

Calum Webb

SOCIOLOGIST AND RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

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Summary

Dr Calum Webb is a sociologist with specialisation in data science, quantitative research, and statistical methods. He has worked on research projects ranging from national £500,000+ multi-institution studies, to small projects that deliver rapid findings and impact. His research topics include child welfare, poverty, and social policy, particularly the funding of children's services. His work has been cited by the Department for Education, Ofsted, and the National Audit Office, and is published in many top-ranking journals. He is interested in coproduced and participatory approaches to quantitative research.

Calum is a co-founder of the AI in Housing, Welfare, and Social Care Network. He is an R user and has created Rshiny data visualisation apps for social work professionals that have been used by every local authority in England, as well as practice guidance for social workers in partnership with the British Association for Social Workers. He maintains a blog for posting various R data visualisations, and comments on social policy and research.

He has taught quantitative methods and statistical analysis to undergraduates and postgraduates studying sociology, occupational psychology, social policy, and social research. He is a proficient user of R, Mplus, SPSS, and Stata, as well as markdown languages; he specialises in structural equation, multilevel, and latent growth modelling with secondary survey and administrative data.

Education

The University of Sheffield

Sheffield

PHD SOCIOLOGY

2015 - 2019

- Thesis: Constructing a reliable and valid measure of multidimensional poverty. Awarded without corrections. ESRC White Rose Scholarship.

The University of Sheffield

Sheffield

MA SOCIAL RESEARCH (DISTINCTION)

2014 - 2015

- Dissertation: Children's outcomes and labour market activation: the potential of structural equation modelling and multivariate statistics for evidence based policy making. ESRC White Rose Scholarship.

The University of Sheffield

Sheffield

BA(HONS) SOCIOLOGY (FIRST CLASS)

2011 - 2014

- Dissertation: Online support groups, bipolar disorder, and the patient-professional relationship: an unobtrusive observation.

Employment

Department of Sociological Studies, The University of Sheffield

Sheffield

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE & UNIVERSITY TEACHER

2015 - Current

- Leading Artificial Intelligence & Social Work: Strengthening Partnerships and Coproducing Priorities with BASW England
- Led analysis of children's services expenditure data in England and quantitative mixed methods lead for English case studies on the £0.55million Nuffield Foundation funded research project.
- Led analysis of survey data for the Family Rights Group's Care Crisis Review.
- Consultant methodologist for £0.26million research project analysing systemic drivers of demand in child protection.
- Impact case study co-author.
- Developed the Anti-Poverty Practice Guide for Social Work with the British Association of Social Workers.
- Worked in partnership with Sheffield City Council using national survey data to develop a policy learning tool for anti-poverty policy design.
- Published journal articles in high impact journals, with one article (Webb & Bywaters 2018) being in the top 1% of altmetric outputs.
- Developed the Child Welfare Inequalities Project App (www.cwip-app.co.uk) and the Mapping Overlaps Gadget (<https://webb.shinyapps.io/MappingOverlapsGadget/>) to consolidate and visualise local data.
- Co-founded the AI in Housing, Welfare, and Social Care Network (ai-hows.sheffield.ac.uk).

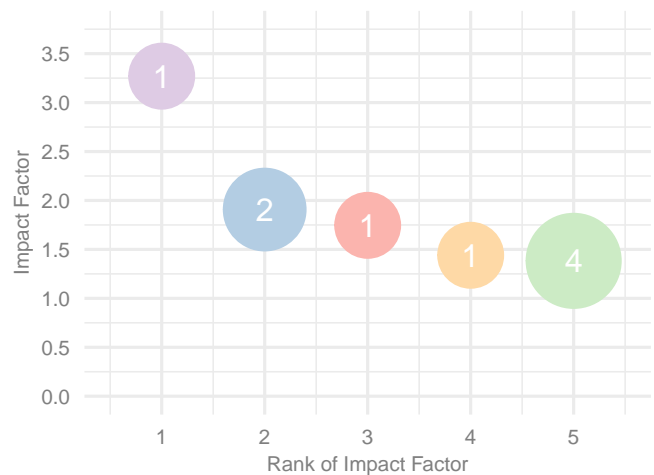
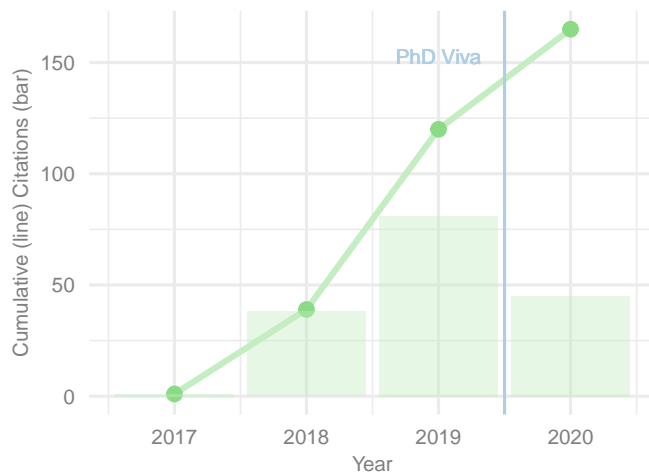
Department of Clinical Psychology, The University of Sheffield

