***Data handling record Families in Tower Hamlets research project***

**Introduction**

*Families in Tower Hamlets* is a research project led by University College London into the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the lives of families with young children and pregnant women. A further context for this study is its location within the ActEarly programme, a UK Prevention Research Programme aiming to find ways to intervene early in children’s lives to avert later adverse health outcomes (Wright et al., 2019).

**Methods and procedures employed**

The Families in Tower Hamlets project subsists of three components which are detailed below. But for the purposes of this data handling record we will only focus on the quantitative survey waves 1 and 2.

Firstly, a repeat online survey of households with children under five; secondly repeat in-depth household interview panel; and lastly mapping of community assets exploring changes to borough services for families and children under five taking place during summer 2020.

The first wave of the repeat online survey ran from mid-July to end November 2020. The 126 item survey was drawn from previous sources: i) a parallel ‘Born in Bradford’ survey of job, housing and food insecurity, children’s home learning, health and care service access, and mental health, and ii) the 'Gender (In)equality in Times of COVID-19' survey run by the International Network on Leave Policies and Research (INLPR) using validated instruments to examine work-family conflict and parental coping strategies, and iii) items from a national longitudinal household panel study called *Understanding Society.* Also included in the first wave were three open ended questions which are archived in their raw form.

Domains covered in the wave 1 survey included:

* Home and housing
* Financial situation including job security
* Food poverty and bills
* Mental health
* Physical health including exercise, drinking, smoking
* Accessing health services
* Childcare
* Community support (giving and receiving)
* Family life and home learning
* Work-life balance
* Relationships within the household
* Division of domestic labour
* Worries and concerns

The second wave of the repeat online survey ran from February-to May 2021. As with wave 1, the 126 items in the wave 2 survey were drawn from previous sources: i) a parallel ‘Born in Bradford’ survey of job, housing and food insecurity, children’s home learning, health and care service access, and mental health, and ii) the 'Gender (In)equality in Times of COVID-19' survey run by the International Network on Leave Policies and Research (INLPR) using validated instruments to examine work-family conflict and parental coping strategies, and iii) items from a national longitudinal household panel study called *Understanding Society.* Also included in the second wave were five open ended questions which are archived in their raw form.

The survey platform adopted for both waves was Qualtrics and SPSS was used to clean and analyses variables.

Domains covered in the wave 2 survey included:

* Youngest child 0-24 months (childcare, nutrition, learning outcomes)
* Youngest child 2-4 years (childcare, nutrition, physical and emotional wellbeing, learning outcomes)
* Neighbourhood
* Home and household essentials
* Financial situation including job security
* Community support (giving and receiving)
* Physical health
* Access to Health services
* Mental health
* Work-life balance
* Family life and home learning
* Relationships within the household
* Division of domestic labour
* Worries and concerns
* New circumstances: Household
* New circumstances: Home and Housing

**Variables and codes used in waves 1 and 2**

A full list of variables and survey questions along with raw data can be found in links to the six documents below:

1. Word version of FTH project wave 1 survey
2. Data dictionary FTH project wave 1 survey
3. SPSS data file FTH project wave 1 survey
4. Word version of FTH project wave 2 survey
5. Data dictionary FTH project wave 2 survey
6. SPSS data file FTH project wave 2 survey

These will be hyperlinks to the open access excel files, survey word files (or PDFs) and SPSS data files. Below is a link to excel file and spss file of wave 2 data ready to be archived.

<https://liveuclac.sharepoint.com/sites/covid-19familiesintowerhamlets/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?newTargetListUrl=%2Fsites%2Fcovid%2D19familiesintowerhamlets%2FShared%20Documents&viewpath=%2Fsites%2Fcovid%2D19familiesintowerhamlets%2FShared%20Documents%2FForms%2FAllItems%2Easpx&viewid=8bbdf0d0%2Dfaac%2D4c4c%2D93f2%2Dc7a42d518855&id=%2Fsites%2Fcovid%2D19familiesintowerhamlets%2FShared%20Documents%2FArchiving%2FSurvey%20FTH%2FWave%202%20survey>

**Longitudinal data**

Wave 1 and wave 2 data sets were matched using name, age, email address and telephone number. These waves can be merged using the identifier ‘AD\_ID\_quant’ and ‘HH\_ID’. Please see Data dictionary FTH project wave 1 survey.doc and Data dictionary FTH project wave 2 survey.doc for descriptions of identifiers.

**Missing data**

In instances of respondents not answering a question the missing data code ‘99999’ was adopted.