

Minding the Gap

Improving Health & Reducing Inequalities



Yorkshire and the Humber Health and Wellbeing Monthly Update

Issue 102 – July 2024

Welcome to the Yorkshire and the Humber Health and Wellbeing Monthly Update. This update is our way of sharing any good and emerging practice, new developments, updates and guidance. The update forms part of the Minding the Gap newsletter.

This update is structured around four overarching themes:

- ❖ **populations**
- ❖ **determinants of health and risk factors**
- ❖ **priority conditions and equitable services and**
- ❖ **workforce development.**

If you have received this and are not already on the Minding the Gap distribution List, **please sign up to our newsletter [here](#).**

Disclaimer: Please note, the Minding the Gap programme is led and funded by the Yorkshire and the Humber Association of Directors of Public Health (YH ADPH). This programme is co-ordinated by the Yorkshire and the Humber Health and Wellbeing Team in the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) and does not reflect the position or views of OHID or the Department of Health and Social Care.

POPULATIONS

Improving outcomes and reducing inequalities for children & young people

Regional Lead: Gemma Mann

No updates this month.

Promoting healthy ageing across the lifecourse

Regional Lead: Ali Iliff

Homes and Healthy Ageing

In 2023, members of the Yorkshire and Humber Healthy Ageing and Planning Healthy Places Communities of Improvement collaborated on a project to support regional partners to promote healthy ageing through the home. We have published [a set of guiding principles](#) for those working in housing and in healthy ageing roles in the region. Accompanying the principles is a resource pack with further links to guidance, evidence and organisations that will support action in this area.

Carers UK State of Caring Survey 2024

The annual [survey](#) to inform Carers UK's policy and campaigning is open for responses until 11th August 2024. The survey covers issues that carers have said are important to them and is for current or former unpaid carers who are looking after a disabled, older or seriously ill relative or friend.

Hourglass Manifesto for Safer Ageing

Every year 2.5 million older people experience abuse, harm, neglect and exploitation, yet their voices are rarely heard. Hourglass has launched a [manifesto](#) advocating for a Safer Ageing Society where the safety and dignity of ageing individuals are guaranteed. It has also launched its [OATH](#) campaign, which is about creating a voice so loud that it cannot be ignored and asks people to add their name to the pledge to fight abuse, demand parity for older victim-survivors and to build a society that supports older victims of abuse when they need it most.

Improving outcomes and reducing inequalities for inclusion health groups

Regional Lead: Cathie Railton

Information, guidance and resources

Safeguarding toolkit for homelessness – Pathway ICS Inclusion Health

This toolkit developed by Pathway ICS Inclusion Health Learning Programme Lead Gill Taylor, is a social justice tool aimed at practitioners who are concerned with injustice and inequality affecting adults who are homeless.

You can find out more and download the toolkit for free [here](#).

Autism and homelessness toolkit - Homeless Link

Recently updated, [this toolkit](#) is designed for homelessness service providers who engage with and support autistic individuals experiencing homelessness. It is

particularly valuable for those seeking to enhance their understanding and effectiveness in working with individuals with autism.

Amendment to routine childhood immunisation programme

The [routine childhood immunisation schedule](#) was updated on 1 July 2024 in order to reflect changes to the prenatal pertussis (Tdap) and adolescent MenACWY vaccines. A range of [translations](#) of the schedule in 32 community languages are also available to download as a PDF.

Patient video: Understanding your GP Practice

NHS England has launched an animated film to raise awareness about the diverse roles and services within primary care.

You can watch the videos (translated into a number of languages) on YouTube below:

English: <https://youtu.be/CT0aB-EORMU>

Hindi: <https://youtu.be/WWZs6S3itbc>

Gujarati: <https://youtu.be/Cg9aW2kBQag>

Bengali: <https://youtu.be/OFTzFS2BY7w>

Punjabi: <https://youtu.be/rOjn6f05kj0>

Polish: <https://youtu.be/pbCIDSEQ2gc>

Romanian: <https://youtu.be/nzIomWN4X5o>

Somali: https://youtu.be/zts6GcyeQ_A

Other translated resources with info for waiting room screens can be accessed [here](#).

Resource: Pregnancy transfer cards

People with experience of migration to the UK face greater risks of poorer maternity and neonatal outcomes. Frequent relocations and language barriers can cause delays in accessing appropriate care. [Pregnancy Care Transfer Cards](#), developed by Surrey Heartlands Local Maternity and Neonatal System, are available in 28 languages, and aim to enhance safety by helping pregnant people access maternity services and improve continuity of care. These transfer cards also facilitate seamless sharing of pregnancy records among healthcare professionals.

