



Public Health News

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Category: 01 (January 2024)

Creating a smokefree generation and tackling youth vaping consultation: government response

JANUARY 29, 2024 ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT "CREATING A SMOKEFREE GENERATION AND TACKLING YOUTH VAPING CONSULTATION: GOVERNMENT RESPONSE"](#)

[Department of Health and Social Care](#), – 29th January 2024

The large majority of responses supported the government proposal to create a smokefree generation.

Respondents were mostly in favour of the proposed measures to tackle youth vaping, particularly restricting point of sale displays and restricting packaging. Although there were mixed views on how best to do this.

There was also support for extending these regulations to cover non-nicotine vapes as well as to other consumer nicotine products, such as nicotine pouches, to avoid loopholes and support stronger enforcement.

Respondents were strongly in favour of introducing a ban on the sale and supply of disposable vaping products.

There was significant support for enforcement across the tobacco and vaping measures including introducing new fixed penalty notices in England.

The UK Government and devolved administrations will now bring forward measures to create the first smokefree generation and tackle the rise in youth vaping.

Further information – [*Creating a smokefree generation and tackling youth vaping consultation: government response*](#)

UKHSA Pathogen Genomics Strategy

JANUARY 26, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"UKHSA PATHOGEN GENOMICS STRATEGY"

UKHSA – 24th January 2024

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) is responsible for protecting public health in the UK, supporting global efforts to improve public health and has been world-leading at implementing pathogen genomics services to do this.

The UKHSA Pathogen Genomics Strategy will:

- target international, national and regional public health priorities
- develop accredited, resilient genomic services for target priority pathogens
- communicate information that leads to improved clinical care and outcomes for individual patients
- provide demonstrable public health benefit
- deliver a cost-effective service, to provide value for money
- share infrastructure and expertise throughout and beyond the organisation

This strategy sets out how we will implement a programmatic approach to pathogen genomics in the future. This includes governance and oversight mechanisms for reporting the impact of this work upwards and outwards, staff training and retention, cross-team working, and accountability to ensure the benefit to public health is maximised.

UKHSA Pathogen Genomics Strategy

Blocked ears – blocked access: the crisis of NHS ear wax removal in England

JANUARY 26, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"BLOCKED EARS – BLOCKED ACCESS: THE CRISIS OF NHS EAR WAX REMOVAL IN ENGLAND"

Royal National Institute for Deaf People – january 2024

Increasingly, GP practices are no longer offering ear wax removal services. This report analyses Freedom of Information requests sent to all 42 integrated care boards (ICBs), the commissioners of most NHS services, in England. Results show that less than half of ICBs are commissioning ear wax removal services in line with NICE guidelines. Findings also show that most ICBs commission some services but people can only access them if they live in certain parts of the ICB area, and at least seven ICBs commission no ear wax removal services at all.

Blocked ears – blocked access: the crisis of NHS ear wax removal in England

Using financial incentives to tackle health inequalities

JANUARY 26, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"USING FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO TACKLE HEALTH INEQUALITIES"

Healthcare Financial Management Association

Finance staff have a key role in ensuring that financial incentives are designed effectively and form part of a wider financial strategy to reduce health inequalities. Financial incentives should be considered as one tool of many, not to be used in isolation but as part of a wider change programme. They work best when they are simple, predictable, use a clear evidence base, and are designed to avoid the pitfalls. This briefing summarises the financial incentives

that are already built in at a national level, and looks at opportunities for individual systems to use financial incentives at a local level. The briefing is published alongside a case study on Bolton Clinical Commissioning Group.

Read the briefing – [Using financial incentives to tackle health inequalities](#)

Research exploring the experience of social care practitioners in relation to extreme temperatures

JANUARY 26, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"RESEARCH EXPLORING THE EXPERIENCE OF SOCIAL CARE PRACTITIONERS IN RELATION TO EXTREME TEMPERATURES"

UK Health Security Agency

This research explores the experience of social care practitioners – employed by Care Quality Commission (CQC) registered providers to provide domiciliary care and care in care homes – in relation to extreme temperatures. This evidence will inform the development of climate change adaptation interventions for the adult social care sector. The findings contribute to developing the evidence base concerning the impacts of climate change on public health and ultimately will help the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) to protect the nation's health from threats in the environment.

