More technically, factor- and item-analytic work is required to assess the internal, construct and discriminant validity, as well as the reliability of the various social cohesion measures. This is likely to be needed over an extended period of time and place to assess the effectiveness of social cohesion measures in capturing different levels of locality and being invariant across time.

The framework in Table 3 also allows us to point to notable gaps in the current measurement landscape. To help identify these we show in Table 3 which of the five BA elements of cohesion are covered by each construct. We have also indicated where we think there are doubts about the fit or appropriateness of the measure for each element (shown with a question mark).

The majority of measures focus on the element of social economy, i.e., how communities are shaped by the exchanges and interactions between people. Coverage of the identity and belonging element has been less prevalent or consistent. Measures of the social responsibility element tend to focus on relations with authority rather than other aspects.

Relatively few measures adequately capture the elements of cultural memory and tradition or care for the future. However, cultural memory and care for the future are central to cohesion because they are the connective tissue that links the past to the future. People's knowledge and understanding of the history and makeup of their communities is likely to be a key aspect of their identification with their community, and therefore whether and why they commit to its survival and growth.

There are not many obvious candidates for measuring the content of cultural memory and tradition, though there are many ways to detect their presence (e.g. Fischer, 2009), and progress is being made on the development of 'intersubjective' measures of culture (e.g. Chiu et al, 2010). Perhaps a simpler way of capturing these complex approaches to measurement of the content of culture would be to ask how much importance people attach to their local culture, and how clear and strong is their sense of its history.

There are also useful measures available to examine care for the future. This can be done, for example, through self-reports (Ahvenharju, Minkkinen & Lalot, 2018; Lalot et al, 2021), and by evaluating natural language use on social media (Park et al, 2015). For both aspects more work needs to be done, drawing on these and other examples of possible measures, to design and test ones for use in relation to different levels of locality.

Overall, as well as establishing an appropriate basket of indicators, a challenge for measuring social cohesion is to balance the effort of capturing each element needed to provide a more complete understanding of the strength, forms and levels of social cohesion.

#### **Practical Parameters**

Given the breadth of what might be measured to capture social cohesion an obvious challenge is how to make the goal of common and widespread measurement achievable. Inevitable practical and budgetary limitations mean that attention will need to be devoted to issues, such as disentangling cause and effect, the feasibility and frequency and modes of measurement, challenges of aggregating between levels, and linking different types of data.

For the issue of causes and effects, it is important to distinguish measures that directly address cohesion from those that examine conditions that surround or emerge from cohesion. For example, economic indicators, health indicators, or public and social infrastructure and some elements identified by Baylis et al. (2019) may reflect things that precede or influence social cohesion, or they may be wider consequences of social cohesion, rather than being social cohesion itself. Consequently, in order to inform policy and practice, organisations should clarify for themselves whether they are measuring economic or health indicators as reflections or portents of cohesion or whether they are a measuring social cohesion itself.

Practical considerations also limit what can feasibly be measured and with what frequency. The frequency should be sensitive to the level of locality being assessed. For example, it may be appropriate to measure social cohesion at a national level with large but regular and predetermined intervals. This might occur in detail as every 2 or 3 years, but in short form annually. An analysis of longitudinal data on the relationship between social cohesion and volunteering (Abrams et al., 2023) suggests the social cohesion is not a stable construct and fluctuates over time. Furthermore, it seems likely that as the level of granularity increases (from regional to local authority to neighbourhood, etc) social cohesion will vary more between times and places. It is likely to be more important to track changes in response to particular issues or interventions. Therefore, assessment may need to be more frequent, and perhaps more detailed or tightly focussed.

Even if different places draw on a common measurement framework we cannot assume that they will all be able to collect data at the same time or on the same scale. Although more frequent measurement will inevitably incur additional time and resources, such investment may be necessary to produce meaningful and informative data. To ease the cost and administrative load at more local levels, it may also be easier to adopt a more partial or and gradualist approach where not all elements of cohesion are measured at the same time.

In the case of social surveys, the mode of delivery may also need to be considered. For example, online based surveys may be suitable for collecting data from a large sample of the population but may exclude certain individuals such as people where English is not their first language or people who lack access to technology. The use of face to face interviewing methods, as is commonly used by surveys such as Understanding Society and the European Social Survey, may help address these issues, although it brings additional costs in data collection that might be beyond the capacity of local funders. Additionally, in the case of surveys, a consideration of study designs and sampling methods (e.g., longitudinal, random stratified sampling) is also needed. This is again likely to differ by level of locality, with some methods inappropriate for smaller areas. Determining solutions to these practical challenges will be dependent on the budget available for measuring social cohesion. Generally, collecting data more frequently, at a lower level of granularity, and that is inclusive of all groups of people will likely be more operationally expensive.

Aggregating these more local data to make assessments for purposes of national or large regional planning, will also involve methodological and statistical challenges and forethought. Therefore, cooperation and coordination between different local authorities would be a significant advantage to ensure that, over time, all elements of cohesion are assessed in most places within a shared window of time and that they do share common measurement approaches in tandem with bespoke elements.

A further consideration is how best to combine different methods of assessment. Table 1 shows that some measures are derived from social surveys (e.g. Understanding Society, Community Life) and others from administrative data sources, such as census data and other statistics collected by the Office for National Statistics. We expect that measures from both types of source will need to be used.

In summary, any construct (measure) that is to be included in the framework for social cohesion should:

- Capture at least one of the five elements identified by the BA reviews.
- Include measures applicable at different levels of locality so that local cohesion can be seen in the wider context.
- Address both intergroup and intragroup dimensions of cohesion

#### Furthermore,

• The phasing and volume of data collection needs to be coordinated across and between levels of aggregation to maximise its value.

In Table 3, below, we provide a potentially suitable source of measures for each construct and then show what the measure does and does not capture.

The *Relationships* column shows which levels of locality are captured, and whether the measure captures intragroup (within-group) or intergroup (between-group) aspects or neither.

The *Perspective* column shows whether measures capture people's perspectives about themselves and/or others, and whether the measures are attitudinal (A), behavioural (B), or an observed external indicator (Obs). It also shows whether the measure is aggregated (Agg) from individual attitudes, behaviours (e.g. the percentage of people who feel they belong to an area) or from observed metrics (e.g. unemployment rates).

The *Focus* column shows whether the proposed source captures peoples' perceptions of change over time.

The *Elements of Cohesion* column shows which (if any) and with what certainty the measures address each of the five themes of social cohesion proposed by the British Academy.

**Table 3.** Evaluation Framework for Measures of Social Cohesion

	Theme Construct mea		Relationsl	hips		Perspec	tive	Focus		Elei	ment of Cohe	esion	
Theme		Sources of measures and data	Level of measure or analysis	Within or Between Groups	Own	Others	Observed/ Aggregate d	Change Over Time	Identity and Belongin g	Social Economy	Social Responsi bility	Cultural Memory and Tradition	Care for the Future
Trust	Social Trust	Community Life	Neighbourhood and General		A	A		No		X	?		
	Political Trust	Beyond Us and Them	Local and National		A	A		No			X		
	Trust in Institutions	UK Trust in Government Survey	Local, General, National and International		A			No			Х		
	Trust in Political Leaders	Beyond Us and Them	National and Regional		A			No			x		
Identity	Belonging/Iden tity	Beyond Us and Them	Local, National, and Continental	Within	A			No	X				
	•	1		•				•			•	•	
Local Connectio ns	Civic Engagement	Community Life	Local and General		В		AggB	No		X	X		
115	Willingness to Improve Neighbourhood	Beyond Us and Them	Neighbourhood	Within	A			No		X		X	х
	Neighbourlines s	Community Life	Neighbourhood	Within	А,В	A		No		X			
	Willingness to Help Others	Understandi ng Society	Neighbourhood			A		No		х			

			Relationships	Perspe	ective		Focus		Elei	ment of Cohe	esion		
	Construct (measures)	Sources of measures and data	Level of measure or analysis	Within or Between Groups	Own	Others	Observed/ Aggregate d	Change Over Time	Identity and Belongin g	Social Economy	Social Responsi bility	Cultural Memory and Tradition	Care for the Future
Local Connectio	Social Mixing	Community Life	Local and General	Both	В			No	?	Х		?	
ns	Connection/ Social Provision / Social Relations	Beyond Us and Them	Local and General	Within	В			Yes		х		?	
	Embeddedness	Understandi ng Society	Neighbourhood	Within	В			Yes	X			?	?
Prejudice and Intergroup Relations	Openness/Toler ance of Others	Home Office Indicators of Integration	Local	Between	A	A	AggA	No		x		x	
	Free From Discrimination / Respect	Citizenship Survey	Local	Between	A	A		No			Х		
	Inter-Group Unity/Division	Beyond Us and Them	Local and National	Both	A	A		Yes	X			X	
Politics and Social Order	Political Engagement	Beyond Us and Them	General		В			No					х

			Relationships	Level of Within		ective		Focus		Elei	ment of Cohe	sion	
	Construct (measures)	Sources of measures and data	Level of measure or analysis	Within or Between Groups	Own	Others	Observed/ Aggregate d	Change Over Time	Identity and Belongin g	Social Economy	Social Responsi bility	Cultural Memory and Tradition	Care for the Future
Politics and Social	Legitimacy of Institutions / Democracy	Bottoni (2018)	National			A		No			х	х	
Order	Social Order	The Young Foundation	General		A		ObsB	No			Х		
External Indicators	Health Indicators	Home Office Indicators of Integration	General				ObB	No	na				
	Human Capital and Education	Home Office Indicators of Integration	General				ObB	No		?		?	
	Population Stability	Centre for Ageing Better	Local	Between			ObsB	Yes					
	Economic Indicators	Home Office Indicators of Integration	General				Agg,A, ObB	No		х	?		
	Public and Social Infrastructure	Onward	Local and General				AggA, ObB	No		х		?	