Sheffield

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

2013 - 2014

- Research project exploring ethics and governance processes in Clinical Psychology doctoral research projects.



Authors	Year	Title	Journal	Citations
Will Mason, Kate Morris, Brid Featherstone, Lisa Bunting, Gavin Davidson, Claire McCartan, Paul Bywaters, Calum Webb	2020	Understanding out of home care rates in Northern Ireland: a thematic analysis of mixed methods case studies	British Journal of Social Work.	0
Rick Hood, Allie Goldacre, Sarah Gorin, Paul Bywaters, Calum Webb	2020	Identifying and understanding the link between system conditions and welfare inequalities in children's social care services	.	0
C Webb, P Bywaters, J Scourfield, C McCartan, L Bunting, G Davidson, K Morris	2020	Untangling child welfare inequalities and the 'Inverse Intervention Law' in England	Children and Youth Services Review.	0
Paul Bywaters, Jonathan Scourfield, Calum Webb, Kate Morris, Brid Featherstone, Geraldine Brady, Chantel Jones, Tim Sparks	2019	Paradoxical evidence on ethnic inequities in child welfare: Towards a research agenda	Children and Youth Services Review. 96 (C), 145-154	9
W Mason, K Morris, C Webb, B Daniels, B Featherstone, P Bywaters, N Mirza, J Hooper, G Brady, L Bunting, J Scourfield	2019	Towards full integration of quantitative and qualitative methods in case study research: insights from investigating child welfare inequalities	Journal of Mixed Methods Research.	1
Robin Sen, Calum Webb	2019	Exploring the declining rates of state social work intervention in an English local authority using Family Group Conferences	Children and Youth Services Review. 106, 104458	0
Calum JR Webb	2019	Constructing a Reliable and Valid Measure of Multidimensional Poverty	University of Sheffield.	0
Paul Bywaters, Geraldine Brady, Lisa Bunting, Brigid Daniel, Brid Featherstone, Chantel Jones, Kate Morris, Jonathan Scourfield, Tim Sparks, Calum Webb	2018	Inequalities in English child protection practice under austerity: A universal challenge?	Child & Family Social Work. 23 (1), 53-61	65
Kate Morris, Will Mason, Paul Bywaters, Brid Featherstone, Brigid Daniel, Geraldine Brady, Lisa Bunting, Jade Hooper, Nughmana Mirza, Jonathan Scourfield, Calum Webb	2018	Social work, poverty, and child welfare interventions	Child & Family Social Work. 23 (3), 364-372	48
Calum JR Webb, Paul Bywaters	2018	Austerity, rationing and inequity: trends in children's and young peoples' services expenditure in England between 2010 and 2015	Local Government Studies. 44 (3), 391-415	29
Will Mason, Nughmana Mirza, Calum Webb	2018	Using the framework method to analyze mixed-methods case studies	SAGE Publications Ltd.	11
Robin Sen, Kate Morris, Gale Burford, Brid Featherstone, Calum Webb	2018	'When you're sitting in the room with two people one of whom... has bashed the hell out of the other': Possibilities and challenges in the use of FGCs and restorative approaches ...	Children and Youth Services Review. 88, 441-449	8
Calum Webb, Paul Bywaters	2018	Trends in Children's and Young People's Services Expenditure in England	Children & Young People Now. 2018 (4), 46-46	0