Further information – [Research exploring the experience of social care practitioners in relation to extreme temperatures](#)

We have to take it one day at a time: results of Age UK's research into the health and care of people aged 50 and over

JANUARY 26, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"WE HAVE TO TAKE IT ONE DAY AT A TIME: RESULTS OF AGE UK'S RESEARCH INTO THE HEALTH AND CARE OF PEOPLE AGED 50 AND OVER"

Age UK – January 2024

This report contains the results of Age UK's polling and survey work on the following topics: caring for others; physical and mental health; access to NHS and social care services; community life and social contact; cost-of-living increases; and concern about winter. For

each of these topics, the report includes data from both Age UK's national polling and its internally managed survey of people across the UK aged 50 years and over. The data paints a worrying picture for many older people, underlining the case for urgent investment and reform of the services and support people rely on as they age to sustain their health, wellbeing and independence.

Read the Report – [***We have to take it one day at a time: results of Age UK's research into the health and care of people aged 50 and over***](#)

STI surge: Sexual health services at breaking point due to rising demand

JANUARY 24, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"STI SURGE: SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES AT BREAKING POINT

DUE TO RISING DEMAND"

LGA – 19th Jan 2024

Over two thirds of council areas had seen rates of gonorrhoea and syphilis increase since 2017, new analysis by the LGA reveals today

Further information – [***Sexual health services at breaking point due to rising demand***](#)

The full reports can be found below:

[***Gonorrhoea diagnosis rate per 100,000 population in England***](#)

[***Syphilis diagnosis rate per 100,000 population in England***](#)

[***Chlamydia diagnosis rate per 100,000 population in England***](#)

Social care funding reform in England – Choices for the next government

JANUARY 24, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"SOCIAL CARE FUNDING REFORM IN ENGLAND – CHOICES FOR

THE NEXT GOVERNMENT"

Health foundation – 23rd January 2024

This long read summarises the options for social care reform and estimates their costs

[***Social care funding reform in England***](#)

Youth vaping in England

JANUARY 23, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"YOUTH VAPING IN ENGLAND"

House of Commons Library – January 2024

In England, e-cigarettes that contain nicotine cannot be legally sold to under-18s. Despite this, the rate of vaping (the use of e-cigarettes) among young people is increasing. This briefing considers the potential causes, implications and the government's policy response.

Youth vaping in England

Vaping and health

Skills and health inequalities in London

JANUARY 23, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"SKILLS AND HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN LONDON"

Institute of Health Equity (IHE)

This review sets out how the development of skills in adulthood makes an important contribution to improving health and reducing health inequalities. To be effective for health equity, skills programmes need to be widely accessible to communities who: are living in deprivation; are experiencing exclusion and discrimination, loneliness and isolation; have caring responsibilities; have low levels of skills, including English language; have poor mental or physical health; and whose quality of life and confidence can be improved by participating in skills-building programmes.

Skills and health inequalities in London

Ending child poverty: why and how

JANUARY 23, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"ENDING CHILD POVERTY: WHY AND HOW"

Child Poverty Action Group – 20 December 2023

In this comprehensive guide, the authors set out the evidence of the extent of child poverty and its impacts on children. They explore how the social security system can help families on low incomes, and learn from what other countries have done to tackle child poverty. They then detail the priorities for action: the steps the government must take to help reduce child poverty. The book finishes by imagining a society without child poverty, and the opportunities that would unleash for all the UK's children.

Read the Report – [*Ending child poverty: why and how*](#)

Health hubs: a community-centred prevention initiative to address health inequalities

JANUARY 23, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"HEALTH HUBS: A COMMUNITY-CENTRED PREVENTION

INITIATIVE TO ADDRESS HEALTH INEQUALITIES"

NHS Providers – January 2024

This briefing explores what health hubs are, how they can improve access to services for groups facing health inequalities, and the role of trust leaders in their development.