## Comparison with Example from a Different Field

To better inform the potential uses of a framework for operationalising social cohesion, we considered examples taken from other fields, and will describe one of these here. Police forces in the UK have a standardised and regularly updated set of metrics that measure levels of crime. Data are derived primarily from police recorded crime statistics as well as the Crime Survey for England and Wales, operated by ONS to record crimes against the population that may not be reported to or recorded by the police. These metrics are delivered quarterly and are broken down by types of crime (e.g. burglary, drug related crimes, public order offences) and geographically by each of the UK policing areas. This allows a comparison of metrics across different regions within the UK. These statistics are supplemented by a range of other data assessing the performance of UK policing more broadly across six categories: comparative crime rates across UK police force areas; case length; stop and search; police workforce diversity; police financial reserves; and 999 performance data. Metrics for each area are available via www.police.uk. Although these metrics are often targeted towards assessing performance, which may not be applicable to social cohesion, the general process and features of capturing crime data provide several practical considerations for informing a measurement framework of social cohesion. For example, as discussed in the following sections, a consideration of policing data may inform how often measures should be captured or what types of data should be collected.

Metrics for these performance areas are taken from a wider range of data sources, including *Police and Crime Commissioner's Statements of Accounts* (for financial reserves data) and British Telecoms (for 999 response time data), broken down by policing area to allow for comparisons.

Whilst policing data is available regularly across comparable regions and allows some level of monitoring to occur, it is still subject to many limitations. For example, despite the use of the *Crime Survey for England and Wales*, it is unlikely that all crime is recorded accurately and inevitably some crimes will be missed. Additionally, the administrative data on recorded crime numbers does not capture the social impact of offending behaviour, such as perceptions on the fear of crime, which may be an important dimension of police effectiveness.

Despite its limitations, the measurement of crime and policing performance provides several practical points for consideration in the measurement of social cohesion in the UK. First, the measurement of police performance, and more implicitly what good performance looks like, is clearly defined with an established framework. Good performance is reflected in metrics such as low (or decreasing) crime rates, quick response times to 999 calls, and short case lengths. Although some social dimensions may be missed in the case of policing, having this clearly defined framework for assessing performance helps guide the decisions regarding what data needs to be measured.

Unlike crime, with a clear goal of reduction, it is not clear at present what a 'bad' or 'good' level of social cohesion looks like, nor what the thresholds between acceptable and unacceptable would be. Indeed, cohesion might be more like the weather – 12 degrees centigrade might be quite pleasant in January, but ruin one's plans in July. However, most people consider the weather to be a very important factor in their short and longer term plans. Similarly, context and purpose will determine whether and which characteristics of cohesion may be viewed with optimism or concern, and how these are used for planning. Yet it will

only be possible to propose and measure against these if we can establish a sufficiently wide and accurate set of indicators. Acceptable or good levels of cohesion might be achieved in a variety of ways, and it will certainly not be the case that we can or should aim to create simple league tables. Instead, it should be possible to identify areas of major strength and weakness or vulnerability, as well as areas in which change is happening more or less rapidly, and these might be the most important things to capture.

Second, the data that underpin crime metrics are regularly updated. By providing data on a quarterly basis, police performance is monitored regularly, which allows declines in performance to be more readily identified and addressed. Likewise, determining the most useful frequency and scale of measurement of social cohesion is an essential task that requires attention to the feasibility, cost and practicalities involved. Relatively frequent and sometimes more focussed and intensive measurement might produce more meaningful and helpful data at more local levels where the evidence can be used more dynamically to sustain and build cohesion in response to changing local contexts. Although it might be more expensive and resource intensive in per capita terms, these costs can be mitigated by other strategies. As noted earlier, there could be a dovetailing with regional measurement on perhaps an annual basis, which in turn dovetails with national measurement every two or three years (a layered measurement approach).

Finally, comparison between policing areas is a key structure of the performance framework for UK police. Ensuring that location data is available and linked to other relevant metrics is crucial for allowing such comparison to occur, and a similar approach will likely be needed for measuring social cohesion. With cohesion, comparability of data will also be invaluable, but the purpose of comparison may be more complex because of the potential value of linking between areas. Rather than a ranking (league table) process there is more opportunity to establish a picture that reveals complementary strengths as well as shared threats to cohesion.

To summarise, there will certainly be valuable insights to be gained from existing frameworks for measurement in other areas. However, it seems likely that the greatest value in measuring cohesion is not the potential to compare or rank different areas, but to be able to identify the particular challenges and opportunities relevant for different places and levels of aggregation and that reflect the diverse features that can strengthen or weaken societal resilience at all levels.

#### Conclusion

In this report we have reviewed the current landscape of social cohesion measurement. Our aim was to assess current practice and offer a framework that builds on what has gone before and thereby to offer a more comprehensive basis for measurement. We have assessed the usefulness of current measures of social cohesion at capturing cohesion at different levels of locality. We provided an evaluative framework for considering a potential set of candidate metrics for measuring social cohesion within the UK. As part of this framework, we have also addressed some important practical parameters to be considered in measuring social cohesion, such as the frequency and quantity of data required and different modes of measurement. We have also considered a measurement example from a different field to highlight both similarities and differences that might apply to evidence collection for social cohesion.

In assessing the usefulness of current measures of social cohesion, we find that inconsistent conceptualisation and definition of social cohesion has resulted in varied and inconsistent measurement practices. Across 23 different data sources, we identified 23 different elements of social cohesion, measured by more than 300 different items. These items varied in their wording, the level of locality they targeted, and their mode and method of collection (e.g. survey questions vs. external indicators). This measurement landscape exposed four key areas to be addressed in order to move the measurement of social cohesion forward: parameters around definitions and conceptualisation; level of locality, comparability of items, and usability of data.

Moving from evidence to inference we have proposed a framework for determining the appropriateness of social cohesion measures. The framework is intended to clarify what suitable measures of social cohesion should look like and what they should achieve.

We suggest that candidate measures of social cohesion should collectively capture the elements of social cohesion set forth in the British Academy's (2019) review: identity and belonging, social economy, social responsibility, cultural memory and tradition, and care for the future. The measures should be designed to capture social cohesion itself and should be distinguished from those that might detect other antecedents or consequences.

Because social cohesion is always a relational concept it is necessary to attend to how different levels and groupings connect with one another. Therefore some of the measures should: capture more than one level of locality; include intergroup and intragroup dimensions; assess people's own behaviour and perceptions, as well as the perceptions of their relationships with others, and; assess actual and perceived change over time.

A collection of measures that fulfil these criteria will capture social cohesion in a way that is empirically and theoretically defensible. It will be better able to reveal how social cohesion changes over time, how social cohesion is manifested, and how it can be compared at different levels of locality.

We also pointed to a set of practical considerations when developing and applying a measure of social cohesion. Given the likelihood that social cohesion will fluctuate more at more granular levels of locality, measurement should be more frequent at local levels than at regional or national levels. Capturing data at localised levels may additionally require more intensive and adapted modes of measurement. More frequent and localised measurement may be more resource intensive but if conducted systematically, can provide more informative and more immediately usable data. If such measures successfully flag localised tensions before they escalate there may be significant savings in terms of avoiding longer term costs and difficulties.

We considered an example from the measurement of police performance to reveal complementarities as well as distinctive issues in measuring social cohesion. This reinforced the need for a clear definition and conceptualisation of social cohesion and of intended impacts or outcomes in policies that affect cohesion. Because cohesion is multifaceted, it is not amenable to description in terms of simple ranking, but it measurement should and will enable identification where multiple aspects may be weak or strong, or where particular aspects represent significant risks or advantages in terms of capacity and resilience.

We recognise that this review represents an initial step in a much larger endeavour towards measuring social cohesion effectively. The proposed framework offers general criteria for the measurement of social cohesion. Further empirical work will certainly be required to develop a set of measures that are statistically and methodologically defensible, reliable, and valid.

Finally, we are keenly aware that this review has focussed only on quantitative indicators. Yet at local and hyperlocal levels it is likely that other forms of evidence will often be useful and required, particularly qualitative, ethnographic and other sources. Moreover, there needs to be a continual cycle of connection between these and the quantitative work. Nevertheless, many and perhaps all, of the elements of cohesion that can and should be measured quantitatively are amenable to qualitative assessment, and the framework provided here should be useful in guiding what to examine, albeit with different methodologies.

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# **Appendix: Item Database for Measures of Social Cohesion**

Construct/Domain	Data Source	Survey Items/Indicator	Year Last Used	Level of Locality	Indicator or Survey Item
	Beyond Us and Them	How much do you feel that you belong to your local area?	2022	Local	Survey Item
		These questions measure how English, British and European you feel. Please, indicate your answer to each one:			
	Beyond Us and Them	<ul> <li>I feel personally connected to [local area name]</li> <li>I feel like I belong in [local area name]</li> <li>I feel English</li> <li>Being English is important to me</li> <li>I feel British</li> <li>Being British is important to me</li> <li>I feel European</li> <li>Being European is important to me</li> </ul>	2021	Local, National, and Continental	Survey Item
Belonging and	Being European is important to me  Centre for Ageing Better  I feel a sense of belonging to my neighbourhood/local area		2022	Neighbourhood and Local	Survey Item
Identity	Chan et al. (2006)	Overall speaking, how strong is your sense of belonging to this country (1-10 scale)?	2006	National	Survey Item
	Chan et al. (2006)	To what extent do you agree with the following statements?  • "I feel proud of being a member of this country"  • "Despite its many defects this country is still our home"	2006	National	Survey Item
	Citizenship Survey	<ul> <li>How strongly do you feel you belong to</li> <li>First, your immediate neighbourhood?</li> <li>And now your local area? By this I mean the area within a 15-20 minute walk from your home</li> <li>Britain?</li> </ul>	2011	Neighbourhood , Local, and National	Survey Item
	Community Life	<ul> <li>How strongly do you feel you belong to your immediate neighbourhood?</li> <li>How strongly do you feel you belong to Britain?</li> </ul>	2021	Neighbourhood and National	Survey Item