Navigating the NRM, Consent and the Transition to Adulthood - The Children's Society

The Children's Society have launched a new resource from the Child Exploitation Prevention Programme has been launched. More details are embedded below:



The NRM and
Transition into Adulth

(UN)ENTITLED – New films from LISTEN UP! Community reporters, Groundswell and On Our Radar

Listen Up! community reporters at [Groundswell](#) have launched a powerful new multi-media project and collective story about stigma and homelessness.

“This project is called (un)entitled. Unentitled is a feeling – a response to layers upon layers of difficulty and barriers placed before us. We are frequently told we are not

entitled to support, not entitled to housing, not entitled to healthcare, not entitled to safety, not entitled to be ourselves. We face stigma as a routine element in our lives. These are our stories."

You can watch the films, share with your networks, and add your own story of stigma in the comments [here](#). Listen Up! have also developed a toolkit to help you host your own screening with discussion points, which can be accessed [here](#).

Events and learning

The Yorkshire Integration Festival returns for its third year

This free, family-friendly event is a celebration of the positive impact made by migrants and refugees in Yorkshire and Humber, showcasing the diverse range of cultures and customs that make our region a special place to live. This year's festival will be on Saturday 21st September at The Piece Hall, Halifax, and will feature artists, performers, exhibitors and small-business traders from across the Yorkshire and Humber region.

[More details can be found here on the Festival website.](#)

Shelter training on housing law, homelessness and more [Shelter](#) are offering a series of webinars and in-person courses over July and August, delivered by subject experts, which will cover all aspects of housing and homelessness. There are opportunities for individual and organisation-wide training. You can see the full list of training available [here](#).

Research

GP access for inclusion health groups – perspectives and recommendations, Dr Aminah Verity and Dr Victoria Tzortziou Brown

This paper explores evidence of the impact of remote consulting and triage systems on inclusion health populations through a mystery shopper exercise. The exercise involving in-practice visits and phone calls to 13 GP practices in East London, with the findings then reflected upon by a multidisciplinary stakeholder group which identified recommendations for improvements. The study concludes that significant registration and appointment-making issues persist for inclusion health populations, whilst identifying practice and system level recommendations for improving access for this vulnerable population.

You can take a look at the full paper [here](#).

Inclusion health patient perspective on remote access to general practice, Dr Aminah Verity and Dr Victoria Tzortziou Brown

This study from was based on semi-structured interviews with 21 participants, including people from Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, sex workers, vulnerable migrants, and those experiencing homelessness. Their analysis identifies the barriers to access, including lack of translation availability, digital exclusion, and a complex, difficult-to-navigate healthcare system. Other themes included the

importance of trust, face-to-face consultation options for ensuring safety, and the benefits of remote access, particularly in terms of convenience and saving time. Themes on reducing barriers included improving staff capacity and communication, offering tailored options and continuity of care, and simplifying care processes.

In conclusion, the study highlights the importance of a tailored approach for addressing the multiple barriers to care for inclusion health groups, and the need for clearer and inclusive communication on the available triage and care pathways.

You can read the article in full [here](#).

Understanding the causes of missingness in primary care: A realist view

This newly published paper explores the causes and consequences of more 'enduring' multiple missed appointments in primary care and the role this has in producing health inequalities. The authors conducted a realist review of the literature on multiple missed appointments to identify the causes of 'missingness' and concluded that missingness is caused by various overlapping, complex factors, for example mobility issues and inflexible appointments. To read the paper in full, click [here](#).

Various

Listen in – Inclusion Health report (Bradford District and Craven Health and Care Partnership)

Between February and May 2024, together with partners, the H&C Partnership went out to inclusion health groups to hear what matters to them when it comes to health and care.

You can read more in the reports [here](#).

Street discharges from hospital, Pathway

Over 4,000 people were discharged from hospital into homelessness between 2022 and 2023, requiring them to manage complex medical issues in unsafe environments, frequently leading to readmission. The issue of street discharges is set to be a big focus for Pathway in the coming months.

You can learn more about it [here](#).

Pathway partnership programme annual report 2022/23 launched – Breaking The Cycle

The first annual report for the [Pathway Partnership Programme](#) of specialist hospital-based teams, Breaking The Cycle draws on data and collective experiences gathered from Pathway Teams around the country, highlighting their specific successes in addition to examining the extreme challenges faced by patients experiencing homelessness.

You can download your copy [here](#).

Pathway, Hull annual report

The Hull Homeless Health Team was launched in 2019 to respond to the complex health and care needs of the city's homeless population. This is the second report produced as part of the team's membership of the Pathway Partnership Programme, and the first in partnership with Modality.

The report details key outcomes achieved by the team, vital improvements to service delivery and collaborative working, challenges faced during the year, and future opportunities for improving the health of people experiencing homelessness in the Hull City area.

