



Public Health News

TRFT Library & Knowledge Service

Category: 09 (September 2023)

Public perceptions of health and social care: what are the priorities ahead of a general election?

[SEPTEMBER 29, 2023](#) - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE: WHAT ARE THE PRIORITIES AHEAD OF

A GENERAL ELECTION?*

Health Foundation – Sept 2023

This long read presents the findings from the fourth wave of our public perceptions research with Ipsos that tracks the public's views on health and social care in the UK every 6 months. This survey was conducted between 5 and 10 May 2023. We surveyed 2,450 people aged 16 years and older in the UK via Ipsos' KnowledgePanel, a random probability online panel.

Further information – [**Public perceptions of health and social care: what are the priorities ahead of a general election?**](#)

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

[SEPTEMBER 29, 2023](#) - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*A MENTALLY HEALTHIER NATION: TOWARDS A TEN-YEAR, CROSS-GOVERNMENT PLAN FOR

BETTER PREVENTION, EQUALITY AND SUPPORT*

Centre for Mental Health – September 2023

This 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.

Read the Report – [***A mentally healthier nation: towards a ten-year, cross-government plan for better prevention, equality and support***](#)

Black British Voices

[SEPTEMBER 28, 2023](#) - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) "BLACK BRITISH VOICES"

University of Cambridge – 2023

The largest survey to date of the opinions and attitudes of Black people in Britain. The report reveals that extremely high levels of distrust and discrimination are still felt deeply across Black British communities when it comes to systems such as health, education and criminal justice

Further information – [***Black British Voices***](#)

Inclusive digital healthcare: a framework for NHS action on digital inclusion

[SEPTEMBER 28, 2023](#) - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) "INCLUSIVE DIGITAL HEALTHCARE: A FRAMEWORK FOR NHS ACTION ON DIGITAL INCLUSION"

NHS England – 28th September 2023

This document builds on previous NHS Digital guidance on digital inclusion for health and social care. Use it to design and implement inclusive digital approaches and technologies, which are complementary to non-digital services and support.

[***Inclusive digital healthcare: a framework for NHS action on digital inclusion***](#)

What protects people from very deep poverty, and what makes it more likely?

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) "WHAT PROTECTS PEOPLE FROM VERY DEEP POVERTY, AND WHAT MAKES IT MORE LIKELY?"

JRF – 25th September 2023

The events that are most strongly associated with people's moves into and out of very deep poverty – changes to earnings, employment and relationship status – are similar to those associated with moves into and out of relative income poverty more broadly. But what this analysis really helps to underscore is the multidimensional nature of very deep poverty and how dynamic it is. Beneath the steadily rising overall number of people in very deep poverty, large numbers of people have moved in and out of it as their fortunes have waxed and waned. These are the moments in life when our social security system should be offering protection, but it is clearly failing to do that adequately, with over 12 million people experiencing very deep poverty at some point between 2017–18 and 2020–21. It is for this reason JRF and the Trussell Trust have been calling for an '[essentials guarantee](#)' to be built into Universal Credit, so people can always at least afford life's essentials.

Further information – [What protects people from very deep poverty, and what makes it more likely?](#)

[The dynamics of very deep poverty in the UK](#)

[The impact of work, benefits and housing on experiences of very deep poverty](#)

[The importance of social and financial safety nets for people in very deep poverty](#)

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

SEPTEMBER 27, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) "UNLOCKING THE POWER OF HEALTH BEYOND THE HOSPITAL: SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES

TO PROSPER"

NHS Confederation – 27th September 2023

New report explores how investing in community care can improve system productivity.

Read the report – [Unlocking the power of health beyond the hospital: supporting communities to prosper](#)

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

[SEPTEMBER 27, 2023](#) - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*ADULT SOCIAL CARE FUNDING PRESSURES: ESTIMATED COSTS TO MEET GROWING DEMAND AND IMPROVE SERVICES IN ENGLAND*

Health Foundation – September 2023

This long read 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.

Long Read – [**Adult social care funding pressures: estimated costs to meet growing demand and improve services in England**](#)

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

[SEPTEMBER 26, 2023](#) - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*LEARNING THE LESSONS: THE UNEQUAL IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: VOICES OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES*

National Voices- September 2023

This 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.

Read the Report – [**Learning the lessons: the unequal impact of the Covid-19 pandemic: voices of people and communities**](#)

Access denied? Socioeconomic inequalities in digital health services

[SEPTEMBER 26, 2023](#) - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*ACCESS DENIED? SOCIOECONOMIC INEQUALITIES IN DIGITAL HEALTH SERVICES*

Ada Lovelace Institute – September 2023

This report 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.

Read the Report – [Access denied? Socioeconomic inequalities in digital health services](#)
Developing a data pact: the relationship between the public, their data, and the health and care system

SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*DEVELOPING A DATA PACT: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PUBLIC, THEIR DATA, AND THE

HEALTH AND CARE SYSTEM*

The Patients Association – September 2023

This report shows that the relationship between patients and their data is deeply personal. Patients recognise that the potential for data use to improve care is huge. This research showed widespread support for realising this potential – if patients' concerns are acknowledged and addressed.