Read the briefing – [Health hubs: a community-centred prevention initiative to address health inequalities](#)

The Health of the Next Generation: Good Food For Children.

JANUARY 23, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"THE HEALTH OF THE NEXT GENERATION: GOOD FOOD

FOR CHILDREN."

The Faculty of Public Health – January 2024

The Faculty of Public Health has led a coalition of health organisations and charities in publishing this report. It calls on the government to protect the health and productivity of our next generation by expanding access to the Free School Meal programme, National School Breakfast programme, and the Healthy Start voucher scheme

[The Health of the Next Generation: Good Food For Children.](#)

Hot weather and health: exploring extreme heat in adult social care

JANUARY 22, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"HOT WEATHER AND HEALTH: EXPLORING EXTREME HEAT IN

ADULT SOCIAL CARE"

UKHSA – 22nd January 2024

Vulnerable groups, such as older adults and people with chronic health conditions, are at increased risk of morbidity and mortality during heatwaves. Drawing on the recent experience of the July 2022 heatwave in which the UK experienced record high temperatures and heightened risk to public health, it became important to identify experiences and learning to improve protection for highly vulnerable groups.

Research was needed to understand how healthcare and adult social care professionals approach heat risk awareness and recommendation of appropriate protective behaviours to supporting vulnerable people before and during a heatwave.

This evidence will inform the development of climate change adaptation interventions for the adult social care sector. The findings contribute to developing the evidence base concerning the impacts of climate change on public health and ultimately will help the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) to protect the nation's health from threats in the environment.

Research exploring the experience of social care practitioners in relation to extreme temperatures

Reaching the less active: A guide for public sport and leisure services

JANUARY 22, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT "REACHING THE LESS ACTIVE: A GUIDE FOR PUBLIC SPORT AND LEISURE SERVICES"

LGA – 11th January 2024

Significant research shows that the most effective preventative measure for ill health and wellbeing is being active. Yet despite the evidence, the level of physical inactivity in England is continuing. This guide focuses on the public sport and leisure sector's role in getting the less active more active.

Read the guide – ***Reaching the less active: A guide for public sport and leisure services***

How rising cost of living is impacting sport and physical activity.

JANUARY 22, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"HOW RISING COST OF LIVING IS IMPACTING SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY."

Sport England – 11th January 2024

This report considers what the impact of the rising cost of living has been on activity levels and the wider sector as a whole.]

Read the Report – [*How rising cost of living is impacting sport and physical activity.*](#)
WHO global report on trends in prevalence of tobacco use 2000–2030.

JANUARY 22, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"WHO GLOBAL REPORT ON TRENDS IN PREVALENCE OF TOBACCO USE 2000–2030."

WHO – 16 January 2024

This report presents WHO estimates of tobacco use prevalence for 2022, numbers of users, and trends projected to 2030. Estimates are at global, regional and country-level

[*WHO global report on trends in prevalence of tobacco use 2000–2030.*](#)
Positive Voices 2022: survey report

JANUARY 19, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"POSITIVE VOICES 2022: SURVEY REPORT"

UK Health Security Agency

Positive Voices is a nationally representative survey of patients attending HIV specialist care in England, Wales and Scotland. The survey includes patient-reported data on: HIV knowledge, diagnoses and treatment; health conditions and medication; health care use and satisfaction with HIV specialist services and GP services; health-related quality of life and wellbeing; general health and health-related behaviours; stigma and discrimination; housing, employment and finances; met and unmet health and social care needs; and the impact of Covid-19.

Read the Report – [*Positive Voices 2022: survey report*](#)

Finding the fuel poor and framing better policy

JANUARY 19, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT" FINDING THE FUEL POOR AND FRAMING BETTER POLICY"

Environmental Change Institute (ECI), University of Oxford, – 2023

This report is based on household energy consumption and other data for 11,519 households with dual-fuel gas and electricity supplies, provided by the energy company Utilita. Using data from four years, 2019-20 to 2022-23, analysis has looked at how energy use, rates and duration of self-disconnection have varied with external temperature, price, dwelling and household characteristics, and how policies and targeted payments affected energy use and self-disconnection.

