

## Research, evidence, and reports collated for you

### Health inequalities: place-based approaches to reduce inequalities

[Guidelines to support](#) local action on health inequalities.

### Could NHS waiting lists really reach 13 million?

[Institute for Fiscal Studies \(IFS\) modelling](#) shows the scale of the waiting list challenge ahead for the NHS in England, as the millions who have missed out on care come forward, and the NHS is potentially hamstrung by infection control measures and the continued need to treat a high number of Covid-19 patients. The analysis shows that whether or not waiting lists rise as far as 13 million depends crucially on the ability of the NHS to expand its capacity and treat more patients than it did pre-pandemic. If that proves impossible, waiting lists could indeed rise to 13 million – or even higher. [Interactive Tool](#)

### The untold heartbreak

This [British Heart Foundation report](#) warns that waiting lists for life-saving heart diagnosis and treatment could more than double within two years in England due to the pandemic. It estimates that the number of people anxiously waiting for heart care and diagnosis could peak at around 550,385 in January 2024 if the NHS doesn't get enough investment and is under increased pressure from Covid-19 or a bad winter. Missed opportunities to prevent, diagnose and treat heart and circulatory diseases, an unprecedented backlog of people waiting for care, and a cliff-edge fall in research funding could amount to a loss of progress for a generation and lives cut short from treatable heart conditions.

### Everybody active, every day: 5 years on

This [Public Health England document](#) outlines progress made in the past five years as a consequence of Public Health England's national physical activity framework, Everybody active, every day. It summarises the creation and dissemination of the framework, how the physical activity agenda has subsequently developed, and details independent feedback from stakeholders in response to the framework's four core domains. The document concludes by discussing future actions and recommendations identified from the review process.

### National Disability Strategy and related publications Disability Unity, Equality Hub

- [National Disability Strategy](#)  
The actions the government will take to improve the everyday lives of all disabled people.
- [UK Disability Survey research report, June 2021](#)  
An analysis of responses to the UK Disability Survey 2021, and data tables with responses to all questions
- [Exploring the everyday lives of disabled people](#)  
Research into the lived experiences of disabled people carried out by the Disability Unit and Policy Lab.
- [The lived experience of disabled people during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)  
Research to understand the impact of COVID-19 on the lives of disabled people, to identify problems that could be resolved through policy changes and to make the changes necessary that would lead to positive outcomes.

### Health in coastal communities: Chief Medical Officer annual report 2021

The [Report](#) highlights the substantially higher burden of physical and mental health conditions in coastal communities. The health challenges of coastal towns are serious, and today's report shows there is more in common between them than their nearest inland neighbours. Key recommendations include proposals for a cross-government strategy, greater coastal deployment of healthcare staff and improved data collection.

### Primary care networks: two years on

Despite still being in their infancy, primary care networks (PCNs) have played a leading role in England's response to Covid-19. Two years on from their creation, and approaching the mid-point of their five-year contract, this report considers their progress and successes so far, the challenges they have faced and the opportunities that lie ahead with the move to greater system working. [NHS Confederation Report](#)

### Cool Steps 2019 and 2020 (progress report on Wirral climate strategy)

[Progress report](#) on Wirral's climate strategy, produced via the Cool Wirral Partnership

### Physical activity: understanding and addressing inequalities

[Evidence-based guidance](#) for addressing inequalities in physical activity locally.

### Hospital tooth extractions of 0- to 19-year-olds

[Data on episodes](#) of children being admitted to hospital for tooth extractions from 2016 to 2020.

### COVID-19: wider impacts on people aged 65 and over

An [estimation of the impacts of coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) on physical activity and falls in older adults and recommendations to mitigate these effects

### COVID-19: impacts on health – reports and tools

[National reports and tool](#) to support the monitoring of the direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19 on the population.

### Community champions: a rapid scoping review of community champion approaches for the pandemic response and recovery

Community champions or health champions are active community members who draw on their local knowledge, skills, and life experience to promote health and wellbeing or improve conditions in their local community. They address barriers to engagement and improve connections between services and disadvantaged communities. Many local areas have developed community champion programmes to help support their local coronavirus (Covid-19) response. [This rapid scoping review](#) pulls together and considers existing research evidence on community champion approaches, both from the UK and internationally. This includes research on previous UK champion programmes focused on health improvement and international studies of champion-type roles in HIV prevention and outbreak control.

