

Wirral Intelligence Service

October 2023: Bulletin Supplementary Content

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[Adults, Children and Older People](#)

Exploring children and young people's mental health: a series of think pieces

The [Local Government Association has brought together a range of stakeholders, people with lived experience, researchers and experts in mental health, to independently develop a series of think pieces](#) exploring children's mental health and provide an opportunity to think differently about what children and young people need to live well.

Could early intervention prevent a retirement disability benefit timebomb?

The increasing number of working-age individuals in the UK unable to work due to sickness or disability is a growing concern. Unless steps are taken to improve the health of individuals, there is a risk of a significant number of people spending a decade or more in retirement on disability benefits. [This paper by Lane Clark & Peacock \(LCP\)](#) looks at the potential cost of leaving this growth in working-age disability unresolved and provides preventive health recommendations for the public and government.

A vision for community pharmacy

The Nuffield Trust and The King's Fund were commissioned by Community Pharmacy England to develop a vision for the direction of community pharmacy and to describe the actions needed to turn that vision into reality. [This report outlines that vision](#), warning that it cannot be delivered without changes to the law, as well as additional funding beyond what was announced in a recent pharmacy funding boost.

The good childhood report 2023

[In this year's Children's Society survey](#), nearly one-third of children aged 10 to 17 expressed unhappiness in at least one of ten areas of their lives. While 74 per cent were optimistic about their personal futures, less than 40 per cent felt positive about the future of their country and the world. Notably, 14.5 per cent of respondents were dissatisfied with school, the highest among the surveyed aspects. Children worried about family finances reported higher overall unhappiness, particularly regarding their homes, money, possessions and personal choices. Among future concerns, having enough money topped the list, followed by finding employment and academic success. In societal issues, rising prices and environmental concerns were prominent worries among the surveyed children.

Addressing education and health inequity: perspectives from the north of England

As well as looking at the funding of schools, [this report from Child of the North All-Party Parliamentary Group](#), also highlights that children born into the poorest fifth of families in the UK are almost 13 times more likely to experience poor health and educational outcomes by the age of 17. It concludes that this poses a risk for public services in future years, as the long-term consequences of poor education can not only impact physical and mental health, but can also place great pressure on the NHS, social care and the criminal justice system in the future. It calls for an overhaul of the current school funding formula, so it takes into consideration attainment inequalities and the health burden borne by schools, to prevent these disparities continuing to increase.

Inequalities in disability

[This analysis, by the Institute of Fiscal Studies](#), looks at differences and inequalities in the prevalence of disability and the degree to which health limits functional capabilities in the UK. This commentary studies differences in the prevalence of disability between education groups, regions, date of birth cohorts and genders. While there are a number of ways in which disability may affect outcomes, this commentary focuses particularly on employment as an outcome.

Transformative, not tokenistic: the patient voice in integrated care systems

[Long read: Transformative, not tokenistic: the patient voice in integrated care systems](#) is an NHS Confederation exploration as to how the patient voice can be embedded into system working in a meaningful and transformative way.

Treating causes not symptoms: Basic Income as a public health measure

[This Compass report](#) summarises research carried out by the Universities of Northumbria, York, Bath and Strathclyde, in collaboration with Compass and Autonomy. It highlights the potential of Basic Income as a public health measure. The study suggests that between 125,000 and 1 million cases of depressive disorders and 120,000 to 1.04 million cases of physical health symptoms could be prevented or postponed. Quality-adjusted life years gained could be valued at £3.9 billion to £19.7 billion, leading to significant cost savings for the NHS.

Not by choice – the unequal impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on disempowered ethnic minority and migrant communities

The Covid-19 pandemic exposed significant inequalities in the UK, particularly among ethnic minority communities and migrants. Data revealed higher infection rates, up to 88 per cent, in these groups. Additionally, Black men were twice as likely to die from the virus compared with White British men. Lack of access to sick pay and support schemes disproportionately affected minority workers and migrants, forcing them to work despite risks. The vaccination programme also failed to reach and protect these communities adequately. [The findings of this Doctors of the World report](#) argue that better, evidence-based and responsive policy and practice at the time could have changed these outcomes.

The implementation of family hubs: Emerging strategies for success

The [LGA commissioned Coram to develop a series of six case studies](#) exploring various elements of family hubs delivery across some councils in England.

The caring penalty

This [Joseph Rowntree Foundation report](#) outlines how unpaid carers provide a service to society but argues that they should shoulder a financial penalty in doing so. It uses data from Understanding Society and looks at the magnitude, causes and distribution of the carer pay penalty and how policies can help mitigate it.

The state of health and care of older people in England 2023

This [Age UK report documents how the health and care system is struggling, and too often failing, to meet the needs of our growing older population](#). It shows how significant numbers of hospital admissions of older people could be avoided if they received help earlier on, before small health problems mushroom into crises requiring urgent clinical support. However, this will only happen if there is a strong political leadership from the government and a drive right across the NHS and local authorities to make it happen.

Behaviour and mental health in schools

The Children & Young People's Mental Health Coalition (CYPMHC) [has published a report on mental health and behaviour in schools in England](#). Following an online survey and evidence sessions the report found: punitive approaches to behaviour management are harming children and young people's mental health; and some groups of children and young people are disproportionately impacted by school behavioural policies. The report calls for a wholesale culture shift in how behaviour is viewed and responded to in schools.