You can read the full report [here](#).

DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH & RISK FACTORS

Creating and developing healthy and sustainable places and communities
Regional Lead: Karen Horrocks

Webinar: The Health Foundation - What can local government in England do to tackle the leading risk factors for ill health?

(Thursday 19th September)

Tobacco, alcohol and unhealthy food remain the leading risk factors for ill health in England. Speakers will share examples of what they are doing locally in areas such as enforcement, planning, estates and system leadership.

[Book your place here.](#)

Webinar: Ensuring Healthy Homes Locally

The TCPA has produced a [technical guide](#) which explains in detail why and how the Healthy Homes Principles can be applied in local policy and practice.

This webinar will share some of the highlights from the guide. They will outline some of the approaches adopted by different local authorities around England, as well as presentations from Lewes District Council, the Building Research Establishment (BRE) and Tibbalds about the ways they are promoting Healthy Homes and communities locally.

[Sign up here.](#)

Community Powered Health and Care

This [report](#) from New Local spotlights innovative community powered practice in the health and care system. There are several examples from the Yorkshire and Humber Region including Kirklees, Sheffield and Leeds.

What builds good health? A quick guide to the building blocks of Health

This [simple guide](#) from the Health Foundation builds on their previous work in this area. Very useful text for making the case for areas such as Transport and Housing.

It explains how a person's opportunity for health is influenced by much more than the NHS, and why people in the UK don't all have the same chance to be healthy. It also sets out how action to strengthen the building blocks of health can lead to improvements in the health of the whole population, for the benefit of individuals, society and the economy.

This guide is for anyone with an interest in people's health and wellbeing. It will be especially useful to those new to the wider determinants of health.

NIHR funding for active travel evaluation

The funding aims to answer the following research question: What are the health and health inequality impacts of interventions that affect active travel behaviours (at a population level)? [Follow this link to find out more.](#)

Webinar Recording: Planning for Non-Planners

In June, the TCPA delivered a webinar for colleagues in London and elsewhere. It will be very useful if you would like to understand the basics of the planning system and how Public Health can get involved. You can access the recording [here](#).

New film: How we talk about homes from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation

This 3-minute film gives an overview of why framing matters and how you can apply it to your communications. It is supported by their [toolkit](#) published last year.

Achieving our Smokefree 2030 ambition

King's Speech Highlights Commitment to Reintroducing the Tobacco and Vapes Bill

In his recent address, King Charles outlined the Labour government's legislative priorities, prominently featuring the reintroduction of the Tobacco and Vapes Bill. This bill is a significant step towards combating smoking and reducing youth vaping, incorporating a phased ban on smoking and stringent regulations on vaping products.

For a detailed breakdown of the speech and what each announcement entails, you can read the [full transcript here](#).

Key Highlights from the King's Speech:

- **Reintroduction of the Tobacco and Vapes Bill:** This bill aims to curb smoking rates and prevent the rise in youth vaping through comprehensive regulatory measures.

For more insights into the proposal to raise the age of sale for tobacco products, check our [FAQs section here](#).

Additional Resources

- **Local Support for Phasing Out Smoking:** Discover detailed [constituency statistics here](#), illustrating the local support for measures to phase out smoking.
- **Economic Impact of Smoking:** Explore the [ASH Ready Reckoner](#) for comprehensive statistics on the economic implications of smoking in your constituency.

Preventing Gambling-Related Harm Regional Lead: Simone Arratoonian

Making Every Contact Count

The [Y&H MECC-link](#) page on gambling harms has now been given a refresh. Language has been changed in line with the recommendations in the [language guide](#) previously jointly launched by Y&H, Greater Manchester and the North East. We have also simplified the approach until more is known about the best way to support gambling harms in the community outside traditional treatment services – so the Very Brief Intervention contains some information about how to open up a conversation,

and how to gently explore and offer to signpost individuals to a range of help sources. It has also been aligned with the VBI training approach which is currently being piloted in the majority of local authorities in the region.

Why is it important to talk about gambling harm?

- Raising the issue sensitively and providing a non-judgmental ear can help people to feel less isolated and break the silence.
- Getting the right information can help to challenge myths about the causes of harm including unhelpful narratives about responsibility and control, reducing stigma, so that people feel supported to seek help.
- This can be extremely valuable where gambling has become a hidden source of stress and upset – on average, people wait 10 years before accessing treatment.

Please note that lower-risk gambling guidelines have not yet been introduced in this country; MECC users are not expected to manage gambling harm or provide advice about gambling.

