

Practical Tips for Legal Clinics:

Using Data to improve your service

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Tip 1: Long history of using data



Tip 2: Think carefully about what and why



Tip 3: Keep it in proportion



Tip 4: Check what has been done already

- Local authorities
- Other advice or pro bono partners (local or national)
- Some funders and Think Tanks
- Academics or researchers
- Close colleagues i.e. health practitioners

Tip 4: You know more than you think you do...

- Your databases hold a rich source of information about clients, their problems and their resolution (or lack of them)
- Follow your gut instinct as well as the data
- Humans are great guessers (although sometimes prone to bias so test your guess)

So what's the point.....

- Target services more effectively
- Identify who you are helping/not helping
- Uncover pockets of particular issues
- Put together the bigger picture
- Create the evidence to fuel our services

LawZone: Mapping Unmet Legal Need

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LawZone

Clinical legal education students.

Becoming embedded in a community to understand its advice needs, as part of a longitudinal study.

What we did

- Started low tech
- Then digitised map [LawZone](#)
- Began by mapping legal advice providers and social infrastructure
- Then reviewed all client files since 2008. classed by type and year and these were then marked and colour coded on the map

What we did

- Used Big Data to predict likely correlation of socio-economic conditions and legal problems.
- However, 'postcode deprivation' and abnormalities.

Outcomes – Business of Law

- Target services more efficiently
- Practical tool
- Combination of skills which is needed, including business skills

Outcomes – Practice of Law

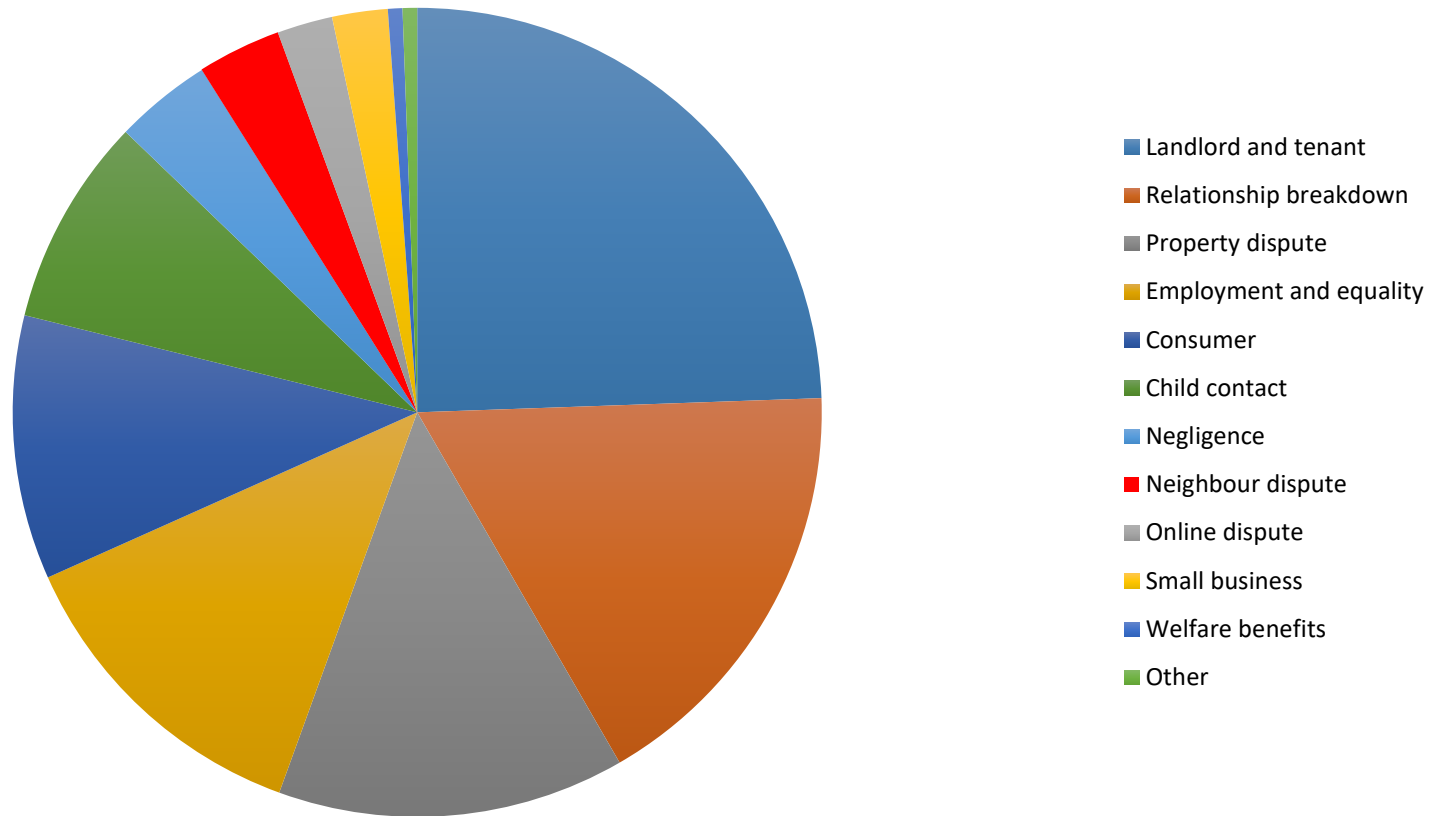
- Developed students 'Big Data' skills
- Evaluate data collection/fine graining
- Visualisation skills