National child measurement programme (NCMP): changes in the prevalence of child obesity between 2019 to 2020 and 2021 to 2022

[This report](#) examines the changes in the prevalence of obesity and severe obesity between academic years 2019 to 2020 and 2021 to 2022 using data from the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP).

Data collected between September 2021 and July 2022 (2021 to 2022 NCMP) is compared to the 2 previous years of NCMP data: data collected between September 2019 and March 2020 before the start of the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic (2019 to 2020 NCMP), and data collected one year later between March 2021 and July 2021 (2020 to 2021 NCMP). Changes in prevalence are examined for children in reception (aged 4 to 5 years) and year 6 (aged 10 to 11 years) in mainstream state-funded schools in England. Changes in prevalence are examined within different regional, socioeconomic and ethnic groups, to assess whether existing disparities in child obesity have improved or worsened.

Indicators related to under 18 conceptions, pregnancy and birth: 2023 update

[Indicators in the child and maternal health profiles and sexual and reproductive health profiles have been updated.](#) The profiles give data at a local, regional and national level to inform the development and provision of family planning, antenatal and maternity care.

Children and Young Peoples Vaping Report – Healthwatch Blackpool

[Healthwatch Blackpool collected feedback from 4170 local children and young people on the topic of e-cigarettes and vaping in Blackpool.](#) 3532 children and young people, predominantly aged between 10-24, participated in our survey. The report includes focus group feedback from children and young people, parents and carers, and teachers and professionals.

Growing problems, one year on: the state of children’s health care and the Covid-19 backlog

A previous report showed that although the direct effects of Covid-19 on children and young people had generally been milder than for older groups, the impact of the pandemic was huge, with waiting lists for children and young people's care growing rapidly and mental health a serious concern. This [Nuffield Trust report investigates](#) whether there have been improvements in the state of health and care for children and young people.

Environment and Place

Community pharmacy in England

[This briefing](#) from House of Commons Library provides information on community pharmacy services in England. It focuses on funding, services, workforce and pharmacy closures.

Home improvement: a triple dividend – Part one: boosting the British economy

[This DEMOS report](#) presents a case for a comprehensive nationwide programme to address the poor quality of the UK's homes. It finds that 3.5 million homes in England are a threat to their occupants' health and safety, and have the highest associated health and care costs in western Europe. This briefing, produced in partnership with the Centre for Ageing Better, explores the economic opportunity that lies in shaping a home improvement policy that provides safe, energy-efficient homes for a growing and ageing population. It concludes that by investing in homes, pressure on health and social care services could be reduced.

Damp and mould: understanding and addressing the health risks for rented housing providers

[This guidance](#) delivers on the government's commitment in response to the Coroner's 'prevention of future deaths' report on the death of 2-year-old Awaab Ishak due to mould in the home.

Air pollutants: quantification of associated health effects

Committee on the Medical Effects of Air Pollutants (COMEAP) [summary of recommendations for quantifying the health effects of air pollutants](#).

How much public spending does each area receive? Local authority level estimates of health, police, school and local government spending

This [Institute for Fiscal Studies report](#) estimates the total funding available for five services in each local authority area in England in 2022–23. It finds per capita funding does vary significantly between areas. Typically, areas that receive more per capita funding for one service also receive above-average funding for other services. More deprived and more densely populated (typically more urban) places receive more funding per capita on average across all the services.

Climate change: second national adaptation programme (2018 to 2023)

[This report](#) sets out what government and others will be doing over the next 5 years to be ready for the challenges of climate change.

Living and working well position statement

In 2021, an estimated 149 million days of work were lost due to injury or illness which equates to more than 4 days per employee. There are also disparities in populations that take sick leave, as people with the highest rates of sickness absence were females, older employees and people with chronic conditions, part-time workers and those employed in service sectors such as care and leisure. [In this policy position statement, the Association of Directors of Public Health \(ADPH\)](#) sets out recommendations for how businesses should be enabled to invest in employees' health and wellbeing for the good of individuals, businesses, communities and the wider UK economy.

Income, Poverty

Unlocking the power of health beyond the hospital: supporting communities to prosper

This [NHS Confederation report](#) explores how investment in community care can improve system productivity as it relates to spend. It finds that acute health care spending between 2020/21 and 2021/22 grew faster than any other form of NHS spending, despite performance continuing to be challenged with pressure on A&E, beds and discharges. It concludes that responding to these pressures requires a more holistic understanding of system productivity.

A new framework for tackling poverty

The [Poverty Strategy Commission's interim report](#) highlights the persistently high poverty rates in the UK, affecting individuals, families, and society at large. It emphasises the need for a new approach to tackle poverty, focusing on reducing costs and debt, and increasing resilience, rather than just increasing incomes. The report calls for collective action from businesses, civic society, individuals, and governments at all levels. It advocates for a new social contract to eliminate deep poverty and improve outcomes, aiming for a significantly lower and more sustainable poverty rate in the UK.