For further information about any of the above, please contact simone.arratoonian@dhsc.gov.uk

Language guide for respectful reporting

The [Gambling Research Group](#) at the University of Glasgow recently developed a [language guide](#) for use by a range of professionals including journalists, academics and politicians – designed for anyone who communicates on a public platform. The guide, which was developed following workshops with people with lived experience of gambling harms and other key stakeholders, contains principles which are closely aligned with the [joint version](#) from Greater Manchester, North East and Y&H currently in circulation. This will hopefully provide greater recognition of the need to move away from language which stigmatises gambling harm. For a demonstration of why guides like this are necessary, [take a look at this](#) example of newspaper reporting.

Gambling Survey for Great Britain

Data from year 1 of the new Gambling Survey for GB was released at 9.30am on Thursday 25th July. It will contain some interesting data on harms to others and some data on gambling-related suicidality. The survey, commissioned by the Gambling Commission, utilises new methodology and so is unlikely to be comparable to previous datasets.

Greater Manchester Combined Authority campaign

Last month, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority launched their '[Chapter One](#)' gambling harms campaign. The results of the campaign are now being analysed and will be shared. If you want to view the film that was developed for the campaign, [see here](#).

Gambling Understood campaign- evaluation update

The '[Gambling Understood](#)' campaign that was delivered in Y&H is now undergoing evaluation. Results will be shared in the autumn. Resources and the accompanying website are still available for use in your local campaigns. Please see the website to download materials.

Research snippets

This paper from [De Jans, Hudders and Newall](#) (2024) reports some interesting lessons from a gambling advertising ban in Belgium which was introduced in 2023. Despite the ban applying to popular media such as TV and general social media and radio promotion, and also to direct mail and messaging, regulations permit advertising to those to express an interest – via any gambling-related keywords online. This is a concern particularly if someone is simply seeking information or advice. The researchers note that ‘operators are actively seeking...loopholes...to enhance brand visibility’. Their strategies also include promotion of ‘social responsibility’ activities in media – a similar tactic to that used by tobacco industry. They have also used other enterprising ideas to advertise such as sports podcasts – anything which can drive people to their offers. These findings provide insight to shape how policy might ideally be better applied in the UK if it is to be effective.

A Spanish gambling prevalence survey provided retrospective data for [this study](#) of 4,833 adults who reported gambling, in order to assess the long-term risk of beginning to gamble underage. Perez (2024) found that there was a significant link between age of gambling initiation and likelihood of being classed as ‘at risk’ of harm as an adult - ‘those who start gambling earlier than 18...have a 50% higher likelihood of ‘problem’ gambling’ when compared to those who started as an adult. This finding corresponds with a number of similar studies which have asserted increased severity of addiction in later life related earlier initiation of gambling.

Taking a whole systems approach to healthy weight Regional Lead: Nicola Corrigan

Obesity Profile

[This statistical commentary](#) provides background information on the updated indicators for adults on:

- ❖ overweight and obesity prevalence
- ❖ physical activity and inactivity
- ❖ consumption of 5 or more portions of fruit and vegetables per day

This can be found in the [Obesity Profile on Fingertips](#). It presents data for England.

NCMP Information for Schools

The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP), also known as the School Height and Weight Checks, is a mandated annual programme delivered by local authorities, which involves measuring the height and weight of all school children in reception and year 6. Over 99% (17,000) of eligible state-maintained schools across England, including academies, usually participate in the NCMP.

Support from schools is crucial to delivering the NCMP. [This guidance](#) provides information for school leaders, staff and governing bodies on key tasks that schools can help with to ensure the programme runs smoothly.

Hull's Active START

Innovative new features include drawing on lessons from previous pilots to find sensitive approaches that engage children and their families with services to address excess weight.

This includes using direct telephone calls, ahead of formal letters, to discuss children's weight status with their parents as part of the NCMP. [This approach](#) has been found to better engage parents than just sending the letter and led to a reduction in the number of complaints associated with reporting NCMP results.

How eating out contributes to our diets

The out-of-home (OOH) sector is an important part of our food environment: we know that most of the population interacts with OOH food regularly yet our understanding of the contribution it makes to our diets is limited. Regulation of this sector is also limited.

In [this report](#) NESTA have used data science techniques to provide the most accurate and systematic view to date on the contribution the OOH sector makes to our diets.

How can local authorities reduce obesity? Insights from NIHR research

The NIHR invests more than £1bn a year in research to improve the health and wellbeing of the nation. Over the last decade, they have invested heavily in research aimed at preventing or managing obesity. They want to support good local decision making by ensuring that investment decisions can be based on sound evidence. This will maximise the impact of stretched local resources. [This themed review](#) can support local authorities taking a whole systems approach to reducing obesity.

