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# Activity 1-4

## The 'Practitioner-Researcher'

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**The Practitioner Researcher is a local government professional who not only engages with community, but can also undertake social research to better understand community. To close Module 1, consider the following questions and note your responses:**

### The Practitioner Researcher

Where do you think social research will be most valuable to your practice as a local government professional?

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What form will this research take; will it be *Qualitative* or *Quantitative*, *Existing* or *Created*, or a combination of all of these types?

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When will you conduct this research; can you see the conduct of social research as part of your daily practice?

### Community

What do you currently know about those communities you engage with?

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Where did these views form; are they *research informed* and backed-up by 'data', or are they more tacit assumptions?

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What sorts of inquiries might you conduct using social research to better understand those communities with whom you work?

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### Points to Note...

The *Module 1-1 Video* and *Module 1-3 Video* discuss the idea of the 'Practitioner Researcher'. The Practitioner Researcher is a local government professional who is also skilled as a social researcher and can undertake social research to better inform an understanding of *who* community is and how it works.

### The Task

This task requires you to contemplate your role as a Practitioner Researcher. In building on the earlier Activities from this Module, turn your attention toward your research persona and the place you might hold as a Practitioner Researcher within your local government setting.

Social Research Toolkit:

using social research in local government  
community engagement