Read the report – [Finding the fuel poor and framing better policy](#)

The Hologic Global Women's Health Index: Pathways to a Healthy Future for Women

JANUARY 19, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT" THE HOLOGIC GLOBAL WOMEN'S HEALTH INDEX: PATHWAYS

TO A HEALTHY FUTURE FOR WOMEN"

Hologic and Gallup – Jan 2024

This annual survey, now in its third year, is one of the most comprehensive initiatives measuring the state of health for 97% of the world's women and girls aged 15 and older.

Read the report – [Pathways to a Healthy Future for Women](#)

What people told us about outpatient appointments – Healthwatch

JANUARY 19, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT" WHAT PEOPLE TOLD US ABOUT OUTPATIENT APPOINTMENTS

– HEALTHWATCH"

Healthwatch – January 2024

We've looked at feedback about what works and what doesn't when it comes to outpatient care. Learn the key issues and read our recommendations.

Further information – [What people told us about outpatient appointments](#)

Healthy places, prosperous lives

JANUARY 19, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"HEALTHY PLACES, PROSPEROUS LIVES"

IPPR – 18th January 2024

The UK is getting poorer and sicker, and this trend is not equal across the country. Poorer and sicker areas are getting poorer and sicker the most quickly.

To help develop a path forward, IPPR held a series of multi-day deliberative workshops across the country – each exploring people’s understanding of health, its relationship with prosperity, and priorities for change.

Based on these priorities, we have developed a new framework: ‘Seven for Seven’ – or seven foundations for seven healthy life years.

For each of our foundations, this report identifies examples of transformative place-level interventions, either in the UK or internationally, which are already making a difference. We also recommend the creation of Health and Prosperity Improvement Zones (HAPI), targeted at places where need is highest.

Read the report – [Healthy places, prosperous lives](#)

Destitution in the UK 2023

JANUARY 19, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"DESTITUTION IN THE UK 2023"

JRF – 2023

This study, the fourth in the Destitution in the UK series, reveals approximately 3.8 million people experienced destitution in 2022, including around one million children. This is almost two-and-a-half times the number of people in 2017, and nearly triple the number of children. There is an urgent need for action to tackle destitution in the UK.

Read the report – [Destitution in the UK 2023](#)

Guidance for risk assessment and infection prevention and control measures for measles in healthcare settings

JANUARY 19, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"GUIDANCE FOR RISK ASSESSMENT AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL MEASURES FOR MEASLES IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS"

NHS England -16th January 2024

This guidance is intended to support preparedness for and management of suspected or confirmed measles cases in healthcare settings.

Guidance for risk assessment and infection prevention and control measures for measles in healthcare settings

It's Cold up North: Fuel Poverty and the Energy Crisis in the North East of England

JANUARY 18, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"IT'S COLD UP NORTH: FUEL POVERTY AND THE ENERGY CRISIS IN THE NORTH EAST OF ENGLAND"

National Energy Action (NEA) – Sept 2023

This report is a collaboration between National Energy Action (NEA), the UK's national fuel poverty charity and Citizens Advice Newcastle, a local charity providing free, confidential, independent and impartial advice on matters such as money, benefits, housing, and energy. It presents a regional view on the issues and experiences of people living in the North East of England throughout the ongoing energy crisis, which began in the UK in Autumn 2021 when fuel poverty rates stood at 4.5 million households. A timeline of the energy crisis is provided in Annex 1. Throughout, the report draws on publicly available national and regional statistics, and also makes

use of data collected by Citizens Advice Newcastle on the issues clients across the region have experienced during the ongoing energy crisis and continue to do so. Anonymised case studies of people who have been supported by Citizens Advice Newcastle are included to illustrate the lived reality and experiences of the ongoing energy crisis. The report concludes with recommendations on the critical actions that must be taken ahead of this winter to ensure households across the North East, from Berwick to Benton and from Sunderland to Saltburn, are able to keep warm and safe at home.