European Social Survey	<ul> <li>How emotionally attached do you feel to [country]?</li> <li>Please choose a number from 0 to 10, where 0 means not at all emotionally attached and 10 means very emotionally attached.</li> <li>And how emotionally attached do you feel to Europe?</li> </ul>	2020	National and Continental	Survey Item
European Social Survey	Please say to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements - I feel close to the people in my local area	Planned Question for 2025 survey (previously measured 2012)	Local	Survey Item
European Values Study	People have different views about themselves and how they relate to the world. Using this card, would you tell me how close do you feel to?  to own town/city to your [county, region, district] to [country] to [continent] to world	2020	Local, Regional, National, Continental and International	Survey Item
Home Office Indicators of Integration	% acquiring citizenship	2019	National	Indicator
Home Office Indicators of Integration	% reporting sense of 'belonging' to neighbourhood and local area	2019	Neighbourhood and Local	Indicator
International Social Survey	How close do you feel to  your town or city your [county] [COUNTRY] [Continent; e.g. Europe]		Local, Regional, National, and Continental	Survey Item

	Janmaat (2011)	Which of these geographical groups would you say you belong to first of all? (locality or town; region; country; continent; world)	2011	Local, Regional, National, Continental and International	Survey Item
	Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	How strongly do you feel you belong to the local area? How strongly do you feel you belong to Britain?	2019	Local and National	Survey Item
	Royal Voluntary Service	How strongly do you feel you belong to your immediate neighbourhood?	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item
	The Young Foundation	Percentage of adults who fell they very or fairly strongly belong to their immediate neighbourhood	2021	Neighbourhood	Indicator
	Understanding Society	<ul> <li>I feel like I belong to this neighbourhood</li> <li>I think of myself as similar to the people that live in this neighbourhood</li> </ul>	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item
Civic Engagement and Participation	Beyond Us and Them	Please indicate which, if any, of the following activities you have done during the past month.  • Volunteered  • Made a donation  • None of the above	2021	General	Survey Item
	Bottoni (2018)	<ul> <li>Worked in another organisation or association last 12 months</li> <li>Involved in work for voluntary or charitable organisations, how often past 12 months</li> </ul>	2018	General	Survey Item

Chan et al. (2006)	<ul> <li>Are you a member of the community groups, political parties, pressure groups, trade unions, professional societies, churches, clubs etc.? If so, how often do you usually participate in their activities?</li> <li>Could you describe your depth of participation in the above organization(s)? Mere members? Regular event helpers? Or chief organizers?</li> <li>How often do you help your neighbors/friends on matters like household work, financial problems and emotional problems?</li> <li>How many hours of (organized) voluntary work you have done over the last year?</li> <li>How much donation (to charities or social groups) you have made over the last year?</li> </ul>	2006	Neighbourhood and General	Survey Item
Chan et al. (2006)	If you are a chief organizer of the above organization(s), could you please tell us if there are any other groups in society that your organization(s) will	2006	General	Survey Item
	<ul><li>regularly cooperate with? (please specify)</li><li>be unwilling to collaborate with? (please specify)</li></ul>			

In the last 12 months, that is since [date], have you taken part in a consultation about local services or problems in your local area in any of the ways listed on this card? (1) Completing a questionnaire (about local services or problems in the local area) (2) Attending a public meeting (about local services or problems in the local area) (3) Being involved in a group set up to discuss local services or problems in the local area (4) None of these In the last 12 months, that is since [date] have you done any of the things listed on this card? Please include any activities you have already told me about. Please do not Local and include any activities related to your job. 2011 Survey Item General (1) Been a local councillor (for local authority, town or parish) (2) Been a school governor (3) Been a volunteer Special Constable (4) Been a Magistrate (5) None of these In the past 4 weeks, have you given any money to charity in any of the ways shown on this card or through any other method? In a moment I'll give you some cards. Please pick out the ones which best describe any groups, clubs or organisations you've taken part in, supported or helped over the last 12 months.

Citizenship Survey

(A) Children's education/schools

(B) Youth/children's activities (outside school)

- (C) Education for adults
- (D) Sport/exercise (taking part, coaching or going to watch)
- (E) Religion
- (F) Politics
- (G) The elderly
- (H) Health, Disability and Social welfare
- (I) Safety, First Aid
- (J) The environment, animals
- (K) Justice and Human Rights
- (L) Local community or neighbourhood groups
- (M) Citizens' Groups
- (N) Hobbies, Recreation/Arts/Social clubs
- (O) Trade union activity

Other

None of these

In the last 12 months, that is since [DATE ONE YEAR AGO], have you taken part in a consultation about local services or issues in your local area through any of these ways?

Please select all that apply.

- 1. Completing a paper or online questionnaire
- 2. Attending a public meeting
- 3. Being involved in a face-to-face or online group
- 4. None of these

In the last 12 months, that is since [DATE ONE YEAR AGO] have you done any of these things?

- 1. Been a local councillor (for local authority, town or parish)
- 2. Been a school governor
- 3. Been a volunteer Special Constable
- 4. Been a Magistrate
- 5. None of the above

2021 General Survey Item

Community Life

And again in the last 12 months, that is since [DATE ONE YEAR AGO], have you been a member of any of the following decision making groups in your local area? Please select all that apply.

- 1. A group making decisions on local health services
- 2. A decision making group set up to regenerate the local area
- 3. A decision making group set up to tackle local crime problems
- 4. A tenants' group decision making committee
- 5. A group making decisions on local education services
- 6. A group making decisions on local services for young people
- 7. Another group making decisions on services in the local community
- 8. None of these

	Excluding any paid or unpaid work or help, have you used			
	any of these charity services within the last 12 months?			
Community Life	Food banks (e.g. The Trussell Trust) Mental health charities (e.g. Samaritans, Mind, support helplines) Physical health, wellbeing support and disability groups (e.g. Macmillan Cancer Support, St John's Ambulance, Great Ormand Street Hospital, Scope) Housing charities (e.g. Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust, Centre Point, Shelter) Loneliness and befriending charities (e.g. Age UK) Youth clubs and groups, either for yourself or for a child (e.g. Scouts, youth centres, play groups) Victim support and rehabilitation services (e.g. women's shelters, social justice, victim arbitration) Training and skills provided by charities (e.g. employability skills such as interview preparation, work placements, mentoring) Arts, culture, leisure, or sport supported by charities (e.g. public museums, National Trust, Parkrun) Advocacy and Legal services charities (e.g. Citizen's Advice Bureau, Legal Aid)	2021	General	Survey Item
	Other (please specify)			

For each of the following types of groups, clubs or organisations, please state whether you have been involved with any of these during the last 12 months, that is since [DATE ONE YEAR AGO].

Children's education/schools (e.g. Parent Teacher Associations, School governor, supporting fairs and fundraising, Helping in school, Running pupils' clubs) Youth/children's activities (outside school) (e.g. Youth clubs, Sports clubs, Hobby or cultural groups for children) Education for adults (e.g. Attending or teaching classes,, Mentoring, Cultural groups, Students Union, College governor)

Sport/exercise (taking part, coaching or going to watch) (e.g. Sports clubs or groups (e.g. football, swimming, fishing, golf, keep-fit, hiking, Supporter clubs) Religion (e.g. Attending a place of worship (church, chapel, mosque, temple, synagogue, Attending faith-based groups, Saturday/Sunday School)

Community Life

Older people (e.g. Involved with groups, clubs or organisations for older people e.g. Age UK, Pensioner's clubs, visiting, transporting or representing older people) Health, Disability and Social welfare (e.g. Medical research charities, Hospital visiting, Disability groups, Oxfam, NSPCC, Samaritans, Citizens Advice Bureau, Offering respite care, Self-help groups (e.g. Alcoholics Anonymous)) Safety, First Aid (e.g. Red Cross, St. Johns Ambulance, Life

Saving, RNLI, Mountain Rescue, Helping after a disaster) The environment, animals (e.g. National organisations (e.g. Greenpeace, National Trust, RSPCA), Local conservation groups, Preservation societies)

Justice and Human Rights (e.g. Special Constable, Magistrate, Legal advice centre, Victim Support, Prison visiting or aftercare, Justice and peace groups, Community or race relations, LGBT groups, National organisations (e.g. Amnesty International)

Local community or neighbourhood groups (e.g. Tenants' / Residents' Association, Neighbourhood Watch, community 2021 General Survey Item

group, local pressure group)
Citizens' Groups (e.g. Rotary Club, Lion's Club, Women's Institute (WI), Freemasons)
Hobbies, Recreation/Arts/Social clubs (e. g. Clubs or groups for the Arts (e.g. theatres, museums, amateur dramatics, orchestras), Hobby or cultural groups (e.g. local history club, Social club)
Trade union activity (e. g. Membership of, or involvement with, a trade union.)

Please look carefully at the following list of voluntary organisations and say which, if any, do you belong to?

