



**The client:** Skills for Care

**The brief:** Skills for Care own and administer the National Minimum Dataset for Social Care, the source of workforce intelligence for the care sector in England. Skills for Care wanted to understand better how the dataset was used, and what impacts it had, in the policy-making and research communities in social care and allied fields.

**The approach:** SDA conducted a mixed methods evaluation incorporating bibliometric analysis, online surveys and in-depth interviews with a range of key stakeholders from the research and policy communities. The data were analysed using a research utilisation 'ladder' developed in Canada for social science research.

**The outcome:** A detailed evaluation report provided Skills for Care with evidenced impacts in research and policy processes and outcomes, as well as a series of recommendations for ways to further improve the impact of the dataset and its associated products.

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