

# Mapping Welsh Neighbourhood Types

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# Living in Wales Survey



- Main source of general statistical information about households in Wales
- Undertaken in 2004 until 2008
- Average annual response of around 7,500 households (an average annual response rate of around 60%)
- Different households surveyed each year
- Variety of social, economic and opinion based questions
- One of the few data to allow Welsh national social data to be mapped below the level of the Unitary Authority





# MSOA unit of analysis



Pooling data from all the surveys creates a large enough sample size for analysis at the Middle Layer Super Output Area (MSOA) level (c. 35,000 records)

They have a minimum of 5,000 residents and 2,000 households with a mean population of around 7,200.

Wales has 413 MSOAs and these will be used in this analysis to represent neighbourhoods.

Average 74 households (sd 36) per MSOA in the pooled survey (2004-07)

Min 21 hhs per MSOA to max of 225 hhs

10th - 90th percentile range is 36 to 118 households per MSOA, the distribution is not heavily skewed.



# Limitations of 'Neighbourhood'

The survey did not define 'neighbour' nor 'neighbourhood' but allowed respondents to use their own understanding of the terms.

Neighbourhood will not conform to any particular geographical construction but will vary by respondent and the context within which they live.

A village may constitute a neighbourhood in a rural area

Several streets may constitute a neighbourhood in an inner-city area.

MSOAs not necessarily congruent with the territorial boundaries of the neighbourhoods of the respondents.

They provide a convenient unit of analysis given sample size

A lack of information from the survey to construct more bespoke neighbourhoods.





## Distances between cluster centres

Cluster ID	1	2	3	4	No. of MSOAs
1					90
2	0.98				76
3	0.70	0.64			136
4	1.51	0.83	0.84		93
5	2.59	1.88	1.95	1.14	18

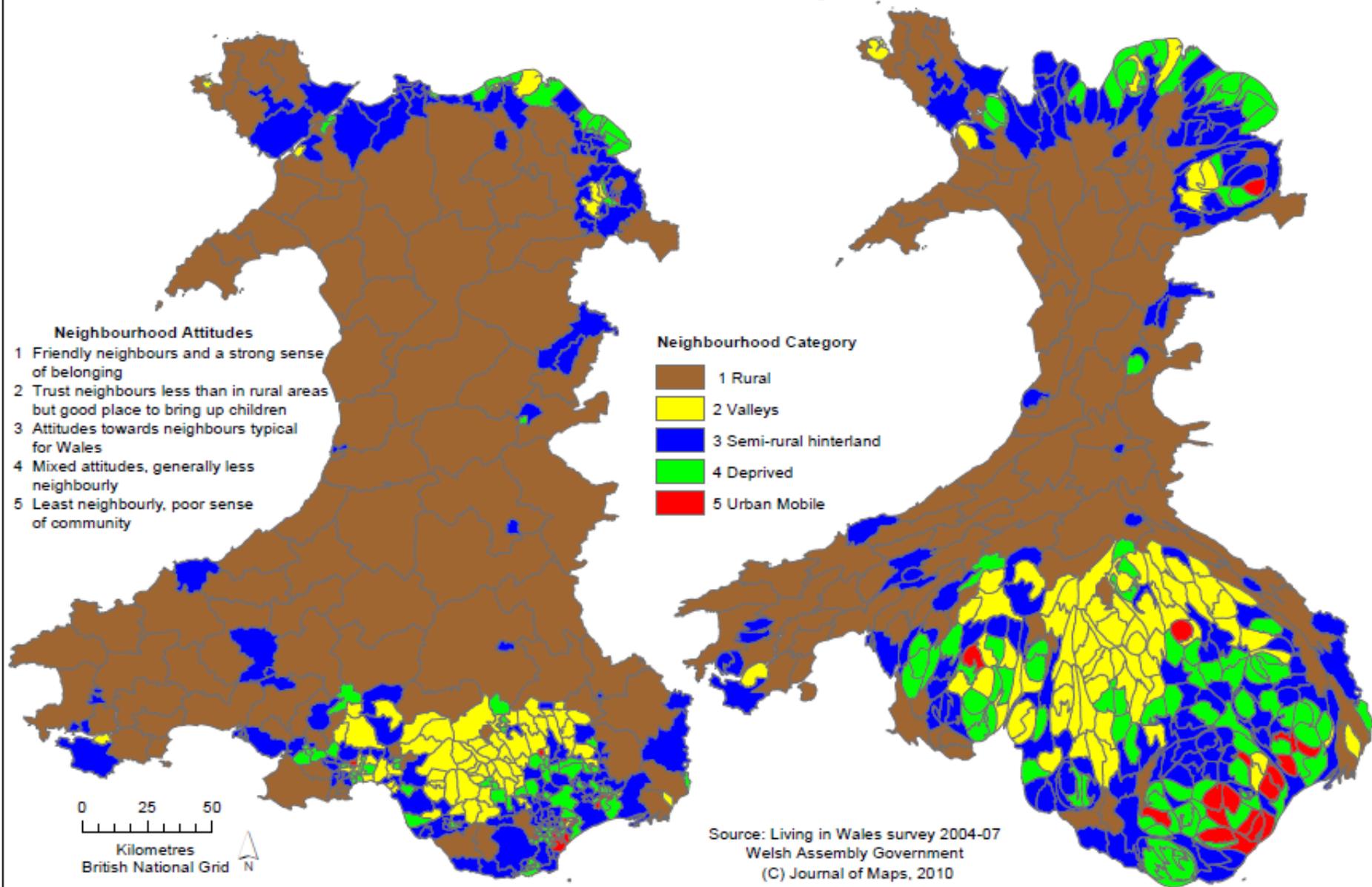
Cluster 5 is the most distinctive and has the fewest members