- religious organization
- cultural activities
- trade unions

European Values Study

- political parties/groups
- environment, ecology, animal rights
- professional associations
- sports/recreation
- charitable/humanitarian organization
- consumer organization
- self-help group, mutual aid group
- other groups

2020 General

Survey Item

42

<ul> <li>% participating in a community organisation or involved in religious group</li> </ul>			
or association			
<ul> <li>% participating in youth clubs, childcare facilities, sports</li> </ul>			
clubs, trade unions and			
other organisations			
<ul> <li>% attending communal spaces (including places of</li> </ul>			
religious worship) where they			
mix with people from different backgrounds			
<ul> <li>% volunteering/helping in the community in the past</li> </ul>			
month			
• % assuming office or representational functions with local			
community			
organisations or committees (e.g. playgroup board, PTAs,			
patient group,			
residents' association, Neighbourhood Watch)			
<ul> <li>% active within school PTAs, NGOs or governing bodies</li> </ul>	2019	General	Indicator
<ul><li>% using statutory and other services</li></ul>			
<ul> <li>% having awareness of procedures for complaining about</li> </ul>			
goods and services			
<ul><li>% in leadership/management positions</li></ul>			
<ul> <li>Awareness of key institutions, rights, supports and</li> </ul>			
pathways to participation			
% membership of local library			
% membership of local sports facilities			
% participation in local social and leisure groups			
% reporting engagement in at least one preferred leisure			
activity in the last month			
% engaging with UK cultural institutions and events (e.g.			
and the self-self-self-self-self-self-self-self-			

Home Office Indicators of Integration

museums, local festivals, cultural celebrations)

	In the past 12 months, how often, if at all, have you taken part in activities?			
International Social Survey	of groups or associations for leisure, sports or culture?	2017	General	Indicator
	of charitable or religious organisations that do voluntary work?			
Janmaat (2011)	Please look carefully at the following list of voluntary organizations and activities and say which, if any, do you belong to: [respondent can choose from 9 different organizations]	2011	General	Survey Item
Jenson (2010)	<ul> <li>Rate of participation in voluntary associations         <ul> <li>percentage of people who are members of a voluntary association.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	2010	General	Indicator
	<ul> <li>Charitable giving – percentage of population making a charitable gift.</li> </ul>			
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	How important is it for you personally to feel that you can influence decisions in your local area?	2019	Local	Survey Item

Onward (Social Fabric)	<ul> <li>Share of population reporting Gift Aid donations</li> <li>Faith schools as a share of all schools</li> <li>Religious marriages as share of all ceremonies</li> <li>Share of people with no religion</li> <li>Share who attend religious services and participate in religious groups</li> <li>Share of population as members of Neighbourhood Watch or Residents' Association</li> <li>Share of people who volunteer once a month</li> <li>Share of people who volunteered in last year</li> <li>Share of people who actively participate in a local organisation</li> <li>Share of people who are a member of a local organisation</li> <li>Share of people are satisfied with their leisure time</li> <li>Share of parents who spend leisure time with their child(ren) several times a week</li> <li>Regular sporting activity</li> <li>Proportion of people who go out socially and meet friends when you feel like it.</li> </ul>	2020	General	Indicator
The Young Foundation	Number of formal volunteers  Number of informal volunteers  Percentage of adults who have participated in civic consultation at least once in the last 12 months  Percentage of adults who have participated in civic activism at least once in the last year  Percentage of adults who have participated in civic participation at least once in the last year	2021	General	Indicator
Understanding Society	In the last 12 months, have you given any unpaid help or worked as a volunteer for any type of local, national or international organisation or charity?	2019	General	Survey Item

	Understanding Society	Whether you are a member or not, do you join in the activities of any of these organisations on a regular basis?  Trade Unions Environmental group Parents'/School Association Tenants'/Residents' Group or Neighbourhood Watch Religious group or church organisation Voluntary services group Pensioners group/organisation Scouts/Guides organisation Professional organisation Other community or civic group Social Club/Working men's club Sports Club Women's Institute/Townswomen's Guild Women's Group/Feminist Organisation Other group or organisation	2021	General	Survey Item
Connection/ Social Provision / Social	Beyond Us and Them	<ul> <li>How would you say your connection with your family has changed during the past month?</li> <li>What about your connection with friends and acquaintances?</li> <li>And with your work colleagues?</li> <li>And with your neighbours?</li> <li>And with people from your local area?</li> </ul>	2021	Local and General	Survey Item
Relations	Bottoni (2018)	<ul> <li>How often socially meet with friends, relatives or colleagues</li> <li>How many people with whom you can discuss intimate and personal matters</li> <li>Take part in social activities compared to others of same age</li> </ul>	2018	General	Survey Item

Centre for Longitudinal Studies (e.g. Next Steps, Millennium Cohort Study)	In answering the following questions, think about your current relationships with friends, family members, community members, and so on. Please indicate to what extent each statement describes your current relationships with other people.  • I have family and friends who help me feel safe, secure and happy • There is someone I trust whom I would turn to for advice if I were having problems • There is no one I feel close to	2021	General	Survey Item
European Social Survey	How much social support do you receive on social media and online more generally?	Planned Question for 2025 survey	General	Survey Item
Home Office Indicators of Integration	<ul> <li>% reporting that they have someone from own community to talk with when needing support</li> <li>% able to use social media to retain or develop social contacts with relatives and friends</li> </ul>	2019	Local and General	Indicator
International Social Survey	How often do you go out to eat or drink with three or more friends or acquaintances who are not family members?	2017	General	Survey Item
Royal Voluntary Service	Do you feel more or less connected to your immediate neighbourhood and your neighbours since the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak?	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item
Understanding Society	• The friendships and associations I have with other people in my neighbourhood mean a lot to me	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item

Economic Indicators	Home Office Indicators of Integration	<ul> <li>% participating in pathways to work (e.g. apprenticeships, work experience or mentoring/ shadowing schemes)</li> <li>% (eligible/able to work) in paid work</li> <li>% employed at a level appropriate to skills, qualifications and experience</li> <li>% employed across diverse range of employment sectors</li> <li>% holding different kinds of employment contracts (zerohours, part-time; self-employed; temporary, etc.)</li> <li>% individuals (eligible/able to work) using services of local enterprise company business start-up initiatives</li> <li>% earning national average annual earnings</li> <li>% individuals and/or households who are economically self-supporting and independent</li> <li>% reporting satisfaction with current employment</li> <li>% in unpaid or voluntary work</li> <li>Perceptions of employment opportunities and barriers to securing employment</li> <li>% with retirement plans</li> <li>Awareness of key institutions, rights, supports and pathways to participation</li> <li>% reporting financial insecurity</li> <li>% reporting financial inclusion</li> <li>% homeless</li> </ul>	2019	General	Indicator
	Janmaat (2011)	1 minus Gini coefficient of income inequality	2011	National	Indicator

	The Gini coefficient, which is a measure of inequality of income distribution or inequality of wealth distribution.			
Jenson (2010)	<ul> <li>Measures of income shares, including</li> <li>the share of middle 60 per cent of the population</li> <li>income share held by highest 10 per cent</li> <li>income share held by highest 20 per cent</li> <li>income share held by lowest 10 per cent</li> <li>income share held by lowest 20 per cent</li> </ul>	2010	National	Indicator
	<ul> <li>Measures of poverty:         <ul> <li>percentage of population meeting the poverty</li> <li>headcount ratio at \$1 a day</li> <li>percentage of population meeting the poverty</li> <li>headcount ratio at \$2 a day</li> <li>percentage of population at national poverty line.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			
Jenson (2010)	<ul> <li>Unemployment rate (percentage of total labour force)         <ul> <li>youth unemployment (percentage of total labour force aged 15–24)</li> <li>female unemployment (percentage of total female labour force)</li> <li>minority (minorities) unemployment rate. This measure may not be appropriate to all small states. It should also, if possible, be analysed by sex and for youth</li> <li>immigrant unemployment rate. This measure may not be appropriate to all small states. It should also, if possible, be analysed by sex and for youth.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	2010	National	Indicator
	<ul> <li>Employment in the informal economy, as a percentage of total employment</li> <li>the ratio between the number of persons employed in the informal economy and the total number of employed persons.</li> </ul>			

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	Are you currently  • Working full time (35 hours per week)  • Working part-time (fewer than 35 hours per week)  • Unemployed  • Looking after children  • In full time education  • Retired  • Not working due to ill/health/ on sick leave  • Other  • Don't know	2019	General	Survey Item
	Thinking about your current employment would you say that your job • fully uses your skills and qualifications • partially uses your skills and qualifications • does not use your skills and qualifications			
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	To what extent do you agree or disagree that there are opportunities in the local area to get the right support with finding or entering work?	2019	Local	Survey Item
Onward (Social Fabric)	Share of people in secure housing, including owner occupiers and social rent Share of people unemployed Jobs per working age person Share who are economically inactive Average weekly hours worked for full-time and part time workers Median gross weekly pay	2020	General	Indicator
	Share of people put money away as savings Average monthly savings Average expenditure on groceries.  Core spending power of local authorities			
The Young Foundation	The number of jobs per resident aged 16-64 Percentage of new businesses that survive 1 year	2021	General	Indicator

	Citizenship Survey	Roughly how many years have you lived in this neighbourhood?			
Embeddedness	Community Life	Roughly how many years have you lived in your current neighbourhood?	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item
Embeddedness	Home Office Indicators of Integration	% reporting intention to remain in neighbourhood for three or more years			
	Understanding Society	I plan to remain a resident of this neighbourhood for a number of years	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item
Free From		<ul> <li>And would you agree or disagree that residents in this local area respect ethnic differences between people?</li> <li>There are a number of things that can cause problems for people in their local area. In this local area how much of a problem is racial or religious harassment even if it doesn't affect you personally?</li> </ul>			
Discrimination / Respect	Citizenship Survey	<ul> <li>How worried are you about being physically attacked because of your skin colour, ethnic origin or religion?</li> </ul>	2021	Local	Survey Item
		<ul> <li>In general, do you personally feel you are able to practise your religion freely in Britain?</li> </ul>			

Home Office Indicators of Integration	% people who feel they are able to practice their religion freely % women reporting sexual victimisation and/or domestic violence % reporting experience of racial, cultural or religious harassment or incidents % reporting a hate crime % school-age children reporting experience of incidents of bullying or racist abuse in schools % stopped and searched by police % overall population reporting knowledge of anti-discrimination laws	2019	General	Indicator
Longitudinal Study of Young People in England	<ul> <li>People round where I live usually respect each others' religious differences</li> <li>Britain today is a place where people are usually treated fairly no matter what background they come from</li> <li>Britain is a free country where everyone's rights are respected no matter what their background</li> <li>How much discrimination do you feel there is in Britain today</li> <li>How fairly do you think people like yourself are treated by Government in Britain today</li> <li>It is easier now for people like me to get on and improve things for themselves than it was for my parents</li> </ul>	2009	Local and National	Survey Item
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	To what extent do you agree or disagree that residents in this local area respect differences between other people in the area?  Is racial or religious harassment a problem in this area even if it doesn't affect you personally?	2019	Local	Survey Item

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

How worried are you about being physically attacked because of your skin colour, ethnic origin or religion?