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Authors	Year	Title	Journal	Citations
Paul Bywaters, Geraldine Brady, Lisa Bunting, Brigid Daniel, Gavin Davidson, Martin Elliot, Brid Featherstone, Jade Hooper, Chantel Jones, Janice McGhee, Will Mason, Kate Morris, Claire McCartan, Nughmana Mirza, Jonathan Scourfield, Marina Shapira, Tim Sparks, Calum Webb	2017	Report: Identifying Inequalities in Child Welfare Intervention Rates	Children & Young People Now. 2017 (8), 46-46	0
K Morris, W Mason, P Bywaters, B Featherstone, B Daniel, G Brady, L Bunting, J Hooper, N Mirza, J Scourfield, C Webb		Social work, deprivation and child welfare interventions	.	0

Conference Papers

Conference	Presentation/Paper	Year
European Conference for Social Work Research 2019	Does social work reinforce inequalities? Findings from the Child Welfare Inequalities Project.	2019
Research in Practice: Link Officer's Annual Meeting 2019	The Child Welfare Inequalities App.	2019
Sociological Studies Annual Postgraduate Research Conference: Branching Out.	'Where the Axe Falls: Trends in Children's and Young Peoples' Services Expenditure in Austerity'.	2017
Leeds Centre for Interdisciplinary Childhood & Youth Research (LCYR): Child and Youth poverty: contexts, concepts and consequences	Complex Inequality & Education Policy: The case of the 'North-South divide' in School Results in England.	2016
Sociological Studies PGR Annual Conference: Breaking Boundaries.	Researching concepts quantitatively: The use of latent variable modelling for measuring multidimensional poverty.	2016

