**Name of project:** Unlocking data to inform public health policy and practice: decision-maker perspectives on the use of cross-sectoral data as part of a whole-systems approach

**Background to deposit:**

This deposit represents archived materials from workshops undertaken as part of the NIHR-funded project named above. The project aimed to work collaboratively with decision-makers relevant to healthy public policy and practice in Scotland to identify practical ways that cross-sectoral data sharing and linkage could be used to best effect to improve health and reduce health inequalities. Further details of the project can be found at: <https://dev.fundingawards.nihr.ac.uk/award/NIHR133585>

**Background to data collection:**

The table overleaf provides details of the activities at each workshop, to contextualise the transcripts. Each activity was led by two facilitators – one of whom provided the prompts and guided the discussion, and the other acted as scribe. Discussions from workshops 1 and 2 were synthesised alongside the findings of an accompanying scoping review and set of three case studies into a visual representation, which is also included in this deposit.

**Contents of deposit:**

* Transcripts from three stakeholder workshops: each consisting of three main activities, undertaken by three separate break-out rooms. Transcripts from two whole-group discussion sessions held as part of workshop 2 are also included.
* Summary visual representation of use of evidence – in particular secondary data – in decision-making, based on workshop discussions, accompanying scoping review, and case studies.

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| **Workshop 1** | **Workshop 2** | **Workshop 3** |
| **Purpose – shared with participants** | | |
| To co-create a visual representation of how secondary data fits into wider decision-making processes, so that we reach shared understanding of its potential contribution to public health practice and policy | To discuss key stages, challenges, successes of three cross-sectoral case studies so that we can identify transferable lessons from existing situation to inform overall recommendations. | To develop a draft set of recommendations for action so that secondary data sharing and linkage across sectors can be used to best effect for improving health and reducing inequalities |
| **Pre-session individual activities** | | |
| * Presentation on study context * Reflective questions about data sharing, covering lessons from Covid-19 and aspirations for the future | * Presentation of emerging findings * Reflective questions about case study summaries | * Presentation of emerging findings * Reflective questions about how findings to date should be incorporated into recommendations and key areas for prioritisation |
| **Workshop activities as a group** | | |
| Ideas generation – what would help you make better decisions in your current role? | Discussion of emerging findings from previous workshop and scoping review | Brainstorming recommendations, using framework identified in scoping review |
| Connecting and prioritising – how do these factors relate to each other, and what connections are most important? | Responses to case studies – what can we learn from these? | Refining & grouping recommendations – which ideas belong together, and how can we articulate them? |
| Relating to secondary data – how might secondary data sharing and linkage help address the challenges identified? | Relating case study responses to previous workshop and scoping review – where are the key challenges and what are their drivers? | Adding detail to the recommendations – impact/effort, organisations responsible, and timescales |
| Whole-group feedback | Whole-group feedback | Whole-group feedback |