Recipe for Change: building support for an industry levy to help make our food healthier

Thirty-six well-known health organisations, Royal Colleges and charities have joined forces in the Recipe for Change campaign, calling on the government to introduce a new industry levy to make food healthier and raise additional revenues for investment in children's health. To mark the campaign launch, [this report outlines the challenges faced by families in accessing healthier diets due to the environment they live in and the current lack of incentives for businesses to act to improve this](#). It also examines the history of policy-making in this area, including the limitations of voluntary programmes. It explores the success of the Soft Drinks Industry Levy in reducing sugar and raising revenues for child health, as well as the opportunities for building on this to improve the healthiness of food and, in turn, the health of children and families all over the country.

Joint statement on public health and poverty

This joint statement from the [ADPH, the Royal Society for Public Health and the Royal Society of Medicine](#) recognises the impact that poverty continues to have on public health and the solutions needed at the local and national level.

Joint Statement: Public health and poverty

In May 2023, the Royal Society for Public Health, Faculty of Public Health, Association of Directors of Public Health, and the Royal Society of Medicine came together to discuss the impact that poverty continues to have on public health and the solutions needed at the local and national level. [Based on discussions on the day, they produced a joint statement which sets out the importance of tackling poverty in order to improve the health of the public.](#)

The Broken Plate 2023. The State of the Nation's Food System

[This Food Foundation report](#) looks at our food environment and its vital signs, its impact on our lives and what needs to change to support us all to eat healthily and sustainably

Health

Learning the lessons: the unequal impact of the Covid-19 pandemic: voices of people and communities

This [National Voices report](#) captures the findings from an engagement exercise held by National Voices about how communities and groups were affected differently by both the Covid-19 virus and the measures to control it. It finds that the pandemic response exacerbated existing, deep-rooted inequalities across the UK, and compounded the disadvantages experienced by people from minoritised communities, by disabled people and by people living with long-term conditions.

Saving your breath: how better lung health benefits us all

This [Asthma + Lung UK analysis](#) reveals that despite being the third biggest killer in the UK, simple tests for common lung conditions aren't widely available to GPs, forcing them to make educated guesses when it comes to diagnosis. The cost of this testing crisis in England alone amounts to an estimated £2.2 billion due to avoidable hospital stays and treatment. The report sets out three steps to improve the care of people with a lung condition.

Policy position: air quality

This [Association of Directors of Public Health \(ADPH\) policy position statement on air quality](#) gives an overview of the main issues for public health and sets out its national and local recommendations for improving air quality in the UK.

The state of integrated care systems 2022/23: Riding the storm report published

As Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) mark their first anniversary as formal partnerships, [this report](#) from NHS Confederation examines the progress that local systems have made and identifies opportunities for further development. The findings highlight that ICSs have got off to a strong start despite a difficult operating environment and identifies barriers to progress including the lack of a long-term workforce plan for social care.

Major conditions strategy: case for change and our strategic framework

Ahead of the government's forthcoming major conditions strategy, [this report](#) sets out our approach to tackling the groups of conditions that drive ill health in England.

Ten-year drug strategy: From harm to hope - first annual report

[The Government has published the first annual report on progress against the ten-year drugs strategy](#), From hard to hope. Alongside the report, Minister Chris Philp has written to Combatting Drugs Partnership Senior Responsible Owners urging them to increase numbers in treatment and emphasising the importance of engaging with key local partners.

Creating better health value: understanding the economic impact of NHS spending by care setting

[This research \(commissioned by the NHS Confederation and conducted by Carnall Farrar\)](#) examines where the greatest returns on investment from spending in the NHS can come from to impact the wider domestic economy. It shows that when high levels of funding are ploughed into primary and community care the economic gains are significant. In the five years between 2015 and 2019 those localities in England that most increased NHS spend in primary and community care experienced far higher gross value added (GVA) growth in their areas than those that spent the least on these services.

The societal and economic costs of preventable cancers in the UK

The key findings estimate that the total cost of UK preventable cancer cases diagnosed in 2023 is £78 billion, equating to 3.5 per cent of annual GDP. For new cases diagnosed between 2023 to 2040, the total cost is £1.26 trillion. This equates to an annual cost of at least £61 billion in each of these years in real, discounted 2023£. [This study was undertaken by Frontier Economics for The Guardian.](#)

How confident are people about accessing NHS healthcare?

This [Healthwatch England research](#) shows low public confidence in being able to access NHS services. It finds that a third of adults in England lack confidence that they can access timely care, including GP services, mental health support and hospital care. It also suggests that perceptions of access to NHS care is a health inequality issue, with some of the most vulnerable groups having the lowest confidence that they will get the care they need in a timely way.

The state of integrated care systems 2022/23: riding the storm

This [NHS Confederation report](#) aims to provide insights into the successes and challenges of integrated care systems (ICSs) one year after their formal establishment. Building on the Hewitt review and through engagement with NHS Confederation members, it identifies key recommendations that the NHS Confederation believes will give ICSs the conditions they need to deliver for the local population they serve.

PrEP Insight Project

The [English HIV and Sexual Health Commissioners' Group \(EHSHCG\) has launched its HIV PrEP insight report outlining new insights](#) about the barriers and facilitators to increase the uptake of PrEP among underserved populations in England. The results outline barriers experienced by each group, but also offer a range of facilitators. The recommendations are then mapped against personal, provider and wider system domains. This means that there are recommendations and findings for policy-makers, clinicians, commissioners and community-based organisations, as well as all others in the sector.