Read the Report – [Developing a data pact: the relationship between the public, their data, and the health and care system](#)

**Multiple long-term conditions (multimorbidity) and inequality-
addressing the challenge: insights from research**

SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*MULTIPLE LONG-TERM CONDITIONS (MULTIMORBIDITY) AND INEQUALITY- ADDRESSING THE

CHALLENGE: INSIGHTS FROM RESEARCH*

NIHR – 20th September 2023

[In England, there is a 19-year gap in healthy life expectancy](#) ...between the most and least affluent areas of the country, with people in the most [deprived neighbourhoods](#), [certain ethnic minority](#) and [inclusion health groups](#) getting ***multiple long-term health conditions 10 to 15 years earlier*** than the least deprived communities, spending more years in ill health and dying sooner.

(Health disparities and health inequalities: applying All Our Health, Office for Health Improvement & Disparities, 2022)

Two pressing and interconnected public health challenges are the rising number of people living with multiple conditions, and inequalities in health.

This Collection explores the intersection of the two: how discrimination and disadvantage increase the likelihood of multiple conditions, what drives the variation between different groups of people, the implications for health, and how services can help.

The research highlighted in this Collection will interest those who design and deliver health and care services, especially in areas of deprivation.

Further information – [**Multiple long-term conditions \(multimorbidity\) and inequality- addressing the challenge: insights from research**](#)

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

SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND THE NHS: TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN*

NHS Confederation – 22nd September 2023

Fewer people are being supported by state-funded social care in England despite the increase in people aged 65 and over. This report, written in partnership with Age UK, focuses on demand for and provision of state-funded social care for older people. It brings together data and demographic trends to provide an overview of total capacity and national trends across the health and care sector, as well as significant variation across the country

Read the Report – [**Adult social care and the NHS: two sides of the same coin**](#)

Empowered, connected and respected: A vision for general practice at scale and primary care networks

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*EMPOWERED, CONNECTED AND RESPECTED: A VISION FOR GENERAL PRACTICE AT SCALE

AND PRIMARY CARE NETWORKS*

NHS Confederation – Sept 2023

This paper sets out vision for at-scale general practice in context of the three core principles of the Fuller stocktake: personalised care for those who need it most delivered through integrated neighbourhood teams, a joined-up approach to prevention and streamlined access.

Read the Report – [Empowered, connected and respected: A vision for general practice at scale and primary care networks](#)

Half time: The UK's commitment to halve poverty by 2030

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*HALF TIME: THE UK'S COMMITMENT TO HALVE POVERTY BY 2030*

Resolution Foundation – September 2023

On 18-19 September, representatives from around the world – [including](#) the Deputy Prime Minister Oliver Dowden and the Foreign Secretary James Cleverly – will meet for a [UN summit](#) on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These goals are not just about development in poorer countries: the targets and the discussions around this summit have relevance for progress within the UK too. In particular, it may be a surprise to many that the Government is committed to halving UK poverty by 2030. Domestically, in contrast, there is strikingly little debate about reducing poverty. This short report explores how we might start to bridge that rhetorical gap, turn around an outlook of rising poverty, and perhaps even meet our SDG commitments.

Read the Report – [Half time: The UK's commitment to halve poverty by 2030](#)

RCN launches new definition of nursing

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*RCN LAUNCHES NEW DEFINITION OF NURSING*

RCN – September 2023

The RCN has launched its new definition of nursing to reflect the safety-critical role the nursing profession plays within health care. It has been twenty years since we last published a definition of nursing and since then, the nursing profession has changed enormously. The new definition reflects the changes and increased complexity of the profession and responsibility of registered nurses.

The definition is:

Nursing is a safety-critical profession founded on four pillars: clinical practice, education, research, and leadership.

Registered nurses use evidence-based knowledge, professional and clinical judgement to assess, plan, implement and evaluate high-quality person-centred nursing care.

The work of registered nurses consists of many specialised and complex interventions. Their vigilance is critical to the safety of people, the prevention of avoidable harm and the management of risks regardless of the location or situation.

Compassionate leadership is central to the provision and co-ordination of nursing care and informed by its values, integrity and professional knowledge. Responsibility includes leading the integration of emotional, physical, organisational, and cognitive nursing work to meet the needs of people, organisations, systems, and populations.

Registered nurses are decision makers. They use clinical judgement and problem-solving skills to manage and co-ordinate the complexity of health and social care systems to ensure people and their families are enabled to improve, maintain, or recover health by adapting, coping, and returning to live lives of the best quality or to experience a dignified death. They have high levels of autonomy within nursing and multi-professional teams, and they delegate to others in line with the [NMC code](#).