Cluster 3 has the most similarity to the other clusters and has the largest membership



# A classification of Welsh Middle Layer Super Output Areas using social attitudes data from the Living in Wales survey 2004-07

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Cluster ID	Map Label	Geographical description	Conventional Map Area (km-sq)	Cartogram Map Area (km-sq)	Proportional Difference in Map Area	Population 2001
1	Rural	Rural mid- west- and north-west Wales	15552	9214	0.59	608186
2	Valleys	Valleys and former mining areas	1223	2045	1.67	566472
3	Semi-rural hinterland	Suburban and semi-rural areas	2942	3808	1.29	952310
4	Deprived	Deprived – non-former mining areas	627	1840	2.94	656505
5	Urban Mobile	Inner-city neighbourhoods	37	303	8.29	119612



## Neighbourhood 1 Rural (90)

- Characterised by people who trust most of their neighbours and who believe that their neighbourhood is a very good place to bring up children.
- Over half talk to their neighbours on most days, and regard their friendship as meaning a lot to them.
- They tend to ask their neighbours for advice and for favours and to borrow things from them.
- They have a very good sense of belonging to the area and tend to see themselves as similar as other people in their area and are willing to work with others to improve the neighbourhood.
- These neighbourhoods are predominately rural and are concentrated in mid-, west and north-west Wales.



## Neighbourhood 2 Valleys (76)

- Characterised by people whose attitudes are quite similar to those in neighbourhood 1, **But:**
- They trust their neighbours a lot less than in neighbourhood 1, with less than half trusting most of their neighbours and a quarter trusting very few of them.
- A quarter believe that their neighbourhood is a very good place to bring up children, although half think that it is a fairly good place.
- These neighbourhoods are almost exclusively found, and almost entirely compose, the neighbourhoods of the Welsh valleys.
- The only other areas outside of the valleys where these neighbourhoods can be found are in the former slate mining communities

of north Wales





# Neighbourhood 4 Deprived (93)



- Characterised by people with a mix of attitudes towards their neighbourhood.
- Few people tended to strongly agree that they rely on their neighbours for advice, favours and friendship
- Few people strongly agreed that they have a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood and that they thought themselves as similar
- A third trusted very few people in their neighbourhood at all.
- Around half believe that it's a fairly good place to bring up children with a further fifth believing that it is a very good place.
- Located in more deprived areas of Wales and generally outside of the former mining communities. Concentrated in the south Wales urban areas and the coastal fringe of north Wales.



# Neighbourhood 5 Urban Mobile (18)

- Fewest members and least neighbourly
- Only a quarter trust many people in their neighbourhood
- Over half trust few people or no-one at all.
- Two fifths believe that it is a fairly good place to bring up children; nearly one third think that it is a poor place.
- Fewer people talk to their neighbours compared to the other neighbourhood types with a quarter talking to them less than once or month or never.
- People are less likely than in the other neighbourhood types to see neighbours as friends and less likely to ask advice and favours from them.
- Less of a sense of belonging and are less likely to see themselves as similar to others in their neighbourhood.





## Conclusions

- This has been an inductive, data-driven approach to neighbourhood classification.
- An important observation is the way in which 'geography' emerges through mapping the results of the cluster analysis
- strong spatial patterning in the clusters suggests that the attitudes of people in Wales towards the neighbourhood in which they live are broadly very similar
- the analysis suggests that these attitudes are strongly embedded within particular parts of Wales
- The distinctive clustering of neighbourhood 2 within the Welsh valleys but rarely outside of this area is a good example of this strong spatial clustering in attitudes.
- The distinctive rural neighbourhood 1 is another example







WISERD is investigating four localities covering each of these neighbourhood types.

