Reviewer's report

**Title:** Does Council Tax Valuation Band (CTVB) Correlate with Under-Privileged Area 8 (UPA8) Score and Could It Be A Better "Jarman Index"?

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**Reviewer:** Dr D O'Reilly

**Level of interest:** not specified

**Advice on publication:** Other (see below)

This paper quite rightly suggest that there is on going concerns about the validity of the Jarman UPS Score and sets out to show that the Council Tax Evaluation Band (CTVB) correlates with Jarman score.

The potential use of routinely available administrative data such as the CTVB as an alternative for census data, that is arguably out of date soon after it becomes available, is an innovation that deserves more recognition. The authors have demonstrated in a previous paper that CTVB is related to both Townsend score and to GP workload. However, as the Jarman score is acknowledged to be closely related to both Townsend and to GP workload, it would seem reasonable (as a syllogism) that they should ipso facto be related to the CTVB.

Therefore while I congratulate the authors on their first paper, which introduced the CTVB in this context, I feel that the present paper does not add sufficiently to that paper to warrant publication.

**Competing interests:**
None declared.