Read the Report – [*Fuel Poverty and the Energy Crisis in the North East of England*](#)
Safeguarding adults protocol: pressure ulcers and raising a safeguarding concern

JANUARY 18, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"SAFEGUARDING ADULTS PROTOCOL: PRESSURE ULCERS AND RAISING A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN"

[Department of Health and Social Care](#) – 16th January 2023

These documents help practitioners and managers across health and care organisations to provide caring and quick responses to people at risk of developing pressure ulcers.

The guidance and appendices also offer a process for the clinical management of harm removal and reduction where ulcers occur, considering if an adult safeguarding response is necessary.

Pressure ulcers, which are largely preventable, cause distress to individuals and their families and create financial pressures for the NHS. While the treatment of pressure ulcers is mainly clinical, prevention is a shared responsibility.

[*Safeguarding adults protocol: pressure ulcers and raising a safeguarding concern*](#)

Reaching Out – Improving the physical health of people with severe mental illness

JANUARY 18, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"REACHING OUT – IMPROVING THE PHYSICAL HEALTH OF PEOPLE WITH SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS"

Centre for Mental Health – 17th January 2024

People living with severe mental illness face a 15 to 20 year shorter life expectancy than the general population. This is largely due to physical illnesses that could be prevented or treated.

One of the ways to tackle this unacceptable inequality is by ensuring everyone with severe mental illness is supported to access an annual physical health (PHSMI) check. This report with Equally Well UK, commissioned by NHS England, explores how new investment has been used around the country to improve outreach services and increase uptake of the PHSMI check.

Reaching out illustrates the barriers that can prevent people from accessing their physical health check, such as finding morning appointments challenging due to drowsiness from medication, or distrust of NHS services due to previous experiences (including compulsory treatment). It highlights the importance of coproduction in designing outreach initiatives to remove these barriers.

It also contains a handy information sheet with key tips on widening access to physical health checks for people with severe mental illness, such as using point-of-care testing kits to take PHSMI checks to where people are, or supporting people with travel to the GP surgery.

The report calls for outreach to be part of a wider strategy to improve the physical health of people living with severe mental illness and reduce the mortality gap.

Read the Report – [Reaching Out](#)

The State of the Nation's Food Industry report 2023

Food Foundation – 2023

The [State of the Nation's Food Industry report](#) shines a light on the major retailers and Out of Home businesses within the UK and what steps, if any, they are taking to help us shift towards a more healthy and sustainable diet.

Acknowledging the important role these sectors play in shaping our food environments and therefore eating habits, the report uses 10 metrics to assess which companies are leading the way, and importantly, what ethical businesses should be doing to help fix our broken food system.

Read the Report – [The State of the Nation's Food Industry report 2023](#)

Food insecurity and inequalities experienced by disabled people

Food Foundation – December 2023

Food insecurity levels in the UK have reached unprecedented highs over the past few years, first in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic and now continuing through the cost of living crisis.

Disabled people have been particularly exposed to food insecurity, [facing stark inequalities](#) when it comes to accessing and affording the food that they need.

A quarter of the population, equating to 16 million people in the UK, including one in 10 children, are disabled – a proportion which has doubled in the last decade.

While improving access to food for disabled people requires a holistic, individualised approach, there are a numerous commonalities disabled people experience that policymakers must address to reduce food insecurity.

This briefing explores some of the common experiences of disabled people faced with food insecurity.

Read the Report – [Food insecurity and inequalities experienced by disabled people](#)
UK's largest survey of people living with
HIV published

JANUARY 16, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"UK'S LARGEST SURVEY OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH
HIV PUBLISHED"

UKHSA – January 2024

Positive Voices 2022 survey reveals high satisfaction with treatment and care, but stigma and mental health conditions remain prevalent.