Health security from the ground up: 5 lessons for the future of the UKHSA

This [paper from Reform](#) explores the shortcomings in the English response to Covid-19 and presents five policy ideas that would help strengthen the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and improve the UK's resilience in the face of future health crises.

Major conditions strategy: case for change and Governments strategic framework

Ahead of the government's forthcoming major conditions strategy, [this Department of Health and Social Care report](#) sets out our approach to tackling the groups of conditions that drive ill health in England.

Briefing: Maternal mental health briefing for integrated care systems

[Briefing: Maternal mental health briefing for integrated care systems](#) has been produced by Maternal Mental Health Alliance to help integrated care systems (ICs) understand the role they have in ensuring every new and expectant mother receives the right mental health support at the right time, close to home.

Growing numbers of delayed discharges from community hospitals

Community hospitals play a very important role in supporting patients but, unlike with larger hospitals, little has been known until now about how they struggle with delayed discharges. After a freedom of information request, this Nuffield Trust [chart of the week](#) reveals that a growing number of patients are delayed when leaving community hospitals. The [information](#) also highlights the capacity challenges such hospitals face.

Health security from the ground up: 5 lessons for the future of the UKHSA

This [Reform paper](#) explores the shortcomings in the English response to Covid-19 and presents five policy ideas that would help strengthen the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and improve the UK's resilience in the face of future health crises.

Spotlight on nursing and midwifery: report 2023

This [Nursing and Midwifery Council annual report](#) aims to share insights that can further improve learning and practice in nursing and midwifery, supporting professionals to uphold high standards. The data in the report shows that growth of the UK nursing and midwifery workforce has been increasingly reliant on international recruitment over recent years. However, some new international recruits have reported: not feeling respected or treated the same as colleagues; racist and derogatory language; and feeling misled during recruitment processes. It also finds that preceptorship programmes, which are designed to support new professionals into their workplaces, are not being delivered consistently, with wide variation in the way they are organised and supervised by different employers.

Health in 2040: projected patterns of illness in England

[Produced by The Health Foundation's REAL Centre in partnership with the University of Liverpool, this report aims to support policymakers prepare for the future by looking at patterns of illness over the next two decades.](#) The analysis lays out the potential scale and impact of the growth in the number of people living with major illness as the population ages, assigning scores to 20 conditions based on how likely the illness is to affect people's use of primary care and emergency health services and likelihood of death. The report projects that 9.1 million people will be living with major illness by 2040, 2.5 million more than in 2019.

Sexual health: How councils are driving innovation through partnership working

These [Local Government Association case studies](#) highlight the varied ways councils are working with trusted partners to help communities access sexual and reproductive health services.

Informed, heard, empowered: placing women at the heart of reproductive health policy

This [Bayer UK report](#) from pharmaceutical company Bayer UK calls for a woman-centred and evidence-based approach to supporting women in maintaining optimal sexual and reproductive health, identifying a series of recommendations that could ultimately lead to higher quality, more accessible and more consistent care for women across the UK.

A covenant for health: policies and partnerships to improve our national health in 5 to 10 years

There is an opportunity to make significant improvements to the health of the nation in just five to ten years, benefiting millions of people, society, the economy and health systems. This report explains where and how to do so. [The Independent report led by Lord Filkin report](#) was led by Lord Geoffrey Filkin CBE with Professor Kate Arden; Lord James Bethell; David Buck, The King's Fund; Dr Paul Corrigan CBE, former Health Adviser, No 10; Professor Sian Griffiths CBE; and Professor David Halpern CBE, Behavioural Insights Team, with project support from The King's Fund.

Variations in the delivery of palliative care services to adults

This [Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch report](#) sets out an investigation undertaken examining the quality and consistency of palliative care provided to adults. It finds that palliative and end-of-life care is 'variable and inequitable' across the NHS in England and that these differences may be more noticeable in areas where funding for services is limited or where care is being delivered across wide geographical areas.

GP patient survey 2023

This [Ipsos survey](#) asks about patients' local GP services (including use of online services, awareness and satisfaction with opening times and preferred GPs), experience of making an appointment, the quality of care at their last appointment, overall experience of their GP practice, experience when their GP practice is closed and NHS dentistry as well as current health status. It finds that 71.3 per cent of patients reported a good overall experience of their GP practice, lower than in 2022 (72.4 per cent); this followed a larger decrease between 2021 and 2022.

England state of maternity services 2023

According to this [Royal College of Midwives report](#), if the number of NHS midwives in England had risen at the same pace as the overall health service workforce since the last general election, there would be no midwife shortage. It highlights the lack of investment in maternity services and the impact of staffing shortages on women. It also describes how more complex needs, including rising levels of obesity in pregnancy and increases in the number of older women having babies, are increasing demands on maternity services.

NHS dentistry

This [Health and Social Care Select Committee report](#) shares evidence of pain and distress due to being unable to see an NHS dentist and calls for an urgent and fundamental reform of NHS dentistry if people are to receive the dental care they are entitled to. It describes the current contract, which pays dentists for NHS 'units of dental activity,' as not fit for purpose. It also finds common misconceptions among the public about entitlement to NHS dental services and calls for action to address this.