2019

General

Survey Item

and Adolescent Mental

Health (CAMH) wards

% (18+) in contact with specialist mental health services Total psychiatric inpatient beds per 100,000 population Number of days of hospital stays

% re-admissions to hospital within 30 days of discharge % individuals understanding how to access health and social care (access to services relating to disability, domestic abuse, safeguarding, culturally sensitive advocacy etc.)

% in residential or nursing care homes

% individuals aware of preventative health measures (e.g. diet, exercise and quitting smoking, substance misuse) % individuals reporting satisfaction with service provision Under 75 mortality rate from all causes (male and female) % who said they had good experience when making a GP appointment

% who successfully obtained an NHS dental appointment in the last two years

% reporting high happiness and life satisfaction

% 15 year olds physically active for at least one hour per day seven days a week

% adults who do any walking, at least five times per week Wellbeing in 15 year olds: mean wellbeing (WEMWBS) score age 15

Young person hospital admissions for mental health

conditions: rate per 100,000

% on GP register for mental health

Social care mental health clients in residential or nursing care (aged 18-64):

rate per 100,000 population

% service users who say social care services have made them feel safe and secure

TB incidence (three year average)

% adult social care users who have as much social contact as they would like

Years of life lost due to suicide

Years of life lost due to alcohol-related conditions

Potential years of life lost due to smoking related illness Awareness of key institutions, rights, supports and pathways to participation

Jenson (2010)	<ul> <li>Life expectancy at birth, in years <ul> <li>total</li> <li>for males and females</li> <li>for minorities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Mortality rate, infant (per 1,000 live births) <ul> <li>total</li> <li>for minorities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Mortality rate, under fives (per 1,000) <ul> <li>total</li> <li>for minorities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Births attended by skilled health staff (percentage of total) <ul> <li>total</li> <li>for minorities.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	2010	General	Indicator
Onward (Social Fabric)	Good or outstanding GP surgeries per capita  Share of people who rate local medical facilities as very good or excellent	2020	General	Indicator
Onward (Social Fabric)	Age-standardised suicide rate per 100,000 population Proportion of people who currently smoke Proportion of adults who are dependent on alcohol Healthy life expectancy	2020	General	Indicator
The Young Foundation	Total number of registered patients by clinical commissioning group	2021	General	Indicator

	Human Capital/Education	Home Office Indicators of Integration	<ul> <li>% achieving specified key stages at primary level (or equivalent)</li> <li>% achieving five or more GCSEs / Standard Grades at 9-4 (A*-C) (or equivalent)</li> <li>% achieving two or more 'A' level or Advanced Higher passes (or equivalent)</li> <li>% students excluded from school</li> <li>% young people and adults achieving admission to tertiary education</li> <li>% individuals completing vocational qualification</li> <li>% completing Access to Higher Education Diploma</li> <li>% young people and adults achieving admission to university</li> <li>% dropping out of university / further education</li> <li>% children participating in pre-school education</li> <li>% children participating in lunchtime and after school clubs</li> <li>Representation of diversity of local population in schools</li> <li>Students' self-reported feeling of belonging at school</li> <li>% not in employment, education or training (NEET)</li> <li>Awareness of key institutions, rights, supports and pathways to participation</li> <li>Adult literacy rate</li> <li>% participating in ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes or equivalent adult English language learning</li> <li>% regularly attending ESOL classes or equivalent adult English language learning</li> <li>% progressing to ESOL Entry level 3 required to apply for British citizenship (B1 on Common European framework) within 2 years of receiving status</li> <li>% reporting satisfaction with local ESOL provision (or equivalent)</li> <li>% people who do not have English as a first language reporting ability to hold simple conversation with a local language speaker (e.g. a</li> </ul>	2019	General	Indicator
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neighbour)

% participating in initiatives to provide language practice outside of classes (e.g. through social activities, with mentors or through volunteering)
% maintaining native language alongside learning new language

% reporting confidence in using technology to access digital services
% reporting confidence in using technology to communicate with friends or family
(i.e. through the internet)
% accessing digital training courses

Literacy rate, adult total (percentage of people aged 15 and above)

- adult female (percentage of females aged 15 and above)
- adult male (percentage of males aged 15 and above).
- Percentage of population over 15 who have not completed primary education.
- male and female as well as total rates.

Jenson (2010)

- Percentage of population over 20 who have not completed secondary education.
- male and female as well as total rates.
- Percentage of children of secondary school age enrolled in secondary education.
- Percentage of population aged 18–24 in tertiary education.

2010 General Indicator

	What is	your main	language?
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How well can you speak English?

Starting from the top of this list, please select the first one you come to that you have passed.

- 1. Higher degree/postgraduate qualifications
- First degree (including BEd) Postgraduate Diplomas/
   Certificates (including PGCE) Professional qualifications at
   Degree level (eg chartered accountant/ surveyor) NVQ/SVQ
   Level 4 or 5
- 3. Diplomas in higher education/ other HE qualification HNC/

HND/ BTEC higher Teaching qualifications for schools/ further

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government education (below degree level) Nursing/ other medical qualifications (below degree level) RSA Higher Diploma

- 4. A/AS levels/ SCE higher/ Scottish Certificate 6th Year Studies NVQ/ SVQ/ GSVQ level 3/ GNVQ Advanced ONC/ OND/ BTEC National City and Guilds Advanced Craft/ Final level/ Part III RSA Advanced Diploma
- 5. Trade Apprenticeships
- 6. O level/ GCSE Grades A\*-C/ SCE Standard/ Ordinary Grades
- 1-3 NVQ/SVQ/ GSVQ level 2/ GNVQ intermediate BTEC/ SCOTVEC First/ General diploma City and Guilds Craft/ Ordinary level/ Part II/ RSA Diploma
- 7. O level/GCSE grade D-G/ SCE Standard/Ordinary grades below 3 NVQ/SVQ/ GSVQ level 1/ GNVQ foundation BTEC/ SCOTVEC First/ General certificate City and Guilds Part I/

Stage I-III SCOTVEC modules/ Junior Certificate 8. Other qualifications including overseas

2019 General Survey Item

	Good or outstanding schools per capita			
Onward (Social Fabric)	Share of students who achieve 5 or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 or equivalent or 5 Highers in Scotland	2020	General	Indicator
	Proportion of people with NVQ4 or higher			
Onward (Social Fabric)	Proportion of people who live on their own Marriages per capita Proportion of households with children Number of pregnancies in women under the age of 18 per 1,000 women aged 15-17	2020	General	Indicator
The Young Foundation	Percentage of pupils achieving grades A*-C in both English and Mathematics  Proportion of young people (18-24) not in employment, education or training	2021	General	Indicator
	Onward (Social Fabric)	Onward (Social Fabric)  Share of students who achieve 5 or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 or equivalent or 5 Highers in Scotland  Proportion of people with NVQ4 or higher  Proportion of people who live on their own Marriages per capita Proportion of households with children Number of pregnancies in women under the age of 18 per 1,000 women aged 15-17  Percentage of pupils achieving grades A*-C in both English and Mathematics	Onward (Social Fabric)  Share of students who achieve 5 or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 or equivalent or 5 Highers in Scotland  Proportion of people with NVQ4 or higher  Proportion of people who live on their own Marriages per capita Proportion of households with children Number of pregnancies in women under the age of 18 per 1,000 women aged 15-17  Percentage of pupils achieving grades A*-C in both English and Mathematics  The Young Foundation  2021  Proportion of young people (18-24) not in employment,	Onward (Social Fabric)  Share of students who achieve 5 or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 or equivalent or 5 Highers in Scotland  Proportion of people with NVQ4 or higher  Proportion of people who live on their own Marriages per capita Proportion of households with children Number of pregnancies in women under the age of 18 per 1,000 women aged 15-17  Percentage of pupils achieving grades A*-C in both English and Mathematics  The Young Foundation  Proportion of young people (18-24) not in employment,

Inter-Group Unity/Division	Beyond Us and Them	Some groups are becoming more united and others less so. To what extent do you think the members of each group listed below are becoming more united or more divided amongst themselves during the current crisis  • The UK as a whole • Scotland • England • Wales • Kent • Young people • Older people • People concerned about the environment • People who voted to Leave the EU • People who voted to Remain in the EU • Muslim people • Christian people • Christian people • People with a disability • Unions • People in your local area	2021	National and Local	Survey Item
	British Social Attitudes Survey	How much do you agree or disagree that being a member of the European Union undermines Britain's distinctive identity?	2019	National	Survey Item
		In all countries, there are differences or even conflicts between different social groups. In your opinion, in Britain how much conflict is there between			
	British Social Attitudes Survey	<ul> <li>Poor people and rich people?</li> <li>The working class and the middle class?</li> <li>Management and workers?</li> <li>Young people and older people?</li> <li>People born in Britain and people from other countries who have come to live in Britain?</li> </ul>	2019	National	Survey Item

	International Social Survey  Ministry of Housing,	In all countries, there are differences or even conflicts between different social groups. In your opinion, in [COUNTRY] how much conflict is there between  poor people and rich people? the working class and the middle class? management and workers? young people and older people? people born in [COUNTRY] and people from other countries who have come to live in [COUNTRY]?	2019	National	Survey Item
	Communities & Local Government	How much tension is there between people from different ethnic groups in this local area?	2019	Local	Survey Item
	Bottoni (2018)	<ul> <li>How satisfied with the national government</li> <li>How satisfied with the way democracy works in country</li> <li>State of education in country nowadays</li> <li>State of health services in country nowadays</li> </ul>	2018	National	Survey Item
Legitimacy of Institutions / Democracy	British Election Study	<ul> <li>On the whole, how would you describe the following parties nowadays? (Capable of being a strong government, Not Capable of being a strong government, Neither or both)</li> <li>On the whole, how would you describe the following parties nowadays? (Breaks promises, keeps promises, neither or both for main political parties)</li> </ul>	2019	National	Survey Item