The first locality is based around the predominately rural neighbourhoods (1) of west and mid-Wales.

The second is located around the valley neighbourhoods (2)

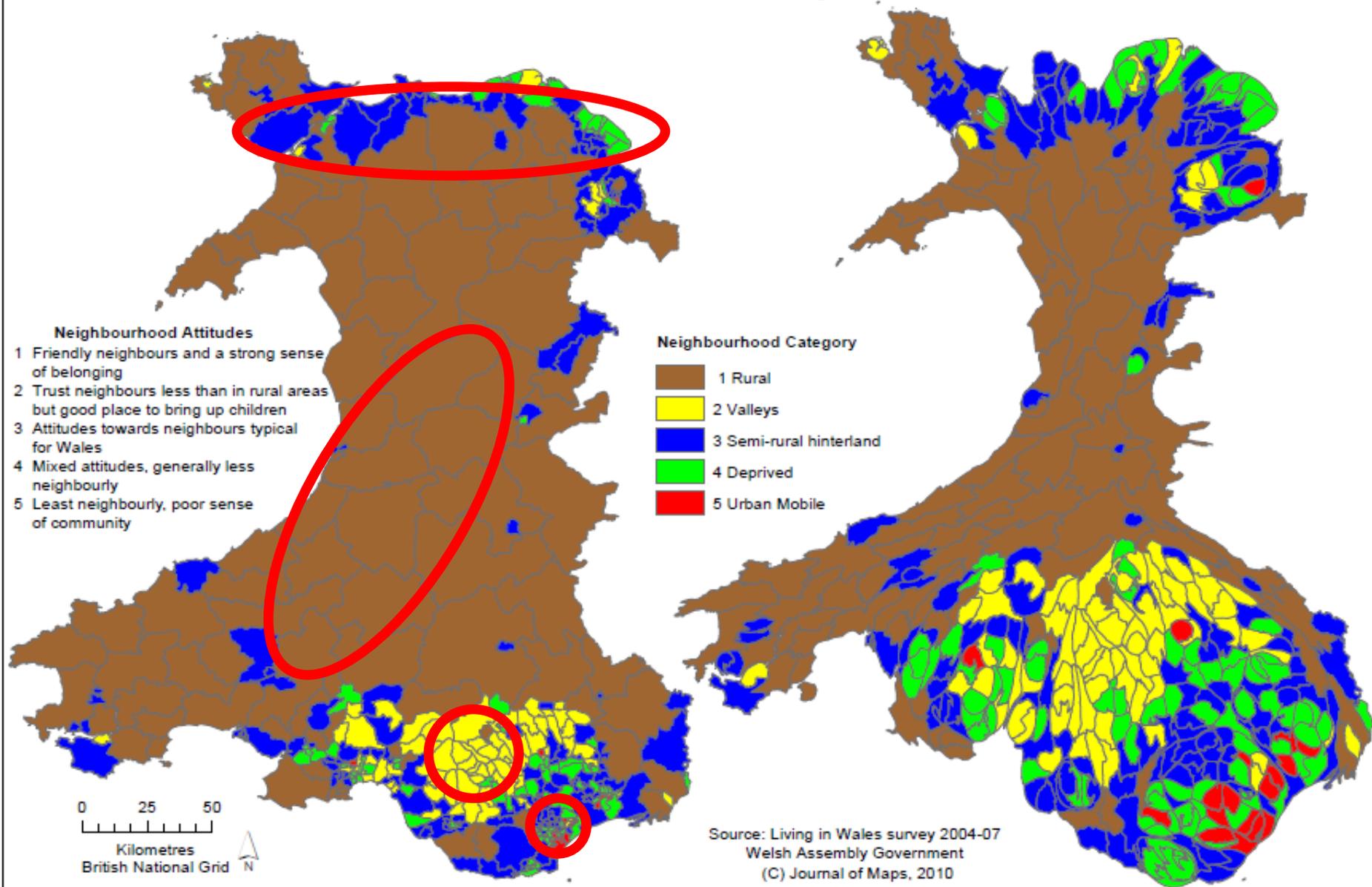
The third is concerned with the inner-city neighbourhoods (4) and (5) of Cardiff City centre.

The fourth locality is based around the A55 corridor – very diverse neighbourhoods



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## Further details

- Orford, S. and Jones, S. (2010) Mapping Welsh neighbourhood types classified using attitudinal data from the national Living in Wales survey, Journal of Maps, pp. 346-353, 10.4113/jom.2010.1096



## Publications related to this research:

- Orford, S. and Jones, S. (2010) [Mapping Welsh neighbourhood types classified using attitudinal data from the national Living in Wales survey](#), Journal of Maps, v2010, 346-353.