The practice of collaborative leadership: across health and care services

This [King's Fund report](#) shares insights and evidence about how to collaborate well to build a stronger collaborative ethos across health and care services.

A vision for the future of primary care

Through insights gathered within a coalition of health and care charities, [National Voices has identified nine proposals for the reform of primary care that it believes would make a significant difference for people living with health conditions and disability](#), and in particular people from groups that experience health inequalities, while also supporting the primary care workforce.

Excess deaths involving CVD in England since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic: an analysis and explainer

This [British Heart Foundation analysis](#) finds that nearly 100,000 more people with cardiovascular disease than expected have died since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in England. It means that, on average, there have been more than 500 additional deaths a week involving cardiovascular disease since the Covid-19 pandemic began.

All is not well: sickness absence in the NHS in England

[According to this Nuffield Trust report](#), the NHS in England is facing a new normal of sickness absence in hospitals and community services, having seen a 29 per cent jump in the most recent calendar year compared with the year before the pandemic (an average of 5.6 per cent in 2022 vs 4.3 per cent in 2019), equating to an average of 17,000 additional staff off sick each day. It also finds that the levels of sickness absence are not equal around the country and that ambulance services have seen a particular spike, with three ambulance trusts seeing one in ten staff off sick on average every day in 2022.

NHS long term workforce plan

This [NHS England plan](#) sets out how the NHS will address existing vacancies and meet the challenges of a growing and ageing population by recruiting and retaining hundreds of thousands more staff over 15 years and working in new ways. It also sets out long-term workforce projections. It aims to reduce reliance on expensive agency spend that could cut the bill for taxpayers by around £10 billion between 2030/31 and 2036/37. It was commissioned and accepted by the government, which has backed the plan with more than £2.4 billion to fund additional education and training places over five years on top of existing funding commitments.

Tuberculosis (TB): migrant health guide

[Advice and guidance](#) on the health needs of migrant patients for healthcare practitioners.

GP profiles for patients

[These profiles](#) provide an overview of data that is important to general practice patients, such as: How easy it is to get an appointment, what patients think about their practice and how many staff work at their practice

Palliative and end of life care profiles: June 2023 data update

[The update for June 2023](#) has been published by the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID).

Excess mortality in England and English regions

Monitoring excess mortality provides understanding of the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) during the course of the pandemic and beyond. [Excess mortality in these analyses is defined as the number of deaths throughout the pandemic that are above the estimated number expected.](#)

Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF)

[The Office for Health Improvement and Disparities \(OHID\) has published the Public Health Outcomes Framework quarterly data update for May 2023.](#) The data is presented in an interactive tool that allows users to view it in a user-friendly format. The data tool also provides links to further supporting information, to aid understanding of public health in a local population.

Access to unplanned or urgent care

This [National Audit Office report](#) gives a factual overview of NHS services that may be used when people need rapid access to urgent, emergency or other non-routine health services, and whether such services are meeting the performance standards the NHS has told patients they have a right to expect. It covers general practice; community pharmacy; 111 calls; ambulance services (including 999 calls); urgent treatment centres; and accident and emergency departments.

The NHS productivity puzzle: why has hospital activity not increased in line with funding and staffing?

[This report – written jointly by the Institute for Government and Public First and funded by The Health Foundation](#) – assesses why NHS hospitals are failing to deliver higher activity despite higher spending on the service and higher levels of staffing over the past couple of years. It argues that politicians need to focus on capital investment, staff retention and boosting management capacity, and sets out key questions for policymakers to address if they want to solve the NHS crisis. It finds that most of the challenges identified in the report existed before the pandemic and have been exacerbated since.

Population health management in primary health care: a proactive approach to improve health and well-being: primary health care policy paper series

Population health management can play a critical role in strengthening primary health care (PHC) by providing a data-driven, people-centred and proactive approach to managing the health and well-being of a defined population. By identifying subgroups with similar characteristics and needs, population health management can enable PHC providers to move from a one-size-fits-all approach to targeted and tailored interventions that account for the needs of different groups and individuals. By focusing on the social determinants of health and psychosocial needs, population health management can help PHC providers in adopting a holistic and proportionate universalism approach to address health inequalities at the community level. [This World Health Organization publication](#) identifies key success factors at the system, organizational and clinical levels to enable population health management in PHC. It includes 12 country examples from across the WHO European Region showing how population health management is used in PHC. The publication provides a set of 16 policy actions to help PHC providers move towards a population health management approach that are classified following the PHC levers of the WHO Operational Framework for Primary Health Care.

Integrated care strategies: a snapshot in progress

This [NHS Confederation briefing](#) provides an overview of the themes emerging from the first iterations of integrated care strategies published by integrated care systems. It aims to be a reference point for colleagues across ICSs to understand what other systems have included in their strategies and how they have approached them.

Understanding the drivers of healthy life expectancy: report

This [Office for Health Improvement and Disparities report](#) summarises several pieces of statistical analysis and findings from a rapid literature review aimed at exploring the drivers of healthy life expectancy. It assesses the relative impact of mortality rates and self-reported health on healthy life expectancy and details the key factors that are most influential in driving these two components.