	Generally speaking those we elect as MPs lose touch with people pretty quickly			
British Social Attitudes Survey	Parties are only interested in people's votes, not in their opinions.	2019	National	Survey Item
	It doesn't really matter which party is in power, in the end things go on much the same.			
	People like me have no say in what the government does.			
	Firstly, do you agree or disagree that you can influence decisions affecting your local area?	2011	Local and	
Citizenship Survey	And affecting Wales? And affecting London? And affecting Britain?		National	Survey Item
European Values Study	And how democratically is this country being governed today?	2020	National	Survey Item
	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?			
International Social Survey	People like me don't have any say about what the government does	2016	National	Survey Item
	I don't think the government cares much what people like me think			
	How well does democracy work in (COUNTRY) today?			
Janmaat (2011)	For each one of the following political systems, how good a way would you say it is of governing this country? - Having a democratic political system	2011	National	Survey Item

		Onward (Social Fabric)	Share of people who believe 'people like me have no say about what the government does	2020	National	Survey Item
		The Young Foundation	Percentage of adults agreeing that they personally can influence decisions affecting their local area	2021	Local	Indicator
			Public officials don't care much about what people like me think.			
		Understanding Society	People like me don't have any say in what the government does	2021	National	Survey Item
			On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, a little dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the way democracy works in this country?			
		Beyond Us and Them	How much do you enjoy spending time with other people in your local area?	2021	Local	Survey Item
		Bottoni (2018)	Feel people in local area help one another	2018	Local	Survey Item
			If I were ill or unable to leave my home, I know people I could count on to help out			
Neighbourliness	ourliness	Centre for Ageing Better	I know people I say hello to in my local area	2022	Local	Survey Item
			I have a good level of contact with others in my local area			
		Citizenship Survey	To what extent would you agree or disagree that people in this neighbourhood pull together to improve the neighbourhood?	2011	Neighbourhood	Survey Item

Community Life	<ul> <li>How often do you chat to your neighbours, more than to just say hello?</li> <li>Why don't you chat to your neighbours more often?</li> <li>Generally, I borrow things and exchange favours with my neighbours.</li> <li>How comfortable would you be asking a neighbour to keep a set of keys to your home for emergencies, for example if you were locked out?</li> <li>How comfortable would you be asking a neighbour to mind your child(ren) for half an hour?</li> <li>If you were ill and at home on your own, and needed someone to collect a few shopping essentials, how comfortable would you feel asking a neighbour to do this for you?</li> </ul>	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item
European Social Survey	Please tell me to what extent you feel that people in your local area help one another?	Planned Question for 2025 survey (previously measured 2012)	Local	Survey Item
Home Office Indicators of Integration	% confident to ask their neighbours of all backgrounds for help	2019	Neighbourhood	Indicator
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	To what extent would you agree or disagree that people in your neighbourhood pull together to improve the neighbourhood?	2019	Neighbourhood	Survey Item
More in Common	<ul> <li>People in my local area are generally kind</li> <li>People in the UK are generally kind.</li> <li>I am part of a community - people understand, care for, and help each other.</li> </ul>	2020	Local and National	Survey Item

The Young Foundation	Percentage of adults who definitely agree or tend to agree that people in their neighbourhood pull together to improve the local area	2021	Neighbourhood	Indicator
	Percentage of adults who chat to their neighbours at least once a month			
Understanding Society	<ul> <li>If I needed advice about something I could go to someone in my neighbourhood</li> <li>I borrow things and exchange favours with my neighbours</li> <li>I regularly stop and talk with people in my neighbourhood</li> </ul>	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item
Understanding Society	<ul> <li>First, this is a close-knit neighbourhood</li> <li>People in this neighbourhood generally don't get along with each other</li> </ul>	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item

Openness/Tolerance of Others	Beyond Us and Them	We would like to get your feelings toward a number of groups. We would like you to rate each group using something we call the 'feeling thermometer.' Ratings between 50° and 100° mean that you feel favorable and warm towards the group. Ratings between 0° and 50° mean that you do not feel favorable toward the group and that you do not care too much for them. You would rate the group at the 50° mark if you do not feel particularly warm or cold towards the group. Please give your rating for each group in the list:  • People in your local area • Young people • Older people (aged 70+) • College and university students • Middle class people • Working class people • Muslim people • Black people • Muslim people • British pakistani • Chinese people • Legal immigrants • Illegal immigrants • Asylum seekers • Seasonal workers (migrant labour) • Middle age people (aged 40-65)	2021	General and Local	Survey Item
	Bottoni (2018)	<ul> <li>Immigration bad or good for country's economy</li> <li>Country's cultural life undermined or enriched by immigrants</li> <li>Immigrants make country worse or better place to live</li> <li>Allow many/few immigrants of different race/ethnic group from majority</li> </ul>	2018	National	Survey Item

British Social Attitudes Survey	On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is extremely bad and 10 is extremely good, would you say it is generally bad or good for Britain's economy that migrants come to Britain from other countries?  And on a scale of 0 to 10, would you say that Britain's cultural life is generally undermined or enriched by migrants coming to live here from other countries?  Using this card, would you say that people who come to live here generally	2019	National	Survey Item
	take jobs away from workers in Britain, or generally help to create new jobs?  Would you be less willing to cooperate with your colleagues if he/she has the following background?			
Chan et al. (2006)	A. He/she is from a lower social stratum than yours B. He/she is from a higher social stratum than yours C. He/she is a homosexual D. His/her political view is much different than yours E. He/she is a new immigrant F. He/she lives on the government welfare system	2006	General	Survey Item
Citizenship Survey	To what extent do you agree or disagree that this local area (within 15/20 minute walking distance) is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together  What sorts of things, if any, stop people from different backgrounds from getting on well together in this local area?	2011	Local	Survey Item

Community Life	To what extent do you agree or disagree that your local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together?	2021	Local	Survey Item
European Values Study	On this list are various groups of people. Could you identify any that you would not like to have as neighbours?  • A People of a different race • Heavy drinkers • Immigrants/foreign workers • drug addicts • homosexuals • Christians • Muslims • Jews • Gypsies • none of these • wouldn't mind having any of these	2020	Neighbourhood	Survey Item
Home Office Indicators of Integration	% reporting that people of different backgrounds get on well in their area % reporting being knowledgeable and comfortable with diversity of local social norms and expectations % reporting understanding of UK institutional cultures and behaviours (e.g. in work or accessing public services)	2019	Local	Indicator
Janmaat (2011)	Which people would you not like to have as neighbours?  - Immigrants/foreign workers (mentioned; not mentioned)  - Homosexuals (mentioned; not mentioned)	2011	Neighbourhood	Survey Item

Longitudinal Study of Young People in England My local area is a place where people from different racial and ethnic and religious backgrounds mix well together

2009

Local

Survey Item

To what extent do you agree or disagree that your local area			
is a place where people from different ethnic backgrounds get on well together?			
What sorts of things, if any, stop people from different backgrounds from getting on well together in this local area?  (1) Language barriers (2) Groups choosing to keep themselves to themselves (3) Religious and/or cultural practices (4) Anti-social behaviour of individual groups (5) Work schedules/busy lifestyles prevent integration/interaction (6) Prejudice/racism against those from different backgrounds (7) Economic differences between cultural groups (8) Age/generational effect (9) Lack of community facilities and/or resources (10) Lack of community activities (11) Gentrification (12) Housing development or differences in quality of housing (13) N/A – everyone gets on well (Q1 only) (14) N/A – nobody from different backgrounds (15) Don't know  How important is it for you personally that you have opportunities to mix with people from different backgrounds?	2019	Local	Survey Item
How comfortable do you feel talking to people from			

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

different

backgrounds to you (more than just saying hello)?

	The Young Foundation	Percentage of adults who agree that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together	2021	Local	Indicator
	Understanding Society	Now thinking about minorities in Britain, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements.	2021	National	Survey Item
		Immigrants are generally good for Britain's economy. Britain's culture is generally harmed by immigrants.			
		This short section is about different ways you might express your views on things like government policies, society, the environment, and other things you would like to see changing in the future. Please indicate which, if any, of the following activities you have done during the past month.			
Political Engagement	Beyond Us and Them	Signed a petition Joined a political party Written to an MP or councillor Taken part in an online strike or demonstration Decided not to buy or use particular products or services (boycott) Watched a TV discussion about the issue Tried to persuade people to support the cause (canvassing) Showed posters or stickers to show your support Supported a social media campaign (e.g. shared, liked or commented) Opposed or criticised a social media campaign Written to a newspaper Endorsed children's and young people's protests None of the above	2021	General	Survey Item

Bottoni (2018)	<ul> <li>Contacted politician or government official last 12 months</li> <li>Worked in political party or action group last 12 months</li> <li>Worn or displayed campaign badge/sticker last 12 months</li> <li>Signed petition last 12 months</li> <li>Taken part in lawful public demonstration last 12 months</li> <li>Boycotted certain products last 12 months</li> </ul>	2018	General	Survey Item
	Thinking now about how active you are in politics and community affairs, during the last 12 months, have you done any of the following?			
British Election Study	<ul> <li>Contacted a politician, government or local government official?</li> <li>Signed a petition on the internet?</li> <li>Signed a petition not on the internet?</li> <li>Done any work on behalf of a political party or action group?</li> <li>Given any money to a political party, organisation or cause?</li> <li>Taken part in a public demonstration?</li> <li>Bought - or refused to buy - any products for political or ethical reasons?</li> <li>Gone on strike or taken industrial action?</li> <li>Political participation: None of these?</li> <li>Political participation: Don't know</li> </ul>	2019	General	Survey Item
Chan et al. (2006)	How often do you express opinions towards current affairs through the mass media?  How often did you participate in signing petitions, strikes, demonstrations etc.?	2006	General and Local	Survey Item
	How often did you vote in legislative council and local council elections?			

In the last 12 months, that is since [date], have you contacted any of the people listed on the card? Please exclude contact with councillors or council staff for personal

issues such as housing repairs, and contact through work.