'We're just one small piece of the puzzle'

Overweight and obesity are a global health epidemic and many attempts have been made to address the rising prevalence. In March 2021 the UK government announced £100 million of additional funding for weight management provisions. Of this, £30.5 million was split across local authorities in England to support the expansion of tier two behavioural weight management services for adults.

[This present work](#) aimed to explore how this funding was used within the Yorkshire and Humber region to consolidate learning, collate best practice, and provide recommendations for future funding use.

Scale of the challenge: Obesity and the labour market

Obesity has a well-known and profound impact on people's health. Yet, less research has looked at the impact of obesity on prosperity. The [findings from this IPPR research study](#) suggest a correlation between obesity and economic inactivity, as well as obesity affecting the productivity and wellbeing of people who are in work.

Also a map of areas most affected by both obesity/economic inactivity can be [found here](#).

Independent Review of Public Sector Food Procurement

[An independent review](#) of public food procurement has called for mandatory environmental and nutritional standards to extend across the whole of the public sector

and be properly monitored for compliance. It also calls for an increase in school food funding, and more inclusion of farmers and small and medium enterprises (SME) in being able to access opportunities for supplying food and drink to the public sector.

Food Active June Bulletin

Food Active is a healthier weight programme of work delivered by the Health Equalities Group (HEG), advocating for local, regional and national action to promote healthier weight and reduce health inequalities.

Sign up for their [monthly bulletin here](#).

Calorie Labelling Webinar – Friday 9th August 2024

Researchers from the University of Liverpool are hosting a webinar exploring research into the calorie labelling policy implemented recently in England. Over the course of two hours, speakers will present work that explores whether calorie labels on food in the out-of-home food sector are accurate; the extent to which calorie labelling has impacted business practices and consumer behaviour; and the potential effects of calorie labelling on individuals with eating disorders.

[Sign up here](#).

UK Soft Drinks Industry Levy: FPH webinar

The Soft Drinks Industry Levy (SDIL) in the UK is undoubtedly one of the most significant pieces of public health legislation passed in recent times.

During this webinar, we will hear from Professor Martin White from the University of Cambridge, one of the leading academics in the development of the evidence base to support the development, implementation, and evaluation of the SDIL; and from Victoria Targett, from OHID, who was at the forefront of Public Health England's policy work at the time of the development of the SDIL.

[Register for your place here](#).

Groundswell Campaign on Diabetes and Homelessness

For Diabetes Awareness Week, lived experience charity Groundswell are shone a light on the experiences of people experiencing homelessness whilst also having diabetes.

As part of this campaign, they facilitated a conversation between actor Gethin Anthony (from *Game of Thrones*) and Mark, a Homeless Health Caseworker, in which the pair discuss experiences of diabetes whilst homeless.

You can watch the video [here](#), or listen to the conversation as a podcast [here](#).

Additionally, with funding from The Burdett Trust for Nursing and in collaboration with Pathway, Groundswell have published some brand-new leaflets on diabetes and homelessness. [One](#) is focused specifically on Managing Diabetes, whilst the other gives a [broader overview](#) of the condition as a whole.

There are also print-friendly versions of these leaflets available, so please do share them with people experiencing homelessness and as many services supporting them as possible!

Reducing inequalities through action on drugs and alcohol
Regional Lead: Andy Maddison

Drug and Alcohol treatment and recovery workforce census 2024

Working with the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) and partners, NHS England (formerly Health Education England (HEE) has commissioned the NHS Benchmarking Network (NHSBN) to undertake an annual census of the workforce currently employed in:

- drug and alcohol treatment and recovery services
- local authority (LA) drug and alcohol commissioning teams
- lived experience recovery organisations (LEROs).

The census builds on the success of the past 2 years' drug and alcohol workforce projects and this comprehensive data collection is the only project to map the Drug and alcohol workforce across England.

[Last year](#) we had over 500+ responses from across LAs, treatment providers and LEROs.

The deadline for submissions is the 27th August 2024.

Throughout the project, NHSBN will be providing support through drop-in sessions, FAQs, walkthroughs and e-mails.

For more details on how to access this support, please visit the project website [here](#).

Or contact the team at nhsbn.alcoholdrugsupport@nhs.net

Promoting physical activity
Regional Lead: Nicola Corrigan

Whole Systems Approach Physical Activity

For the first time, [#WSPA2024](#) is drawing together schools, education partners, policymakers and researchers to learn from leading school-based physical activity approaches from across the globe.

[Watch the conference video here.](#)

Every Move: Sport England's Sustainability Strategy & Action Plan

Participation levels are being affected by the increasing prevalence of climate change events such as heatwaves and flooding. And like the rest of society, the sport and physical activity sector is contributing to and exacerbating these effects.

Read about Sport England's approach to Sustainability [here](#).