Health Behaviours

Get Active: a strategy for the future of sport and physical activity

The [Government has published its new sport strategy](#) 'Get Active: A strategy for the future of sport and physical activity'. It sets out a blueprint to improve the nation's health and fitness, enhance corporate governance in the sport sector and make it more resilient to future challenges at elite and grassroots level. It includes new participation targets to get over 2.5 million more adults and over one million more children active by 2030.

Get Active: a strategy for the future of sport and physical activity

This [Department for Culture, Media and Sport policy paper](#) outlines a strategy to address challenges facing the sport and physical activity sector in the UK. It highlights the importance of sports in national identity and the need to promote physical activity for a happier, healthier and more prosperous life. The strategy aims to overcome obstacles posed by the pandemic and financial constraints, setting ambitious goals to increase the number of active adults and children. It emphasises the importance of collaboration between government, communities, schools and health care systems to support physical activity and enhance safety in sports. The strategy also focuses on effective public funding, school sports, community facilities and ongoing reform to ensure the sector's vitality.

Population health in business

[This report by Public Policy Projects](#) explores the significant impact that businesses can have in promoting positive employee and community health outcomes and proposes a series of policy recommendations aimed at strengthening partnerships between businesses and integrated care systems (ICSs) to create healthier and more equitable communities (document link is half way down page).

Carrots and sticks: can governments do without public health regulation?

[This is the first of three papers from the Social Market Foundation exploring tobacco, alcohol, obesity and gambling policy.](#) It compares different types of policy approach and concludes that more 'interventionist' and apparently politically challenging measures, such as strict regulations on availability and taxes, tend to be more effective.

Obesity Profile update: May 2023

Update of adult overweight and obesity prevalence data for England, regions, and local authority geographies. [Data is presented](#) at upper and lower tier local authority, region and England for the years 2015 to 2022. England level data on inequalities is also included for these indicators, displaying data by index of multiple deprivation decile, ethnic group, working status, disability, level of education, socioeconomic class, age and sex.

Obesity Profile update: May 2023

The ['Future of Britain' initiative, led by Jamie Oliver and the Tony Blair Institute](#), proposes a policy agenda for innovation and invention, focusing on transforming the food system to tackle childhood obesity and promote a healthier, more prosperous UK. It calls for free school meals, food education, and protection from unhealthy products, creating a healthier commercial food environment. The initiative emphasizes the need for political will, cross-party consensus, and adoption of new research and treatments to address obesity effectively.

Evaluating the impact of minimum unit pricing for alcohol in Scotland: a synthesis of the evidence

This is the [final report from the Public Health Scotland \(PHS\) evaluation of minimum unit pricing \(MUP\) for alcohol in Scotland](#). It brings together the evidence produced by the studies in the PHS evaluation portfolio, plus other published studies, to describe the impact of MUP in Scotland.

The regulation of e-cigarettes - House of Commons Library UK Parliament

This [House of Commons Library briefing paper](#) provides an overview on the regulation of e-cigarettes.

Population health management in primary health care: a proactive approach to improve health and well-being: primary health care policy paper series

Population health management can play a critical role in strengthening primary health care (PHC) by providing a data-driven, people-centred and proactive approach to managing the health and well-being of a defined population. By identifying subgroups with similar characteristics and needs, population health management can enable PHC providers to move from a one-size-fits-all approach to targeted and tailored interventions that account for the needs of different groups and individuals. By focusing on the social determinants of health and psychosocial needs, population health management can help PHC providers in adopting a holistic and proportionate universalism approach to address health inequalities at the community level. [This World Health Organization publication identifies key success factors at the system, organizational and clinical levels to enable population health management in PHC](#). It includes 12 country examples from across the WHO European Region showing how population health management is used in PHC. The publication provides a set of 16 policy actions to help PHC providers move towards a population health management approach that are classified following the PHC levers of the WHO Operational Framework for Primary Health Care.

Mental Health

Inequalities in mental health care for Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller communities: identifying best practice

This [NHS Race and Health Observatory report](#) addresses the lack of mental health care provision, despite the significant need, and captures first-hand insight and good-practice examples from six effective services. These services are mainly run by voluntary Gypsy, Roma and Traveller organisations for members of these communities. It finds that, while shame, stigma and structural barriers contribute to a number of areas in which Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities experience health inequalities, this is worsened by a lack of granular data and tailored health services. Additionally, health care professionals do not always understand the communities' needs or lifestyles. Mental health services are especially poor for these groups, and data shows a high number of suicides.

A mentally healthier nation: towards a ten-year, cross-government plan for better prevention, equality and support

This [Centre for Mental Health report](#), published on behalf of more than 30 national charities, sets out what a long-term government mental health plan for England could look like. It calls for action to tackle poverty and racial injustice, for reforms to the benefits and justice systems, and for further investment in better and more equitable mental health services. It draws on evidence provided to the UK government's consultation on its proposed 10-year plan to identify the actions that are necessary to protect people's mental health, reduce mental health inequalities, and improve mental health services nationwide.

Social needs among people living with mental health difficulties

On behalf of Centre for Mental Health, the NIHR Mental Health Policy Research Unit (MHPRU) at University College London (UCL) and King's College London (KCL) reviewed research about how mental health services can best support the social needs of people living with mental health difficulties. [This briefing paper](#) summarises their findings and explores the policy implications.