Read the Report – [Positive Voices survey 2022](#)

Undervaccination and severe COVID-19 outcomes: meta-analysis of national cohort studies in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales

JANUARY 16, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"UNDERVACCINATION AND SEVERE COVID-19 OUTCOMES:

META-ANALYSIS OF NATIONAL COHORT STUDIES IN ENGLAND, NORTHERN IRELAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES"

Lancet — January 15, 2024

More than 7,000 Covid-related hospital admissions could have been prevented in the UK in the summer of 2022 if the population had received the full number of jabs recommended, according to research in The Lancet.

Some 44% of the UK population was under-vaccinated, with younger people among the most likely to skip doses.

In a first, health records for everyone over five in the UK were analysed. The same approach could now be used to understand other diseases.

The entire population of the UK is 67 million, and all those over the age of five had their anonymised electronic health data analysed for [The Lancet study](#).

It found that between June and September 2022, the percentage of people not fully vaccinated against Covid was:

- 49.8% in Northern Ireland
- 45.7% in England
- 34% in Scotland
- 32.8% Wales

Read the article – [Undervaccination and severe COVID-19 outcomes: meta-analysis of national cohort studies in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales](#)

Consumption of energy drinks by children and young people: a systematic review examining evidence of physical effects and consumer attitudes

JANUARY 16, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"CONSUMPTION OF ENERGY DRINKS BY CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW EXAMINING EVIDENCE OF PHYSICAL EFFECTS AND CONSUMER ATTITUDES"

Public Health – January 2024

A new study published in the [Public Health journal](#) adds further worrying evidence that consumption of energy drinks high in caffeine and sugar can be harmful to the health of children and young people. In the comprehensive study researchers from [Fuse, the Centre for Translational Research in Public Health](#) at Teesside University and Newcastle University, looked at data from 57 studies of over 1.2 million children and young people from more than 21 countries.

Additional health effects noted in the research review include increased risk of suicidal thoughts, psychological distress, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) symptoms, depressive and panic behaviours, allergic diseases, insulin resistance, and tooth decay. The study also links consumption of the drinks with an increased risk of poor academic performance, sleep problems and less healthy dietary patterns. Energy drinks consumption has also been associated with increased risky behaviours such as substance abuse, violence and unsafe sex.

Read the article – [Consumption of energy drinks by children and young people](#)

Breathing unequal: how people with lung conditions living in poverty are twice as likely to be admitted to hospital

JANUARY 16, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"[BREATHING UNEQUAL: HOW PEOPLE WITH LUNG CONDITIONS LIVING IN POVERTY ARE TWICE AS LIKELY TO BE ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL](#)"

Asthma and Lung UK – 2023

Our report found that people with lung conditions living in poverty are twice as likely to be admitted to hospital and more likely to die from their lung conditions. The report, based on findings from our survey of more than 14,000 people with lung conditions, also found that they are struggling to access the care they need.

Read the Report – [***Breathing unequal: how people with lung conditions living in poverty are twice as likely to be admitted to hospital***](#)

iHV Annual Report 2022 – 2023

JANUARY 12, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"[IHV ANNUAL REPORT 2022 – 2023](#)"

Institute of Health Visiting

Read the Report – [***iHV Annual Report 2022 – 2023***](#)

Understanding the rise in 0-4-year-old Emergency Department (ED) attendances and changing health visiting practice

JANUARY 12, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"[UNDERSTANDING THE RISE IN 0-4-YEAR-OLD EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT \(ED\) ATTENDANCES AND CHANGING HEALTH VISITING PRACTICE](#)"

Institute of Health Visiting – Publication date: December 2023

This report presents the findings from a rapid review to understand changing Emergency Department attendance rates in children aged 0-4 years, alongside changes in health visiting practice to support parents to manage minor illnesses in England.

Read the Report – [***Understanding the rise in 0-4-year-old Emergency Department \(ED\) attendances and changing health visiting practice***](#)

Our new assessment approach: update January 2024 – CQC

JANUARY 12, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"OUR NEW ASSESSMENT APPROACH: UPDATE JANUARY 2024

– CQC"

CQC – 9th January 2024

We are continuing to roll out our [new framework to assess providers region by region](#).

See [Introducing our new approach](#) to keep up to date with our rollout plans.

Our early adopter providers told us that they felt there was **good communication** and a **collaborative approach**.