Activity Alliance Annual Disability and Activity Survey

Activity Alliance's Annual Disability and Activity Survey report (2023-24) [report](#) shows that in a year where focus will be on the nation's top Paralympians' incredible achievements, the reality is that disabled people still face significant barriers when trying to be active in their communities.

The Walk Together Pathway

A programme funded by the National Trust, in partnership with Black Girls Hike, Black2Nature, Bristol Steppin Sistas, Mosaic Outdoors, Muslim Hikers, NYCE (Nature, Youth, Connection, and Education), Peak District Mosaic, Sheffield Environmental Movement.

[The Walk Together Pathway](#) aims to widen participation in the outdoors by supporting people from global majority ethnic communities to become qualified walk leaders.

Yorkshire Sport Foundation

You can sign up to receive the weekly bulletin from YSF [here](#).

Swimming as Medicine

[The latest video](#) in the 'Swimming as Medicine' series, which focuses on physiotherapy, has been launched by Swim England and supported by the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy.

The aim of this video is to further highlight to physiotherapists and other healthcare professionals, just how powerful being active in water can be for individuals with complex health problems and rehabilitation needs.

Tackling racism, discrimination and their outcomes

Regional Lead: Abi Brown

Race & Health Podcast – Intersectionality (31 minutes)

This episode of the Race & Health Podcast features discussions on intersectionality, bringing together three researchers to discuss how intersectionality can serve the health community and promote health equity. The episode explores where intersectionality comes from, why it was created, and how it can be used to address health inequities across the health community.

Guests include Dr Brenda Hayanga (Presidential Fellow at the School of Health and Psychological Science, University of London), Dr Geordan Shannon (medical doctor and ex-academic, and founder of Stema, Unexia, Planet.Health and Global Health Disrupted) and Dr Zara Trafford (Institute for Life Course Health Research, Department of Global Health, Stellenbosch University, Cape Town, South Africa).

You can listen to the episode [here](#).

UCL-Lancet Lecture - Under the Skin: Understanding the Toll of Race and Inequality on the Health of People

In this lecture Professor Delan Devakumar is joined by Professor Linda Villarosa and Dr Rochelle Burgess to connect the dots between racism, inequalities and health outcomes.

You can watch the session recording [here](#).

Protecting children from racism: urgent health system actions – The Lancet publication

This publication summarises discussions from a roundtable event in October 2023 held by Race & Health and the Race Equality Foundation. This roundtable event aimed to support holistic action on racism and child health in the UK.

Findings highlighted how racism shapes children's experiences of the health system and their pathways to accessing it and the delivery of care they receive.

You can read more in full [here](#).

Black Maternity Matters – Initial Pilot Evaluation Summary

Black Maternity Matters is a collaboration supporting midwives to reduce the inequitable maternity outcomes faced by Black mothers and their babies. This supportive space offers peer support, education and training and coaching in quality improvement. The project has been developed by Health Innovation West of England in partnership with Representation Matters and BCohCo.

You can read more about the project and find the summary evaluation of the initial pilot in Bristol [here](#).

Strengthening Families and Strengthening Communities and Reducing Parental Conflict Programmes – Race Equality Foundation and the Caribbean & African Health Network (CAHN)

[This programme](#) provides a suite of inclusive evidence-based parenting programmes, designed to promote protective factors which are associated with good parenting and better outcomes for children. In collaboration with the two organisations named above the programme understands the need for engagement with local voluntary sector organisations within the community. The SFSC programme provides a platform to hold space for local communities and advocate on their behalf.

You can read more about some reflections of the programme [here](#).

Exploring ethnic and racial disparities in maternal care talk at Royal Holloway

Tracey Bignall (Director of Policy & Engagement at the Race Equality Foundation), spoke at the Royal Holloway University to discuss racial injustice in maternity services. This was following a report which highlighted that Black and South Asian women are more likely to experience pregnancy complications, with Black women being almost four times more likely to die, and Asian women being twice as likely compared to White women.

“Systemic Racism, Not Broken Bodies” brought together over 300 Black, Asian, and mixed-ethnicity women, along with obstetricians, midwives, experts by experience, academics, birth workers, and lawyers.

You can read more about the report and the talk [here](#).

Mission Drive Government: What does this mean in practice for Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic Britons?

Following the King’s Speech, Jabeer Butt (Chief Executive of the Race Equality Foundation) explores what Kier Starmer’s ‘mission-driven government’ means in practice for Britain’s Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic communities

Read more [here](#).

Creating fair employment and good work for all

Regional Lead: Nicola Corrigan

Good work for all: Inequality Briefing

[This publication](#) from Public Health Scotland focuses on the role that good work for all can play in reducing health inequalities. It assumes that action in relation to paid employment is complemented by a social security system that is also designed to protect health and reduce health inequalities.