Outcomes - Practice of Law



Outcomes - Neighbourhood disputes/PLE/ADR

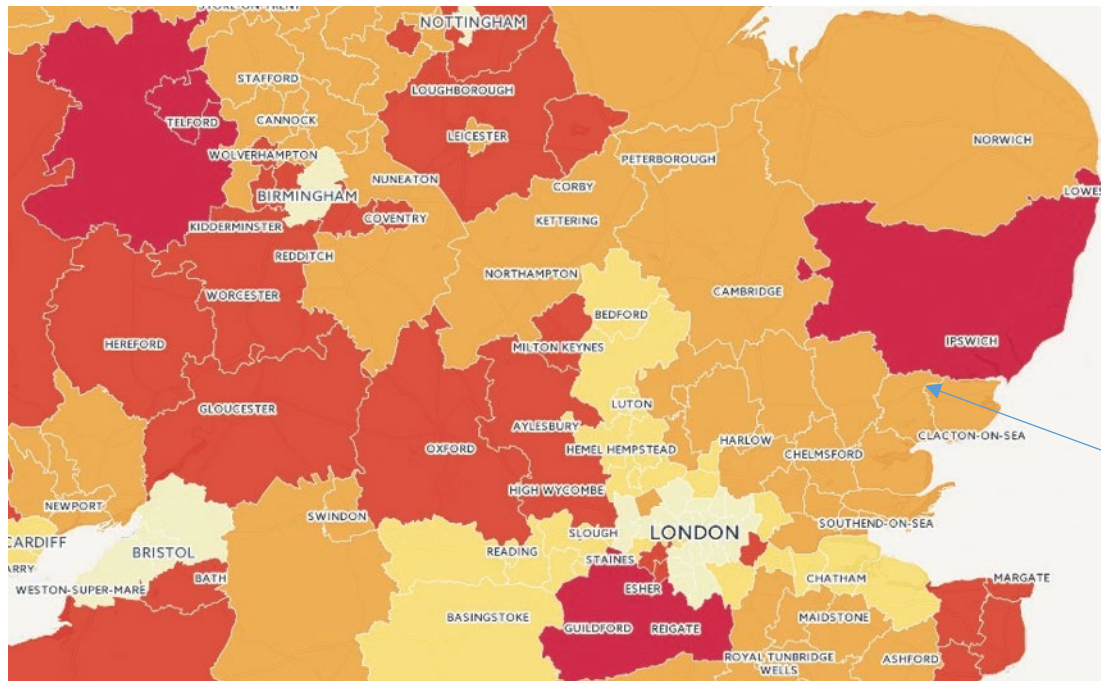
Percentage of clinic clients by subject matter



Outcomes- Practice of Law

- Unrepresented groups
- Outreach
- Is inequality designed into the environment?
- Multidisciplinary collaboration in analytical work is important, e.g. housing

Housing Advice Deserts Map



Essex Law
Clinic

Pedagogical principles

- Collaboration

Scalability

- LawZone Essex



New Technologies and Mapping