Suicide prevention in England: 5-year cross-sector strategy

[This strategy sets out the government's ambitions over the next five years to: reduce suicide rates; improve support for people who have self-harmed; and improve support for people bereaved by suicide.](#) The strategy was informed by the mental health call for evidence launched in 2022, and was developed to identify priority groups, suicide risk factors and steps we need to take. It includes steps and actions from across government and a wide range of organisations to achieve these ambitions.

Mental health position statement

This [Association of Directors of Public Health \(ADPH\) policy new position statement](#) sets out its national and local recommendations for tackling mental health to improve outcomes for individuals, their families, communities and the economy.

Research exploring the stigma associated with loneliness

This Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) [evidence review and qualitative research](#) explores the stigma associated with loneliness.

Social Care

Care for our future: the roadmap to a sustainable future for adult social care

[This document from Care England](#) (a registered charity and a representative body for small, medium and large providers of adult social care in England) sets out the sector's priorities across three key themes – workforce, funding and integration. The roadmap issues a series of policy recommendations for the next government to implement within 100 days, two years and five years of entering office. The plan is backed by major representative groups from across the sector.

Adult social care and the NHS: two sides of the same coin

This NHS Confederation report provides an overview of total capacity and national trends across the health and care sector as well as the variation across the country. It focuses on demand for and provision of state-funded social care for older people as the largest group drawing on care and support, but finds that fewer people are being supported by state-funded social care in England despite the increase in people aged 65 and over. However, the need for care and support is also increasing among both working-age adults and children.

Adult social care funding pressures: estimated costs to meet growing demand and improve services in England

[This long read Health Foundation](#) uses four scenarios to highlight the potential funding pressures in adult social care up to 2032/33. These reflect some of the key issues that need to be addressed to meet future demand and improve adult social care.

New perspectives on market facilitation: provider commissioner relationships

This [Institute of Public Care briefing](#) outlines how good working relationships between commissioning and care provider organisations are crucial and they have become even more so since the Covid-19 pandemic and the cost of living crisis. It offers a perspective on how the current commissioning climate has influenced these relationships and provides a perspective on how the 'right' engagement activities can positively impact on having good working relationships and trust.

What are people telling us about accessing and paying for social care?

[This HealthWatch England blog](#) highlights the long waits being experienced for assessments, reviews and care, and the impact of staffing shortages.

We deserve better: ethnic minorities with a learning disability and access to healthcare

This [five-part review by NHS Race and Health Observatory](#) examines two decades of research looking into discriminatory barriers preventing equitable health care treatment. It finds that people with a learning disability from Black, South Asian (Indian, Pakistani or Bangladeshi heritage) and minority ethnic backgrounds face shorter life expectancy triggered by poorer health care access, experience and outcomes. It also captures the lack of reasonable adjustments and failure to recognise individual needs. Other obstacles identified include language barriers, cultural and religious insensitivity, a lack of information in easy-read format, and a lack of information during transitional care in hospital and home.

The size and structure of the adult social care workforce in England: workforce supply and demand trends 2022/23

Workforce supply and demand is a key issue for the adult social care sector, and in recent years workforce supply has experienced significant fluctuations due to policy changes and external factors. [The information in this Skills for Care short report](#) provides the latest figures and also context surrounding this topic. The report looks at changes in the workforce since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, and before where relevant, using Skills for Care's workforce sector estimates between 2012/13 and 2022/23.

Wider Determinants

Targeting health inequalities: realising the potential of targets in addressing health inequalities

[This report, commissioned by The Health Foundation and produced by the University of Newcastle and University of Strathclyde in partnership with Health Equity North](#), examines how targets have been used in the past to address health inequalities and how they could be used in the future. It is part of an area of work by The Health Foundation examining how policy-makers can take a whole-government approach to improving health.

Warm Home Prescription: impact on health & wellbeing and attitudes to heat

This [Energy Systems Catapult report](#) presents the results of a study commissioned by Energy Systems Catapult to evaluate the impact of its Warm Home Prescription (WHP) scheme. WHP aims to combat cold-related health risks by providing immediate assistance to maintain warm homes. The trial showed positive outcomes, with most recipients achieving warmer homes, leading to improved physical and mental health. It also potentially reduced hospital stays and health care service use.

Creating healthy partnerships between public health and housing to tackle health inequalities

In this Housing LIN Blog, [Creating healthy partnerships between public health and housing to tackle health inequalities](#), Liz Parsons, Head of Public Health – Built Environment and Social Housing across Milton Keynes City, Central Bedfordshire and Bedford Borough councils, shares insight into an innovative health and housing partnership.

Adverse Weather and Health Plan

The [Adverse Weather and Health Plan](#) aims to protect individuals and communities from the health effects of adverse weather and to build community resilience.

A natural health service: improving lives and saving money

This [Wildlife Trusts report](#) focuses on how green prescribing can reduce NHS costs. There are additional health and wellbeing benefits through increased access to natural places and more wildlife. The research, undertaken by environmental and engineering consultants Ricardo plc and The Institute of Occupational Medicine, looked at five Wildlife Trusts programmes that resulted in estimated annual costs savings using cost-benefit analysis.