CIPD Good Work Index

[The CIPD Good Work Index](#) is an annual benchmark of job quality in the UK. Each year, we survey more than 5,000 workers from different sectors and occupations about key aspects of their work and employment to offer evidence-based insights for people professionals, employers and policymakers to improve work and working lives.

Data dashboards from NEY Local Knowledge and Intelligence Services

Please see two dashboards below:

- [Economic inactivity Y & H Jan 2024 - Power BI](#)
- [SME and Health Dashboard](#)

Health at work: Why SMEs need Occupational Health support

[This video](#) from the Society for Occupational Medicine outlines the importance of Occupational Health for Small and Medium Enterprises.

Health and Work Infographics

[A series of infographics](#) intended to help raise awareness and understanding of the relationship between health and work.

The health and work infographics summarise important data to provide a snapshot of the health and work landscape. This data is prior to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and its impact is not reflected in it. They are intended to enable national and local stakeholders to understand, make the case for, and take action on addressing health, work and worklessness.

[Download the infographics and references here.](#)

What do social care providers think of young workers?

The Kings Fund spoke with individuals occupying a range of senior leadership positions, including chief executives, human resources managers and recruitment managers (see [Summary of research methods](#)). [Here](#), they share what they were told about younger people and what they think might need to happen at organisational, sector and national level to attract and retain more young people into the sector.

[Here](#), the Kings Fund then offer some reflections and recommendations for the sector around challenging organisations to think about whether they really do want to attract more younger people into the workforce and, if so, what changes they need to be prepared to make for that to happen.

Kings Fund podcast

[Ruth Robertson](#) sits down with Dr Waheed Arian, who shares his journey of leaving Afghanistan as a refugee, becoming an NHS doctor and founding two organisations which use technology to overcome barriers in health care. [In this episode](#), Waheed delves into the importance of hope, [compassion](#) and mentors during times of adversity.

NHS ConFed: Tackling Long Term Sickness & Economic Inactivity

[This piece](#) will be followed by a larger report, to be published in early autumn 2024, that will provide a series of recommendations across both the short and long term on how a Whole Government Approach can help tackle complex health challenges across the public sector.

Employment is for everyone

[Website](#) and [video](#) from this innovative project running in South Yorkshire working to reduce inequalities in access to employment for people with leading disabilities and experiencing neurodivergence.

Ensuring a healthy standard of living for all
Regional Lead: Toni Williams & Karen Horrocks

No updates this month.

PRIORITY CONDITIONS AND EQUITABLE SERVICES

Promoting public mental health and wellbeing

Regional Lead: Ali Iliff

Centre for Mental Health priorities for the new Government

Andy Bell, Chief Executive of the Centre for Mental Health, outlines what the new Government can priorities in order to improve mental health support, including the crisis in social care funding and making inpatient services safer in this [blog](#).

CarersUK State of Caring Survey 2024

The annual [survey](#) to inform CarersUK's policy and campaigning is open for responses until 11th August 2024. The survey covers issues that carers have said are important to them and is for current or former unpaid carers who are looking after a disabled, older or seriously ill relative or friend.

Improving sexual and reproductive health

Regional Lead: Georgina Wilkinson

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) & screening for chlamydia in England: 2023 Report

The [Annual 2023 data for STIs](#) and the [National Chlamydia Screening Programme](#) have been published. Indicators on the [Sexual and Reproductive Health Profiles](#) have been updated. Among people in England:

- there were 4,610,410 consultations, an increase of 5.0% since 2022
- sexual health screens also increased, to 2,358,987, exceeding pre-pandemic numbers (2,255,992)
- there were 401,800 diagnoses of new STIs, an increase of 4.7% since 2022 (383,789)
- chlamydia diagnoses (all ages) remained stable with 194,970 diagnoses in 2023 compared to 194,244 diagnoses in 2022
- gonorrhoea diagnoses increased 7.5% from 79,268 diagnoses in 2022 to 85,223 diagnoses in 2023, higher than pre-pandemic levels
- infectious syphilis diagnoses increased 9.4% from 8,693 diagnoses in 2022 to 9,513 diagnoses in 2023, higher than pre-pandemic levels
- there was a larger proportional increase in syphilis diagnoses among heterosexual men and women (21.8%; from 1,608 in 2022 to 1,958 in 2023) than among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM) (7.3%; from 6,081 in 2022 to 6,527 in 2023)
- first episode genital warts diagnoses (all ages) remained stable with 26,133 diagnoses in 2023 compared to 26,068 diagnoses in 2022; amongst the largely vaccinated age group of 15- to 17-year-olds diagnoses remained low (104 in 2022, then 107 in 2023)
- the impact of STIs remains greatest in young people aged 15 to 24 years; GBMSM; and some minority ethnic groups

Among women aged 15 to 24 years screened through the National Chlamydia Screening Programme (NCSP):

- 672,576 chlamydia tests were carried out in 2023, a 2.1% decrease compared to 2022 (687,197)
- there were 64,670 chlamydia diagnoses in 2023, a decrease of 4.2% compared to 2022 (67,484) – test positivity remained stable (9.8% in 2022 compared to 9.6% in 2023).