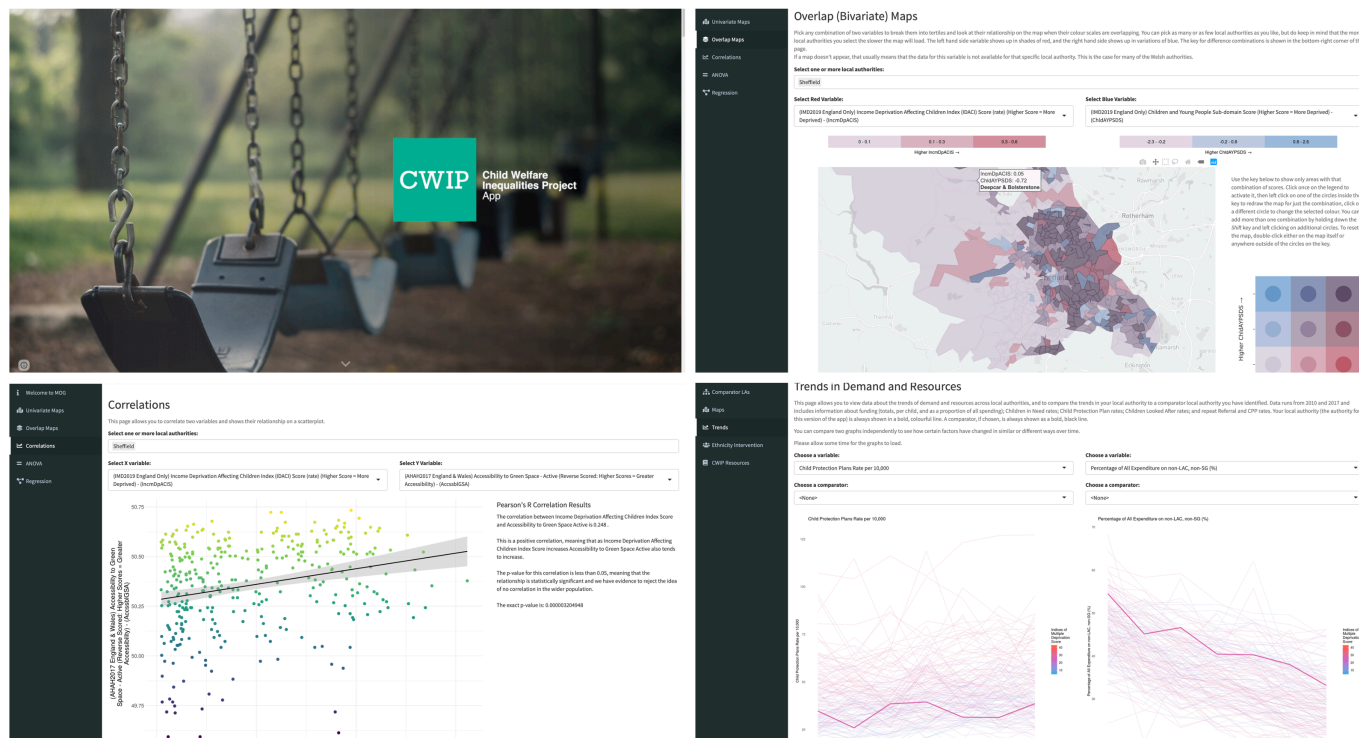
Research Projects

Funder	Project	Year	Role	Funding
ESRC Impact Accelerator Account	Artificial Intelligence & Social Care: Strengthening Partnerships and Coproducing Priorities in Social Work	2020	PI	£45,173
Nuffield Foundation	Re-analysing the CWIP quantitative dataset using multilevel modelling	2019	Co-I	£35,400
Sheffield University Student's Union	Understanding the needs of Chinese students on postgraduate taught programmes	2019	PI	£1,000
Research England Higher Education Innovation Fund	The Child Welfare Inequalities Project App (CWIP App)	2019	PI	£9,981
iHuman, Sheffield	Shaping the next generation of AI-enhanced social housing and social care systems (seed funding)	2019	Co-I	£4,800
Research England Higher Education Innovation Fund	AI in Housing, Welfare, and Social Care Extending Participation Funding	2019	PI	£1,470
Nuffield Foundation	Identifying and understanding the link between system conditions and welfare inequalities in statutory children's social care services	2018	Consultant	£263,652
Nuffield Foundation	Care Crisis Review	2018	Research Associate	
Crook Public Service Fellowship	Care Proceedings in England: The Case for Clear Blue Water	2018	Research Associate	
Nuffield Foundation	Identifying and Understanding Inequalities in Child Welfare Intervention Rates (Child Welfare Inequalities Project)	2015	Research Associate	£557,705
ESRC Innovation, Impact and Knowledge Exchange	Innovation, Impact and Knowledge Exchange (IIKE) Collaborative R&D Award: Developing a policy learning tool for anti-poverty policy design and assessment.	2015	Co-I	£12,722

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Funder	Project	Year	Role	Funding
ESRC	Constructing a Valid and Reliable Multidimensional Measure of Poverty	2014	1+3 White Rose DTC PhD Scholarship (PI)	

Reports & Web Applications



Output	Title	Organisation	Year
Blog	Children's Services Spending: Where has the axe fallen?	INLOGOV Blog	2018
Periodical	There is clear evidence that links deprivation, expenditure and quality in children's services.	Community Care	2018
Periodical	Ofsted ratings do reflect local authority deprivation and spending.	Community Care	2017
Report	The Anti-Poverty Practice Guide for Social Work.	British Association of Social Workers	2019
Report	The Troubled Families Programme: What kinds of projects does DCLG policy incentivise?		2019
Report	Care Proceedings in England: The Case for Clear Blue Water.	Crook's Public Service Fellowship	2018
Report	Care Crisis Review: Professionals survey results.	Family Rights Group	2018
Report	Care Crisis Review: Care-experienced young people and adults survey results.	Family Rights Group	2018
Report	Care Crisis Review: Family survey results.	Family Rights Group	2018
Web Application	The Mapping Overlaps Gadget		2020
Web Application	The Mapping Overlaps Gadget: Education		2020
Web Application	The Child Welfare Inequalities Project App		2019

Teaching

Institute	Module Name	UG/PG	Role	Year
The University of Sheffield	Quantitative Research and Fundamental Statistics	Postgraduate	Module Convener	2019-2020
The University of Sheffield	Statistics for Occupational Psychologists	Postgraduate	Module Convener	2018-2019
The University of Sheffield	How to Lie with Statistics	Undergraduate	Module Convener	2018-2019
The University of Sheffield	Introduction to Quantitative Research	Postgraduate	University Teacher	2017-2018
The University of Sheffield	Doing Quantitative Social Research	Undergraduate	University Teacher	2017-2018
The University of Sheffield	How to Lie with Statistics	Undergraduate	Module Convener	2017-2018