- (1) Local councillor
- (2) Member of Parliament (MP)
- (3) Public official working for the local council
- (4) Government official
- (5) Elected member of the Greater London Assembly including the Mayor of London

Citizenship Survey

(6) Public official working for the Greater London Assembly/Authority

(7) Elected member of the Welsh Assembly Government - including the First

Minister

(8) Public official working for the Welsh Assembly Government

(9) None of the above

And in the last 12 months, have you ....

- (1) attended a public meeting or rally,
- (2) taken part in a public demonstration or protest,
- (3) or, signed a petition?
- (4) None of the above

2011 General Survey Item

		In the last 12 months, that is since [DATE ONE YEAR AGO], have you? Please select all that apply.			
Commu	nity Life	<ol> <li>Contacted a local official such as a local councillor, MP, government official, mayor, or public official working for the local council (Please do not include any contact for personal reasons e.g. housing repairs or contact through work)</li> <li>Attended a public meeting, rally, or taken part in a public demonstration or protest</li> </ol>	2021	General and Local	Survey Item
		<ul> <li>3. Signed a paper petition or an online/e-petition</li> <li>4. None of these</li> <li>For each of the following types of groups, clubs or organisations, please state whether you have been involved with any of these during the last 12 months, that is since [DATE ONE YEAR AGO].</li> <li>Politics (e.g. Membership of, or involvement with, political</li> </ul>			
		groups, Serving as local councillor)  Please look carefully at the following list of voluntary organisations and say which, if any, do you belong to?			
European Va	alues Study	<ul> <li>political parties/groups</li> <li>When elections take place, do you vote always, usually or never? (Local level, national level and European level)</li> </ul>	2020	General	Survey Item

European Values Study	I'm going to read out some different forms of political action that people can take, and I'd like you to tell me, for each one, whether you have actually done any of these things, whether you might do it or would never, under any circumstances, do it.	2020	General	Survey Item
	Signing a petition Joining in boycotts Attending lawful demonstrations Joining unofficial strikes			
Home Office Indicators of Integration	<ul> <li>% registering to vote</li> <li>Representation of minority ethnic groups in UK political parties</li> </ul>	2019	General	Indicator

	Here are some different forms of political and social action that people can take. Please indicate, for each one,  • whether you have done any of these things in the past year,  • whether you have done it in the more distant past,  • whether you have not done it but might do it  • or have not done it and would never, under any circumstances, do it.			
International Social Survey	Signed a petition Boycotted, or deliberately bought, certain products for political, ethical or environmental reasons Took part in a demonstration Attended a political meeting or rally Contacted, or attempted to contact, a politician or a civil servant to express your views Donated money or raised funds for a social or political activity Contacted or appeared in the media to express your views Expressed political views on the internet	2014	General	Survey Item
	In the past 12 months, how often, if at all, have you taken part in activities? of political parties, political groups or political associations?			
International Social Survey	When you get together with your friends, relatives or fellow workers, how often do you discuss politics?	2014	General	Survey Item
Jenson (2010)	Electoral participation – percentage of eligible voters participating in national elections.	2010	National	Indicator

		Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	Did you vote in the last local government election?  In the last 12 months have you  • Contacted a local official such as a councillor, MP, government official, mayor or public official working for the council  • Attended a public meeting or rally, taken part in a public demonstration or protest	2019	Local	Survey Item
			<ul> <li>Signed a paper or online, e-petition</li> <li>None of the above</li> </ul> Turnout at local elections		Local and	
		Onward (Social Fabric)	Turnout at general elections	2020	National	Indicator
		The Young Foundation	Proportion of people on electoral roll Voter turnout for local elections	2021	Local and National	Indicator
	Political Trust	Beyond Us and Them	Please show how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements  • Most members of the UK Parliament are honest • I trust my local member of parliament to represent the interests of all communities across the constituency • Politicans are mainly in politics for their own benefit and not for the benefit of the community	2021	Local and National	Survey Item
		Beyond Us and Them	Please show how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements  • I believe the UK government is taking adequate measures to tackle the Coronavirus pandemic  • The government UK is not competent to handle the pandemic	2021	National	Survey Item

	British Election Study	<ul> <li>How much do you trust British politicians generally?</li> <li>How much do you trust British governments of any party to place the needs of the nation above the interests of their own political party?</li> </ul>	2019	National	Survey Item
	Centre for Longitudinal Studies (e.g. Next Steps, Millennium Cohort Study)	On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means 'very badly' and 10 means 'very well', how well would you say the Government has been handling the Coronavirus crisis since the outbreak in March 2020?	2021	National	Survey Item
	Centre for Longitudinal Studies (e.g. Next Steps, Millennium Cohort Study)	On a scale from 0-10 where 0 means you are 'not at all trusting' and 10 means you are 'extremely trusting', how trusting are you that British Governments, of any party, place the needs of the nation above the needs of their own political party?	2021	National	Survey Item
	European Social Survey	Please tell me to what extent you trust the national government in [country] to deal with the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. Please answer on a score of 0-10 where 0 means you do not trust the government at all and 10 means you have complete trust.	2020	National	Survey Item
	International Social Survey	Please tick one box on each line to show how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements  People we elect as MPs try to keep the promises they have made during the election  Most civil servants can be trusted to do what is best for the country	2016	National	Survey Item
	The Young Foundation	Percentage of adults who trust their local council a great deal or a fair amount	2021	Local	Indicator
Population Stability	Centre for Ageing Better	Population Turnover (calculated as the number of people who moved in and out the area (through internal and international migration) divided by the total number of residents in the area over a 5 year period)	2022	Local	Indicator

	The Young Foundation	Net Internal Migration Net International Migration	2021	General	Indicator
	Home Office Indicators of Integration	% with personal access to internet (including mobile data) % over 16 with smartphone or computer	2019	General	Indicator
	Jenson (2010)	Percentage of households with access to broadband internet.	2010	General	Indicator
	Onward (Social Fabric)	Community-owned pubs per capita Community-owned shops per capita Assets of Community Value per capita Charities per capita Membership organisations per capita	2020	General and Local	Indicator
Public and Social Infrastructure	Onward (Social Fabric)	Independent businesses per capita Convenience stores per capita Allotments per capita Sport green spaces/fields per capita Other green spaces per capita Libraries per capita Bank branches per capita Leisure centres per capita Public houses and bars per capita Community amateur sports clubs per capita Cafes/restaurants per capita Broadband coverage Broadband speed Local bus journeys per capita Bus stops per square km Train stations per capita Exit and entries at train stations per capita Average number of minutes spent travelling to work Share of people who rate local public transport as very good or excellent	2020	General	Indicator

Spiritual communities, groups, organisations Number of community events

Number of registered charities

Number of community interest companies

Number of food banks (and uptake e.g. number of parcels distributed)

Number of led by and for community groups

Number of libraries + number of hours open

Number of community centre

Percentage of green and blue spaces

Number of cultural spaces

The number and amount of grants awarded by funders in

central government

The number and amount of grants awarded by lottery

distributors

The Young Foundation

Funding through charities

The gross expenditure of charities

Average public transport accessibility

Percentage of households that have access to open space

Percentage of adults who are very or fairly satisfied with different services provided by the council in their area, specfically:

- Parks and green spaces
- Services and support for children and young people
- Services and support for older people
- Sport and leisure services

General

2021

Indicator

	British Social Attitudes Survey	<ul> <li>How often do you have any contact with people who are a lot poorer than you when you are out and about? This might be in the street, on public transport, in shops, in your neighbourhood, or at your workplace</li> <li>How often do you have any contact with people who are a lot richer than you when you are out and about? This might be in the street, on public transport, in shops, in your neighbourhood, or at your workplace.</li> </ul>	2019	Local	Survey Item
		Now thinking about the mix of people in this local area. What proportion of people in this local area are of the same ethnic group as you?			
Social Mixing and Contact		Now thinking about the unpaid help you've given as part of a group, club or organisation in the last 12 months. How often, if at all have you mixed with people from different ethnic or religious groups to yourself as part of this?			
	Citizenship Survey	In the last year, how often, if at all, have you mixed socially with people from different ethnic and religious groups to yourself  • at your home or their home?  • at your work, school or college?  • at your child's crèche, nursery or school?  • at a pub, club, café or restaurant?  • at a group, club or organisation you belong to, such as a sports club or social club?  • at the shops?  • at a place of worship?  • in public places such as in the street or in public parks?	2011	Local	Survey Item

Community Life	<ul> <li>How important is it for you personally that you have opportunities to mix with people from different backgrounds?</li> </ul>	2021	Local	Survey Item
	In the last 12 months, have you mixed socially with people from different religious groups in any of the following places?			
	In the last 12 months, have you mixed socially with people from different ethnic groups in any of the following places?			
	By 'mixed socially', we mean interacting with someone more than just to say hello. Please choose all that apply.			
Community Life	<ol> <li>At your home or their home</li> <li>At work, school or college</li> <li>At your child's crèche, nursery or school</li> <li>At a pub, café or restaurant</li> <li>At a group, club or organisation you belong to (e.g. a sports club or social club)</li> <li>At the shops</li> <li>At a place of worship</li> <li>In public parks</li> <li>In public buildings (e.g. community centres or libraries)</li> <li>I haven't mixed socially with people from different ethnic groups</li> <li>Other (please specify)</li> </ol>	2021	Local	Survey Item

Community Life	What proportion of your friends are of the same ethnic group as you?  What proportion of your friends are of the same religious group as you?  What proportion of your friends are of the same age group as you?  What proportion of your friends have a similar level of education to you?	2021	General	Survey Item
Home Office Indicators of Integration	<ul> <li>% reporting having friends with similar backgrounds (bonding)</li> <li>% local people reporting having friends from different backgrounds</li> <li>% local people (incoming and receiving communities) who report mixing with people from different ethnic or other backgrounds in everyday situations</li> <li>Prevalence of residential segregation (by ethnicity) in the local area</li> </ul>	2019	Local	Indicator
International Social Survey	How often do you have any contact with people who are a lot poorer than you when you are out and about? This might be in the street, on public transport, in shops, in your neighbourhood, or at your workplace.  How often do you have any contact with people who are a lot richer than you when you are out and about? This might be in the street, on public transport, in shops, in your neighbourhood, or at your workplace.	2019	Local	Survey Item
Jenson (2010)	Percentage of foreign born in the population.  • Ethnic fractionalisation – an index measuring the probability that two randomly selected people will not belong to the same ethno-linguistic group.  • Country is officially bi- or multilingual (0 or 1).	2010	General	Indicator

		To what extent do you agree or disagree that your local area has places or activities that are good at bringing people from different backgrounds together?			
	Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	To what extent do you agree or disagree that your workplace is good at bringing colleagues from different backgrounds together?	2019	Local	Survey Item
		What proportion of your friends are of the same ethnic group as you? What proportion of your friends are of the same religious group as you? What proportion of your friends have a similar level of education to you?			
	Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	Index of dissimilarity score (The proportion of people who would need to move home in order for the local area (for example MSOA) to be more representative of the population wider catchment area (for example LA level)	2019	Local	Indicator
	Understanding Society	What proportion of your co-workers have any other ethnic background?	2014	General	Survey Item
		And how safe would you feel walking alone in this neighbourhood after dark?			
Social Order	Citizenship Survey	Thinking about all types of crime in general, how worried are you about becoming a victim of crime?			