It Starts With Me: Summer 2024 campaign

The summer 2024 phase of the [‘It Starts With Me’](#) campaign focuses on raising awareness on the prevention of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV. The campaign, using the tagline ‘Get ready for a hot summer’, is delivered through print, digital platforms and face-to-face outreach.

This [campaign briefing](#) provides further details and links to free resources and a social media pack.

Sexual Health Week 2024: (9th-15th September)

The theme for this year is ‘Are You Feeling it?’ [Brook](#), who coordinate the campaign each year, explain that for years a holistic approach has been taken to sexual health, recognising that physical and emotional wellbeing are inseparable. But with mental health in decline and STIs on the rise, it’s more important than ever to talk about how the two intersect. That’s why for Sexual Health Week 2024: Are You Feeling It? The aim is to shine a light on the inextricable links between mental health and sexual health and demonstrate the positive impact of early intervention. More details available [here](#).

HIV Prevention England Conference (Friday 6th September 2024)

This free to attend conference will take place on 6 September in London, and registration will open on 17 June. The conference theme, ‘Prioritising Equity and Impact’, will draw attention to the need for a significant focus on equity to ensure no one is left behind and the need to prioritise impactful interventions to achieve the 2030 goal for zero new transmissions. Registration is now open, and further details can be found [here](#).

Abortion statistics for England and Wales: 2022

The 2022 data has been published [here](#). There were 251,377 abortions for women resident in England and Wales in 2022 - the highest number since the Abortion Act was introduced and an increase of 17% over the previous year.

Improving health and reducing inequalities through health and care services

Regional Lead: Toni Williams

No updates this month.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TO TACKLE HEALTH INEQUALITIES

Regional Lead: Chris Sharp

No updates this month.

ANY OTHER RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

Public Health Good Practice in ICSs and ICBs – Faculty of Public Health (FPH)

The FPH has collated examples of best practice in Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) which support public health involvement across the health system.

They share what good public health practice may look like and what ‘good’ looks like.

Please read more about the examples [here](#).

Multiple long-term conditions (multimorbidity) and inequality – a pressing public health challenge – Richmond Group of Charities

This piece by Candace Imison (Deputy Director of Dissemination and Knowledge Mobilisation, National Institute of Health and Care Research (NIHR)) outlines two interconnected public health challenges – the number of people living with multiple conditions and inequalities in health. This is supported by a recent Lancet projection in March 2024 published by the Lancet, suggesting if current patterns continue, the proportion of the working-age population living with multiple chronic conditions will continue to grow and socioeconomic inequalities will deepen.

Read more about Candace’s reflections [here](#).

‘Thrive by five’: Leading experts unite to address alarming decline in children’s health and wellbeing – The Academy of Medical Sciences

The Academy of Medical Sciences and a broad coalition of leading health organisations and experts from the UK, US, Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore and South Korea have come together to endorse a powerful statement calling for urgent action to address the worrying decline in children’s health and wellbeing across some high-income countries.

Find out more about the statement [here](#).

Groundswell ‘Ending Homelessness Together – Our Voice, Our Rights’ – New Charter

In preparation for the general election, Groundswell and Amnesty UK collaborated with people who have experience of homelessness to ensure that their voice and priorities are heard by policy makers. The Charter sets out the key asks for the new government as prioritised by people with experience of homelessness. It provides evidence from a human rights perspective to reinforce and demonstrate the necessity for each ask to be upheld.

You can find the charter [here](#).

Are integrated care systems making progress on tackling health inequalities? The King’s Fund – blog

In this 5 minute blog, David Buck reflects on results from a set of surveys and studies to shed some light on how Integrated Care Systems (ICS) are allocating resources on tackling health inequalities and their areas of focus.

You can read the blog [here](#).

Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) Report 2024

In January and February 2024, ADPH conducted a survey to investigate and understand the experiences of Directors of Public Health (DsPH) when engaging with ICSs.

In total, 54 DsPH completed the survey, representing 36 of the 42 ICS regions in England.

The responses shared in the report are grouped into the main sections of the survey and DsPH answers have been presented as a summary. Where appropriate, charts displaying quantitative findings have been included, or quotes which typify the collective DPH response.

You can find the report [here](#).