### Waiting for care: understanding the pandemic's effects on people's health and quality of life

This [long read from The Health Foundation](#) finds that the effects of the pandemic should not be measured in mortality alone. The suspension of routine NHS care has affected people's health and wellbeing – with the significance of this depending on the type of condition or treatment delayed.

### Living longer: impact of working from home on older workers

This [ONS report](#) explores the implications of the pandemic-driven change in working arrangements on the timing of older workers' exit from the labour market.

### Reaching the tipping point: children and young people's mental health

This [NHS Confederation report](#) considers what impact the pandemic has had on children and young people's mental health, the services that support them, and how local systems are working in new ways to confront the issues before them.

### Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) implementation guidance for systems: place, people, and communities, clinical and care professional leadership and VCSE

A [range of guidance](#) has been published to support the on-going progression and development of Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) across different topics:

- [Thriving places: Guidance on the development of place-based partnerships as part of statutory integrated care systems](#): supporting all partner organisations in ICSs to collectively define their place-based partnership working and consider how they will evolve.
- [Working with people and communities](#): includes 10 principles for how integrated care boards (ICBs) can develop their approaches to working with people and communities, and the expectations.
- [Effective clinical and care professional leadership](#): describes 'what good looks like' based on an extensive engagement exercise involving over 2,000 clinical and care professional leaders from across the country.
- [Partnerships with the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector](#): more detail on how to embed VCSE sector partnerships in ICSs.

### Delivering together for residents: How collaborative working in places and communities can make a difference

Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) are tasked with bringing local councils, health and care services and voluntary organisations together to work with communities to find new ways to ensure everyone has timely access to the treatment and support they need. This [new publication](#), from The Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers (SOLACE) in collaboration with NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE/I), sets out more ways we can continue to work together, using the experience and expertise of partners locally and nationally, to put in place convenient services that keep people healthy and well at every stage of their life. The report captures emerging best practice from eight local partnerships across the country where local government working with colleagues in health, housing and the voluntary sectors are having a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of their local communities.

### A reckoning: the continuing cost of Covid-19

This [joint briefing by NHS Providers and the NHS Confederation](#), based on survey data from 54 per cent of the provider sector, explains the potential long-term impact of the pandemic on the NHS's day-to-day running costs, and calls on the government to ensure these costs are met in full.

### How does digital exclusion exacerbate health inequalities?

Supported by the Health Foundation, [Good Things Foundation explores](#) how digital exclusion influences health inequalities and the impact of the pandemic on this.

## Promoting children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing

[Guidance](#) for headteachers and college principals on the 8 principles for promoting emotional health and wellbeing in schools and colleges.

## Annual epidemiological spotlight on HIV in the north-west: 2019 data

HIV remains an important public health problem in the north-west.

[These reports summarise:](#)

- trends in diagnoses of HIV
- prevalence of people living with diagnosed and undiagnosed HIV
- public health implications
- advice for stakeholders
- recommendations for the public

## Characteristics of women who stop smoking in pregnancy

[Experimental analysis of data](#) from the Maternity Services Data Set (MSDS), April 2018 to March 2019.

## Population screening: access for people with severe mental illness

[Information](#) for commissioners and screening providers, to help improve access to screening for people with severe mental illness.

## Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) engagement document

[Initial expectations](#) for the role of Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs) within Integrated Care Systems (ICSs).

## Weekly household spending fell by more than £100 on average during the coronavirus pandemic

UK households reduced their spending by an average of £109.10 (or 19%) a week in the year to March 2021 [according to ONS](#).

## Directors of Public Health and the Covid-19 pandemic: 'A year like no other'

The King's Fund, supported by the Health Foundation, has been studying the local response to and recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. [They published their findings](#) in Directors of public health and the Covid-19 pandemic 'A year like no other'.

## The Coming Storm

[Citizens Advice data](#) shows that people could struggle even more to make ends meet in the coming months

## Tackling the elective backlog: exploring the relationship between deprivation and waiting times

Long waiting times and growing waiting lists for hospital treatment have been a problem for some time, but now the Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated the issue and waiting lists have grown rapidly. As with other aspects of the pandemic, this has not been experienced equally. [This Kings Fund analysis](#) of waiting list data shows a clear relationship with deprivation, which sees those living in the most deprived areas nearly twice as likely to wait more than a year for treatment compared to those living in the least deprived areas.

