

## Abigail Dow

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### Education

- 2021-            PhD Economics, Boston University
- 2018-2019      MSc Economics, University College London (Distinction)  
*Distinctions in 7/8 modules and dissertation*  
*94% in Maths & Statistics course*
- 2013-2016      BA Economics & Management, University of Oxford (2.1)  
*Oxford Microfinance initiative, Treasurer of Oxford University Netball Club, St Hugh's College Junior Common Room Committee*
- 2005-2012      The Stephen Perse Foundation, Cambridge  
*A Levels – 3 A\*s in Maths, Further Maths, French, A in Art & Design*  
*GCSEs – 9 A\*s, 2 As*  
*Academic, Music and Art scholarships to the Stephen Perse Sixth Form College*

### Employment

- 2022-            **Research Assistant to Prof. Margaret McConnell, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health**  
*Working on the evaluation of the effects of a randomised controlled trial of an intensive nurse home visiting programme on mental health outcomes of low-income mothers. Involves analysis of claims data, including Medicaid data.*
- 2019-2021      **Research Assistant to Prof. Gabriella Conti, University College London**  
*Supporting Prof. Conti on research into the impact of health visiting on child health and parental wellbeing outcomes; impacts of COVID-19 on health visiting, and families and young children.*  
*I have developed skills in survey design, primary data collection through surveys and FOIs, data cleaning and preparation, data analysis including econometric analysis, data visualisation, collaborating with external organisations, and drafting research briefs and papers.*
- 2016-2020      **Government Economist (UK Civil Service Fast Stream), Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy**  
*Women in Economics Committee – Organised roundtables with Chief Economists of Government departments and discussion groups for early career Government Economists*  
  
*Gender in the Government Economic Service – Conducted focus groups to gather evidence on the barriers inhibiting girls from studying Economics at university to support planned school outreach programmes*

- 2019-2020      Labour Markets
- Pregnancy and maternity discrimination, carers, parental leave and pay policies*
- Led a team of two on the UK Government evaluation of Shared Parental Leave; produced a regular bulletin of labour market indicators during COVID-19 that was shared with Ministers, the Permanent Secretary and other departments; cost-benefit analysis of policies to support increased participation in the labour market; worked with data scientists on a project using natural language processing in R to analyse government consultation responses.*
- 2018              Strategic and International Energy Analysis
- Energy price modelling, household price and bills modelling*
- Modelling of UK household and business energy prices against comparator countries for Secretary of State policy briefings; led a project to collect accurate data on energy prices for large industrial consumers, which involved collaboration across departments and with counterparts in the EU.*
- 2017-2018      Consumer and Competition Policy
- Digital markets and platform competition, online price discrimination and economic regulation*
- Managed a data collection and dashboard project with a consumer complaints start-up; researched and drafted the digital markets chapter of the green paper 'Modernising consumer markets', including organising evidence gathering roundtables with external organisations and academics; built up an evidence base on consumer issues and regulatory concerns in water, rail and energy markets.*
- 2016-2017      Regulatory Policy Committee Secretariat
- Assessing the quality of evidence and analysis of Government regulatory proposals; developed a workstream and set of tools to help Government departments improve their cost-benefit analysis; produced the Regulatory Policy Committee Secretariat annual report.*

## Research & policy briefs

[“The Impacts of COVID-19 on Health Visiting Services in England: FOI Evidence for the First Wave”](#) (with G. Conti)

*Featured in [The Institute of Government's 'The Week in Public Services'](#). Referenced in BBC News coverage of the EEF report on the damage of lockdown to child speech and language skills.*

[“The Impacts of COVID-19 on Health Visiting in England”](#) (with G. Conti)

*Featured in BBC Radio 4 [File on 4](#), [The Guardian](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [Nursery World](#), [UCL News](#), [The Institute of Health Visiting](#), [Nursing Standard](#), [Nursing Times](#), [Children and Young People Now](#). Included as written evidence for the UK Public Services Committee inquiry [“Children in crisis: the role of public services in overcoming child vulnerability”](#).*

[“Rebuilding the Health Visiting Workforce: Costing Policy Proposals”](#) (with G. Conti)

## Presentations

Wellcome Trust Longitudinal Studies Conference 2021

## Skills

R, Stata, Qualtrics (proficient); Python, Matlab, SQL (basic)

**Additional training**

- 2020 “The Economics of Public Health”, York Health Economics Consortium
- 2017 “Incorporating more realistic psychology into economic analysis”,  
CEMMAP masterclass with Matthew Rabin