We are acting on the feedback from providers and will continue to do this throughout the rollout.

Further information – [Our new assessment approach: update January 2024](#)

Advice to local authorities on scrutinising health services

JANUARY 11, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"ADVICE TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES ON SCRUTINISING

HEALTH SERVICES"

[Department of Health and Social Care](#) – 11th January 2024

This guidance is intended to support local authorities, NHS bodies and health service providers in discharging their responsibilities under the relevant legislation to support effective scrutiny of local health services.

It includes an up-to-date explanation and guide to the updated 2013 regulations (to be amended 31 January 2024), and reflects amendments to the local authority scrutiny function following the introduction of the new arrangements for ministerial intervention in reconfiguration of NHS services on 31 January 2024.

[Local authority health scrutiny](#)

Care workforce pathway for adult social care

JANUARY 11, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"CARE WORKFORCE PATHWAY FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE"

Department of Health and Social Care – 10th January 2024

The care workforce pathway is a new career structure for the adult social care workforce.

This is the first phase of the pathway, focusing on direct care roles at 4 levels.

The pathway has been informed by responses to the [call for evidence](#), which ran for 8 weeks in April and May 2023.

The Department of Health and Social Care developed the pathway in partnership with Skills for Care, representatives from the adult social care workforce, and people who draw on care and support.

Care workforce pathway for adult social care

Commissioner guidance for adult mental health rehabilitation inpatient services

JANUARY 9, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"COMMISSIONER GUIDANCE FOR ADULT MENTAL HEALTH REHABILITATION INPATIENT SERVICES"

NHS England – 9th January 2024

This guidance supports the planning and commissioning of local mental health rehabilitation inpatient services as part of a whole pathway, to meet the identified need of local populations.

Commissioner guidance for adult mental health rehabilitation inpatient services

Novel approach to HVD detection: Uncovering the invisible patients with heart valve disease

JANUARY 9, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"NOVEL APPROACH TO HVD DETECTION: UNCOVERING THE INVISIBLE PATIENTS WITH HEART VALVE DISEASE"

Community Pharmacy England – Monday 8th January 2024

This report encourages Integrated Care Boards to increase proactive detection of heart valve disease (HVD), highlighting a proof of concept evaluation of the feasibility of using e-stethoscopes to detect HVD within community pharmacy.

Read the Report – [*Uncovering the invisible patients with heart valve disease*](#)
Health inequalities, lives cut short

JANUARY 9, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"HEALTH INEQUALITIES, LIVES CUT SHORT"

Institute of Health Equity (IHE) – January 2024

This report confirms that a million people in 90% of areas in England lived shorter lives than they should between 2011 and the start of the pandemic. Using several published Office for National Statistics data sources, the IHE made these calculations from the number of excess deaths (the increase in the number of deaths beyond what would be expected) in the decade from 2011 in England.

Read the Report – [*Health inequalities, lives cut short*](#)
A visual guide to vaccines

JANUARY 8, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"A VISUAL GUIDE TO VACCINES"

UKHSA – DEc 2023

These documents show the vaccines, product names and packaging to compliment the routine immunisation schedule.

[*A visual guide to vaccines for the routine vaccination programme poster*](#)

[*A visual guide to vaccines for the routine vaccination programme*](#)

A formal evaluation of the impact of interventions aimed at vaccine uptake and vaccine confidence by Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) health and care professional networks

JANUARY 8, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"A FORMAL EVALUATION OF THE IMPACT OF INTERVENTIONS

AIMED AT VACCINE UPTAKE AND VACCINE CONFIDENCE BY BLACK, ASIAN AND MINORITY ETHNIC (BAME)

HEALTH AND CARE PROFESSIONAL NETWORKS"

Faculty of Public Health – 2023

This report outlines research overseen by the Faculty of Public Health, funded by Public Health England, and delivered by the University of Hertfordshire. It explores how voluntary health networks supported vaccine uptake in the community and how this support was received.