## Building back cancer services in England

[This Institute for Public Policy Research](#) finds that even if stretched hospitals can maintain activity levels 5 per cent above pre-pandemic levels, it will still take until 2033 to clear the cancer treatment 'missing patients' backlog' caused by the pandemic. However, if activity levels can be increased further and maintained at 15 per cent above pre-pandemic levels, backlogs across the cancer care pathway could be cleared by next year. However, this uplift in cancer care activity could only be achieved with a new policy to increase the cancer workforce and investment in diagnostic equipment beyond the new funding announced in September.

## Elective care: how has Covid-19 affected the waiting list?

[Presented in six charts by The Health Foundation](#) this analysis looks at the impact of the pandemic on consultant-led elective care, using monthly referral to treatment waiting time data published by NHS England.

## Building back inclusively: the evidence

This [NHS Confederation briefing](#) provides analysis of August 2021 data and trends in waiting times, the impact on inequalities, and what the NHS and patients can expect unless action is taken. ([Also see Building back inclusively: radical approaches to tackling the elective backlog](#))

## Making ends meet: why pensioner poverty is still an issue

Although the UK has made great progress in tackling pensioner poverty over the past few decades, progress has stalled, and rates are now rising again. 2.1 million older people are living in poverty, which means they have to make difficult choices every day about how to spend their limited money. This [Age UK report](#) outlines why pensioner poverty is still an issue in society today and why more must be done to tackle it.

## Beyond reach: barriers to accessing early years services for children

To better understand the support parents need, [Action for Children surveyed](#) just over 2,000 parents of children aged 0–5 in England, to find out about their experience of using early years services. Four things stood out: parents need a wide range of early years services; for too many parents, these services are beyond reach; parents are worried about the impact of being unable to access support; and the government has an opportunity to change this.

## Good for you, good for us, good for everybody: a plan to reduce overprescribing to make patient care better and safer, support the NHS, and reduce carbon emissions

This [Department of Health and Social Care report](#) contains the findings and recommendations of the national overprescribing review led by Dr Keith Ridge, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer for England. The review sets out a series of practical and cultural changes to ensure patients are receiving the most appropriate treatment for their needs while ensuring clinicians' time is well spent and taxpayer money is spent wisely. This includes better use of technology, how to review prescriptions more effectively, and how to offer alternatives to medicines where they would be more effective.

## A new way of working: ending rough sleeping together

The [Kerlake Commission on Homelessness and Rough Sleeping final report](#) states that without urgent action the benefits and lessons learnt from joint working during the Covid-19 pandemic will be wasted, and the number of people having to sleep on the streets will rise again. The report makes 12 key recommendations that it says must be actioned if the positives achieved during the pandemic are not to be lost.

### Good homes for all: a proposal to fix England's housing

This [Centre for Ageing Better report](#) outlines how poor-quality housing has a negative impact on individuals and can disrupt whole communities. It finds a strong link between our homes and our health, with 2 million houses (1 in 10) posing a serious risk to their residents' health or safety. On a purely economic basis, the annual cost to the NHS attributed to low-quality housing is estimated at £1.4 billion for first-year treatment costs.

### What is wrong with inequality?

This [Institute for Fiscal Studies \(IFS\) report](#), published as part of the IFS Deaton Review of Inequalities, lays out the reasons people have for objecting to certain differences between what individuals have and in how they relate to one another.

### Attitudes to inequalities

This [Institute for Fiscal Studies \(IFS\) report](#), published as part of the IFS Deaton Review of Inequalities, looks not just at economic inequality, but at attitudes towards other types of inequalities that also have an important bearing on people's lives, including in health and education, and inequalities between genders, ethnic or racial groups, generations and people living in different areas.