Community champions: surviving and thriving beyond Covid?

Community champions saw a surge in interest, focus and funding during the Covid-19 pandemic. [The King's Fund authors blog](#) provides an overview of findings from their research into the role and value of community champions.

Research exploring the stigma associated with loneliness

The [Department for Culture, Media and Sport \(DCMS\) has commissioned a rapid evidence assessment](#) to explore the relationship between stigma and loneliness, including whether some groups are more likely to experience loneliness stigma. It also looks at the impact of loneliness stigma and what works in tackling loneliness stigma.

Green Space Index analysis of public provision of parks and green spaces

The [Green Space Index](#) measures Great Britain's local park and green space provision, and how accessible it is as well as how much of it is protected. The headline findings this year were that:

- One million people have no park or local green space within a 10-minute walk.
- There is a total of 198,000 ha of parks and green spaces in Great Britain, which works out at an average of 30sqm of park or green space per person.
- We will need 4000 new parks and green spaces, varying in size and situated in the right locations, by 2033 to prevent the average provision per person (30sqm) from declining.

Research exploring the stigma associated with loneliness

An [evidence review](#) and qualitative research commissioned by DCMS to explore the stigma associated with loneliness.

Trends in social isolation. Findings from five successive generations studies

Using data from five British longitudinal generations studies, the [What Works Wellbeing research](#) explored social isolation and connectedness within different contexts (household; partnership, family and friends outside the household; education and employment networks; community engagement) over the course of people's lives between five successive generations. The research highlights:

- How social isolation is a multi-dimensional concept, with a variety of dynamic experiences across contexts, generations and life stages.
- The value of longitudinal data in revealing a more complete picture.

The need to focus on a range of social isolation indicators across contexts and generations to:

1. understand how people compensate for specific types of isolation;
2. understand how broader economic and social factors can affect the timing of life transition points – and trigger social isolation.

Inequalities

Access denied? Socioeconomic inequalities in digital health services

[This report from Ada Lovelace Institute](#) seeks to understand how people who have lived experience of poverty and ongoing health concerns are impacted by health inequalities when interacting with patient-facing digital health services. The findings suggest a need for policy-makers, health care leaders, and digital health service designers and developers to reconsider how they use data and how they design and deploy digital health services.

The history of public health

To mark 175 years since the Public Health Act received Royal Assent, the [Association of Directors of Public Health \(ADPH\) has published](#) a collection of explainers on a range of public health topics. The explainers detail the history of some of the biggest topics in public health and look ahead to what the future of public health could look like.

Ethnic inequalities in mortality in England: a complex picture requiring tailored, evidence-based responses

The latest data on ethnic differences in mortality paints a complex picture. [Veena Raleigh, in this Kings Fund briefing](#), explains how tackling these inequalities needs political resolve and resources to prevent and manage ill health.

Health inequalities: improving accountability in the NHS

This [Institute of Health Equity report](#) examines current and past mechanisms and levers that enable and hinder accountability for health inequalities and analyses whether these accountability processes are sufficient to reduce health inequalities. It provides proposals to improve accountability for health inequalities across integrated care systems (ICSs). Views were gathered from senior managers in the NHS in England with experience and expertise in health inequalities. In addition, policy documents and relevant grey and academic publications were reviewed to inform the assessment of past and current accountability mechanisms.

How much public spending does each area receive? Local authority level estimates of health, police, school and local government spending

This [report by Institute for Fiscal Studies](#) estimates the level of funding for five key public services (the NHS, schools, local government, the police and public health) in each local authority area in England in 2022-23 and compares the relative levels of funding different areas receive to estimates of their relative spending needs. It finds substantial differences between the share of funding areas receive, and the share they would receive if funding were allocated in line with their different levels of need.

Population health in business

[Report: Population health in business](#), authored by Public Policy Projects, explores how businesses can support positive community health outcomes and develop strong partnerships with ICSs.

Health inequalities position statement

This [Association of Directors of Public Health \(ADPH\) policy position paper](#) highlights that over recent years, the gap in healthy life expectancy across the four nations has increased, with issues such as the cost-of-living crisis and the Covid-19 pandemic further exacerbating this problem. In this paper the ADPH sets out its national and local recommendations for tackling health inequalities.

Pride: Tackling LGBTQ+ health inequalities

One in seven LGBT people (14 per cent) avoid seeking health care for fear of discrimination from staff. And more than a quarter of lesbian, gay, bisexual and queer NHS staff (29 per cent) and three in five trans NHS staff (59 per cent) have experienced harassment, bullying or abuse from their colleagues. While Pride Month isn't the only time to talk about LGBTQ+ issues, [it's an important opportunity for Kings Fund to highlight the health and care issues affecting the LGBTQ+ community](#) and focus our attention on LGBTQ+ voices inside and outside of The King's Fund.

The distribution of public service spending

This [Institute for Fiscal Studies \(IFS\) commentary](#) for the IFS Deaton Review of Inequalities sets out what is known about the distribution of spending on major public services, and how and why this changed over time. It also explains the key conceptual and methodological issues involved in such analysis and identifies key lessons for policy and avenues for future research.

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Thanks, John