

# Social Welfare at the British Library

delivering the latest research on  
social policy direct to you online

[www.socialwelfare.bl.uk](http://www.socialwelfare.bl.uk)



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Are you a social work, youth work, social policy, community development, sociology, politics, criminology, education or legal studies student?

Do you need quick access to the latest quality assured research evidence for your essay or dissertation?

Then **Social Welfare at the British Library** can point you to credible online materials.

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### The Social Welfare Portal

The Social Welfare Portal is a single point of access to the British Library's vast print and digital collections of research and information on policy development, implementation and evaluation.

It has a powerful search interface and handy features to save you time and help organise your work. It is a free, easy to use service offering information on all aspects of social welfare in the UK and overseas:

**Children and families** – child protection, family support and youth engagement

**Vulnerable adults** – care, safeguarding and inclusion of older adults, disabled people, refugees and asylum seekers

**Minority groups** – social exclusion, discrimination and integration

**Offenders and the criminal justice system** – punishment, resettlement and rehabilitation

**Benefits** – poverty alleviation and redistribution

**Education and the state** – from early years to postgraduate level

**Community development and regeneration** – community empowerment and the Third Sector

**Employment** – labour market, welfare-to-work and activation policies

**Health services** – NHS reform and its impact on users

**Housing and homelessness** – social housing, private renting and the housing market

**Social services** – social work and social care in the statutory and voluntary sectors

**Substance misuse** – control and treatment.

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## Use **Social Welfare at the British Library** to:

**Find and download** the latest research reports, summaries and government papers instantly – free of charge.

**Search and identify** relevant books and journal articles from the Library's vast collections – delivery **to your home or office from the British Library is charged, but you may have free access through your college or university library. Note the references and check.**

**Keep up to date** with new material in broad subject areas, with alerts tailored to your interests and through our monthly *Welfare Reform Digest*.

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## What's on it?

The portal includes a high quality collection of full-text research and evaluation reports, parliamentary papers, consultations and policy proposals selected by our social policy curators and available for immediate download. As well as digital documents, you will find details of books, journal articles, official papers, theses, archived websites and datasets in the British Library's collections.

Our monthly current awareness bulletin, *Welfare Reform Digest*, keeps you up to date with the latest policy debates, controversies and developments through abstracts from research monographs and articles in academic journals, professional magazines and quality national newspapers arranged by broad topics.

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## Next Steps

Visit [www.socialwelfare.bl.uk](http://www.socialwelfare.bl.uk)

- To find out more
- To contribute content
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- To watch a video about Social Welfare at the British Library on YouTube
- To contact us at [socialwelfareeditor@bl.uk](mailto:socialwelfareeditor@bl.uk)

*As both a social work lecturer and PhD student, I very much welcome the Social Welfare Portal. It is a wonderful tool, essential for anyone wishing to be kept up to date with what happens in the complex world of welfare legislation and research. It is accessible and easy to use. Whether your aim is to prepare an assignment or a lecture or to ensure that your practice is informed by the latest, reliable evidence, the Portal will help you. I'm confident that this will soon become an indispensable tool.*

Peter J. Simcock, Senior Lecturer in Social Work (Adults), Faculty of Health Sciences, Staffordshire University; and PhD Student, Gerontology, King's College, London.

*The new British Library Social Welfare Portal is a valuable pointer to valuable research and practice for the social work profession and those in government involved in social policy who have been so long deprived of affordable access to essential evidence.*

Alan Gomersall, Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Department of Political Economy, King's College, London.

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## Project partners

Developed with support from:

**Social Care Institute for Excellence**, which gathers and analyses knowledge about what works and translates that knowledge into practical resources, learning materials and services. Its work helps to improve the knowledge and skills of those working in care services. It is an independent charity working with adults, families and children's social care and social work services across the UK.

Staff and students at **Staffordshire University School of Social Work, Allied and Public Health**, which has been delivering training and education for well over a decade and has established a strong reputation for excellence at pre-qualifying and post-qualifying levels.