Read the Report – [***A formal evaluation of the impact of interventions aimed at vaccine uptake and vaccine confidence by Black, Asian and minority ethnic \(BAME\) health and care professional networks***](#)

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on women, employment and health inequalities

JANUARY 8, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON WOMEN, EMPLOYMENT AND HEALTH INEQUALITIES"

Public Health Wales – 2023

There has been a major impact from the Covid-19 pandemic on women in general, but also specifically for women of working age and in the workforce. This explanatory note and accompanying infographic look at the major identified impacts of the pandemic on women of working age, while also taking into account existing inequalities related to employment. It uses the lens of a health impact assessment, which identifies both positive and negative health and wellbeing impacts, and highlights the equity impacts on different population groups.

Read the Report – [***The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on women, employment and health inequalities***](#)

Beyond the average: making fairer decisions for public health

JANUARY 5, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"BEYOND THE AVERAGE: MAKING FAIRER DECISIONS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH"

University of York – 2023

Researchers have developed a series of 'smart decision tools' to help governments reduce social inequality in health and wellbeing. This report outlines the potential for the use of

these tools across the NHS and other public services, helping to reduce health inequality by modifying decisions about screening and vaccination and investments in facilities as well as new medicines.

Read the Report – [Beyond the average: making fairer decisions for public health](#)

Care data matters: a roadmap for better adult social care data

JANUARY 5, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"CARE DATA MATTERS: A ROADMAP FOR BETTER ADULT SOCIAL CARE DATA"

Department of Health and Social Care – Published 20 December 2023

This guidance outlines priorities for how social care data is collected, shared and used, and how the quality and availability of adult social care data is improved, at both national and local levels.

Read the Guidance – [Care data matters: a roadmap for better adult social care data](#)

Great government: public service reform in the 2020s

JANUARY 5, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"GREAT GOVERNMENT: PUBLIC SERVICE REFORM IN THE 2020S"

Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR)

This report examines the state of the state by focusing on the challenges facing the NHS, schools and the justice system in the UK, which the next government will need to address, and sets out a plan for progress. It suggests that even if the next government matched previous rates of improvement, it would take nearly 10 years to recover levels of access in the NHS, up to 7 years to return to previous performance on the education attainment gap, and a decade to clear the courts backlog.

[Great government: public service reform in the 2020s](#)

70 years of end of life care in the community

JANUARY 5, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"70 YEARS OF END OF LIFE CARE IN THE COMMUNITY"

The Queen's Nursing Institute – 3rd Jan 2024

Survey findings reflect how palliative and end of life care has changed in the last 70 years. It notes that despite huge advances in medicine and delivery of care, services are still being hampered by many of same social and economic ills as in 1950s, and by a lack of resources.

70 years of end of life care in the community

Exploring innovation in GP Practices

JANUARY 4, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"EXPLORING INNOVATION IN GP PRACTICES"

BMA – 2023

What can we learn from innovations in general practice?

Despite current contractual, financial, and capacity constraints, GPs are innovating in different ways to deliver high-quality care and attract and retain staff.

In this collection of case-studies, we explore how eight GP providers around the country are implementing innovative models, from improving access to a wider range of services for patients to effective chronic disease management.

Read the Report – ***BMA report on innovation in general practice.***

NHS vaccination strategy

JANUARY 4, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"NHS VACCINATION STRATEGY"

NHS England – 13th December 2023

The NHS vaccination strategy brings together all vaccination programmes, for the first time, to protect communities and save lives.

This strategy is for people and organisations involved in the commissioning, planning and delivery of NHS vaccination services in England. It will shape the future delivery of NHS vaccination and immunisation services.

NHS vaccination strategy

Learning the Lessons – The Unequal Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Voices of People and Communities

JANUARY 3, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"LEARNING THE LESSONS – THE UNEQUAL IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: VOICES OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES"

National Voices 2023

In April 2023, we held a workshop with members, supported by The Disrupt Foundation, on the unequal impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We explored how communities and groups were affected differently by both the virus itself and the measures brought in to control it.

Read the Report – ***Learning the Lessons – The Unequal Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Voices of People and Communities***