Home Office Indicators of Integration	% understanding, and applying, UK law pertaining to everyday life (e.g. parenting responsibilities, employment and property rights, behaviour in public spaces) % aware of and adhering to UK law in relation to practices that are not legal in the UK (e.g. drink driving or female genital mutilation (FGM)) % reporting feeling fearful or insecure Self-reported feeling of safety when walking alone outside during the day/night  Domestic abuse-related incidents and crimes recorded by the police, crude rates per 1,000		General	Indicator
Janmaat (2011)	100 minus number of homicides per 100,000 inhabitants	2011	General	Indicator
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	To what extent do you agree or disagree that you are confident in knowing how to report a hate crime that happened to you or someone else?	2019	General	Survey Item
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	Annual Police recorded hate crime figures by five strands: race, religion, sexual orientation, disability and transgender	2019	General	Indicator
Onward (Social Fabric)	Number of police recorded crimes per capita	2020	General	Indicator
The Young Foundation	Recorded crime count  Percentage of adults who feel very or fairly safe when outside in their local area during the day  Percentage of adults who feel very or fairly safe when outside in their local area during the night	2021	General	Indicator

		Beyond Us and Them	How much do you disagree or agree with each of the following statements about people in general?  • Most people can be trusted • You can't be too careful in dealing with people	2021	General	Survey Item
Social Trust	Beyond Us and Them	How much do you disagree or agree with each of the following statements about people in general?  • I trust people in my community	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item	
	Beyond Us and Them	How much do you think people from each group can be trusted to follow the government instructions about social distancing?  • People living in London • People living in more rural counties • People living in your neighbourhood • Young people in their 20s and 30s • Older and retired people (aged over 65) • People with a disability • Immigrants from European countries • Black people • Muslim people • Chinese people	2021	Neighbourhood , Regional and General	Survey Item	
		Bottoni (2018)	<ul> <li>Most people can be trusted or you can't be too careful</li> <li>Most people try to take advantage of you, or try to be fair</li> <li>Most of the time people helpful or mostly looking out for themselves</li> </ul>	2018	General	Survey Item
		British Social Attitudes Survey	Generally speaking, would you say that people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?	2019	General	Survey Item
		Centre for Ageing Better	I feel trusting of my neighbours	2022	Neighbourhood	Survey Item

Centre for Longitudinal Studies (e.g. Next Steps, Millennium Cohort Study)	On a scale from 0-10 where 0 means you are 'not at all trusting' of other people and 10 means you are 'extremely trusting' of other people, how trusting of other people would you say you are?	2020	General	Survey Item
Chan et al. (2006)	To what extent do you agree with the following statements?  A. "Do not trust people so easily in this country"  B. "People in this country are always out to take advantage of you"	2006	National	Survey Item
Citizenship Survey	C. "People in country are not to be easily trusted"  Would you say that (1) many of the people in your neighbourhood can be trusted, (2) some can be trusted, (3) a few can be trusted, (4) or that none of the people in your neighbourhood can be trusted?	2011	Neighbourhood and General	Survey Item
Citizenship Survey	Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted, or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?	2011	General	Survey Item
Community Life	On a scale where 0 (zero) is not at all and 10 (ten) is completely, in general how much do you think people can be trusted?	2021	General	Survey Item
Community Life	Thinking about the people who live in this neighbourhood, to what extent do you believe they can be trusted?	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item

European Social Survey	<ul> <li>Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted, or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people? Please tell me on a score of 0 to 10, where 0 means you can't be too careful and 10 means that most people can be trusted.</li> <li>Do you think that most people would try to take advantage of you if they got the chance, or would they try to be fair?</li> <li>Would you say that most of the time people try to be helpful or that they are mostly looking out for themselves?</li> </ul>	2020	General	Survey Item
European Values Study	Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?	2020	General	Survey Item
European Values Study	We would like to ask you how much you trust people from various groups. Please indicate how much you trust  • Your family • People you know personally • People you meet for the first time • People of another religion • People of another nationality	2020	General	Survey Item
European Values Study	We would like to ask you how much you trust people from various groups. Please indicate how much you trust  • People in your neighborhood	2020	Neighbourhood	Survey Item
Home Office Indicators of Integration	% reporting familiarity and trust with local people and neighbours	2019	Neighbourhood and Local	Indicator
International Social Survey	How often do you think that people would try to take advantage of you if they got the chance, and how often would they try to be fair?	2017	General	Survey Item

	International Social Survey	Generally speaking, would you say that people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?	2019	General	Survey Item
	Janmaat (2011)	Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?	2011	General	Survey Item
	Jenson (2010)	Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?	2010	General	Survey Item
	Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	Thinking about the people who live in this neighbourhood, to what extent do you believe they can be trusted?	2019	Neighbourhood	Survey Item
	More in Common	Generally speaking, would you say that people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?	2020	General	Survey Item
	The Young Foundation	Percentage of adults who feel most or some of the people who live in their local neighbourhood can be trusted	2021	Neighbourhood	Indicator
	UK Trust in Government Survey (ONS)	To start with, a general question about trust. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is not at all and 10 is completely, in general how much do you trust most people?	2022	General	Survey Item
	Understanding Society	People in this neighbourhood can be trusted	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item
Trust in Institutions	Bottoni (2018)	<ul> <li>Trust in country's parliament</li> <li>Trust in the legal system</li> <li>Trust in the police</li> <li>Trust in politicians</li> <li>Trust in political parties</li> <li>Trust in the European Parliament</li> <li>Trust in the United Nations</li> </ul>	2018	General, National, Continental and International	Survey Item

Chan et al. (2006)	On a 1-10 scale, how much trust or confidence do you have with the following personalities and institutions? - The chief executive, the principal officials, legislators, civil servants, the judicial system, the police, the ombudsman, mass media	2006	General	Survey Item
Citizenship Survey	Now I'd like to ask a few questions about trust. Firstly, looking at this showcard, how much do you trust  The police Parliament. The Welsh Assembly. Your local council.	2011	General	Survey Item
European Social Survey	Please tell me on a score of 0-10 how much you personally trust each of the institutions. 0 means you do not trust an institution at all, and 10 means you have complete trust  • [country]'s parliament  • the legal system?  • the police?  • politicians?  • political parties?  • the European Parliament?  • the United Nations?	2020	General, National, Continental and International	Survey Item

European Values Study	Please indicate how much confidence you have in each of the items presented in the next questions.  church armed forces education system the press trade unions the police parliament civil service social security system European Union United Nations Organization health care system justice system major companies environmental organizations political parties government social media	2020	General, National, Continental and International	Survey Item
Home Office Indicators of Integration	% reporting trust in the police	2019	General	Indicator
International Social Survey	Using the following scale ranging from 0 to 10, where 0 means "No trust at all" and 10 means "Complete trust", please indicate how much trust you personally have in?  [COUNTRY]'s courts major private companies in [COUNTRY]	2017	National	Survey Item
Janmaat (2011)	How much confidence do you have in Parliament?	2011	General	Survey Item

Onward (Social Fabric)	• Trust in: Government Parliament Police Media Banks Courts	2020	General	Indicator
	• Views on how well the Police, BBC, Unions, Banks, Press, NHS are run			
	Share of people who support the monarchy			
	On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is not at all and 10 is completely, how much do you trust each of the following?			
	<ul><li> The national government</li><li> The local government</li></ul>			
	• The [parliament/congress]		General,	
UK Trust in Government Survey (ONS)	The political parties	2022	National and	Survey Item
(0.13)	<ul> <li>The police</li> <li>The civil service (non-elected government employees at</li> </ul>		International	
	central or local levels of government)			
	• The news media			
	<ul><li>The courts and legal system</li><li>International organisations</li></ul>			

	Trust in Political Leaders	Beyond Us and Them	Please say what you think of [Boris Johnson (Prime Minister and leader of the Conservative Party) / Sir Keir Starmer (leader of the Labour Party and Leader of the Opposition) / Kent County Council and its leader, Roger Gough]  • Can be trusted  • Sets an example of how to do things the right way  • When making decisions, asks "what is the right thing to do"?  • Can be trusted to make the right decisions about how best to handle the Coronavirus epidemic	2021	National and Regional	Survey Item
		Centre for Ageing Better	I am involved in helping out others in my local area	2022	Local	Survey Item
	Willingness to Help Others		To what extent do you agree with the following statements?			
		Chan et al. (2006)	<ul><li>A. "I would like to spare part of my leisure time to do voluntary work/help others"</li><li>B. "I am willing to pay more tax if that could improve social welfare"</li></ul>	2006	General	Survey Item
		Understanding Society	People around here are willing to help their neighbours	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item
	Willingness to Improve Neighbourhood	Beyond Us and Them	How much do you feel a responsibility to try to improve your local area?	2021	Local	Survey Item
		Understanding Society	I would be willing to work together with others on something to improve my neighbourhood	2021	Neighbourhood	Survey Item