### Severe mental illness: inequalities in cancer screening uptake

This [Public Health England report](#) presents analysis of differences in the uptake of bowel, breast and cervical cancer screening in England between people with and without severe mental illness (SMI). Based on a large sample of primary care data, the report is part 1 of an assessment of SMI and cancer screening. It is also part of a larger ongoing exploration into the causes of high premature mortality among adults with SMI. It shows that adults with SMI are twice as likely as adults without SMI to die prematurely (under the age of 75) from cancer. It also finds that cancer is the leading cause of premature mortality among adults with SMI.

### Is Manchester greater? A new analysis of NHS integration

The government is embarking on the most significant NHS reforms for a decade, with the aim of improving collaboration and integration across health and social care. However, this [Centre for Policy Studies analysis](#) of existing pilot schemes finds no compelling evidence of overall improvement. This report finds that in Greater Manchester, where integration is most advanced, results have been generally poor.

### Health and Care Bill: combined impact assessments

The Health and Care Bill was introduced to Parliament on 6 July 2021 and the legislation aims to build on work to make the health and care system more integrated and accountable. This [collection of documents from Department of Health and Social Care](#) examines the costs, benefits, risks and mitigations of the proposed changes.

### Public spending during the Covid-19 pandemic

This [House of Commons Library briefing](#) looks at the very high level of UK public spending on tackling the Covid-19 pandemic, including how the money was spent and where it came from.

### Pressures on the NHS

This [Institute for Fiscal Studies analysis](#) assesses how the government's new funding settlement compares with the pressures facing the health service. The new funding will likely be sufficient to cover Covid-19-related pressures on the NHS over the next two years, 2022–23, and 2023–24. However, the government's new plans imply little in the way of additional virus-related support after that point, suggesting that the newly announced funding might be insufficient to meet virus-related pressures in the medium term.

### The Canna model: assessing the impact of NHS Test and Trace on Covid-19 transmission

This [UK Health Security Agency report estimates](#) the impact directly attributable to NHS Test and Trace by comparing with a counterfactual scenario that assumes all individuals who tested with suspected coronavirus (Covid-19) symptoms would self-isolate without ever taking a test, together with their household contacts.

### Drawing light from the pandemic: a new strategy for health and sustainable development

Over the past year, members of the Pan-European Commission on Health and Sustainable Development have reflected on what worked and, more often, what did not work in the Covid-19 response and in previous crises. [This World Health Organization report makes a series of recommendations](#) with the aim of achieving seven key objectives to prevent a catastrophe on the same scale from happening again.

### Global status report on the public health response to dementia

This [World Health Organization \(WHO\) report](#) finds that only a quarter of countries worldwide have a national policy, strategy or plan for supporting people with dementia and their families. Half of these countries are in WHO's European Region, with the remainder split between the other regions. Yet even in Europe, many plans are expiring or have already expired, indicating a need for renewed commitment from governments. At the same time, the number of people living with dementia is growing according to the report: WHO estimates that more than 55 million people (8.1 per cent of women and 5.4 per cent of men over 65 years) are living with dementia. This number is estimated to rise to 78 million by 2030 and to 139 million by 2050.

### Dismissed for too long: recommendations to improve migraine care in the UK

This [Migraine Trust report](#) found a wide range of issues with migraine health care, including slow or no diagnosis and lack of access to specialist care. It sets out the action needed from the government, health care systems and other organisations to give everyone living with migraine in the UK the support they need.

### Tackling digital inclusion: Digital boards, tackling digital inclusion means designing services that meet all your users' needs

One very noticeable effect of the pandemic has been the huge growth in online activity. Patient experience and engagement work has been no exception - meetings, conferences, focus groups and training sessions are all held online, in ways that might have seemed inconceivable a year or so ago. The [NHS Providers guide](#) keeps service users front and centre, recommending the involvement of patients and service users (along with staff) from the outset, to identify barriers to access and prevent people slipping through the net.

### Behavioural insights: public health

[An overview](#) of how behavioural insights are used to improve public health in England (also see [Behaviour change: helping health professionals deliver brief interventions](#)).

### Physical activity: promotion within primary and secondary care

[Report and learning from the evidence base and local practice](#) of physical activity promotion in the NHS.

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If you have any local information, research or reports you think useful to share then get in touch [wirralintelligenceservice@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:wirralintelligenceservice@wirral.gov.uk) or if the bulletin has been passed onto you and you would like to subscribe please [complete this form](#)

Thanks, John.