[Read about the definition.](#)

Carenomics: unlocking the economic power of care

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*CARENOMICS: UNLOCKING THE ECONOMIC POWER OF CARE*

Future Social Care Coalition (FSSC) – September 2023

This report from a cross-party coalition including former health and care ministers, employers and unions, makes the economic case for investing in social care, setting out the benefits this investment would have to the wider economy. Drawing on a wide range of evidence, this report emphasises the substantial return on investment that social care could deliver. Potential benefits include improving employment chances for disabled people, reducing pressure on the NHS, reducing costs for employers, levelling up for poorer areas, and building a more purposeful economy

Read the Report – [Carenomics: unlocking the economic power of care](#)

How finance teams are helping to reduce health inequalities

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*HOW FINANCE TEAMS ARE HELPING TO REDUCE HEALTH INEQUALITIES*

Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA)

This briefing explores the work that finance teams are doing to help reduce health inequalities. There are three main ways finance staff are supporting this important agenda: allocating resources differently to support specific population needs; aligning data sets, tackling variation and reducing inefficiency; and investing in targeted projects that focus on specific groups

How finance teams are helping to reduce health inequalities

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

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*CARE FOR OUR FUTURE: THE ROADMAP TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR ADULT

SOCIAL CARE*

Care England – September 2023

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.

Read the document – [Care for our future: the roadmap to a sustainable future for adult social care](#)

95% of ex-smokers see positive changes soon after quitting

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*95% OF EX-SMOKERS SEE POSITIVE CHANGES SOON AFTER QUITTING*

NHS England – 20 September 2023

- New research reveals smokers can expect positive changes as soon as 2 weeks after quitting, including having more energy (45%), feeling healthier (42%) and improved breathing (42%)
- Data announced as the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities' (OHID) national quit smoking campaign, Stoptober, returns to encourage smokers to quit this October and highlights both the immediate benefits and longer-term gains ex-smokers can expect
- Smoking remains the single biggest cause of preventable illness and death in England with over 5 million people in the country still smoking
- Campaign is supported by TV stars and ex-smokers Bobby Norris and Malin Andersson

Further information – [95% of ex-smokers see positive changes soon after quitting](#)

The Child of the North: Addressing Education and Health Inequity

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) "THE CHILD OF THE NORTH: ADDRESSING EDUCATION AND HEALTH INEQUITY"

Child of the North APPG; 2023.

As well as looking at the funding of schools, this report 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

[Click here to read the report](#)

Good Childhood Report 2023.

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) "GOOD CHILDHOOD REPORT 2023."

The Children's Society; 2023.

This year's Good Childhood Report reveals that too many young people are unhappy with their lives. 10% of the children aged 10 to 17 who completed our household survey in May and June 2023 had low wellbeing, and almost a third were unhappy with at least one specific area of their lives

[Good Childhood Report 2023](#)

Our plan for 2023-24: Equalities, diversity and inclusion and Strategy 2023-2026 – HealthWatch

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) "OUR PLAN FOR 2023-24: EQUALITIES, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AND STRATEGY 2023-2026"

- HEALTHWATCH"

Healthwatch – 9 August 2023

Since 2020, we have committed to applying an Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) lens across our work. To ensure we live up to this commitment, we publish an organisational action plan annually, setting out our approach.

In May, we published our updated strategy for 2023-2026, [Our Future Focus](#). During the development of this work, it was clear that we needed to:

- Continue to focus on the unfair and avoidable differences in health across the population and between different groups in society; and
- Regularly demonstrate where our work has led to reductions in health inequalities.

Our commitment to EDI is reflected in the first of our three strategic objectives::

To support more people who face the worst outcomes to speak up about their health and social care, and to access the advice they need.

This document outlines the steps we will take in 2023-24 to achieve this.

Our National Committee scrutinises our delivery to help ensure we meet our objectives and live up to commitments that we have set. Our EDI plan for 2023-24 builds on our previous work and includes a renewed emphasis on understanding the impact of inequalities, including financial hardship.

[**Our plan for 2023-24: Equalities, diversity and inclusion**](#)

Updated strategy for 2023-2026, [Our Future Focus](#).

[**Could early intervention prevent a retirement disability benefit timebomb?**](#)

SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) *COULD EARLY INTERVENTION PREVENT A RETIREMENT DISABILITY BENEFIT TIMEBOMB?*

Lane Clark & Peacock (LCP) – September 2023

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 looks at the potential cost of leaving this growth in working-age disability unresolved and provides preventive health recommendations for the public and government.

Read the Report – [Could early intervention prevent a retirement disability benefit timebomb?](#)

Securing our healthy future: prevention is better than cure

[SEPTEMBER 19, 2023](#) - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)"SECURING OUR HEALTHY FUTURE: PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE"

Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC)

This paper (supported by the 24 members of the AoMRC) lays out the importance of prioritising child health in political decision-making. It outlines ten key actions for the UK government to take to prioritise child health. These include creating a Cabinet-level Minister for Children and Young People and preventive measures in childhood to achieve healthy weight, enhance oral health, improve low vaccination uptake, implement clean air policies and support child mental health services. The paper was written by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health and the Faculty of Public Health to support government engagement on putting children back on the policy agenda

Rad the paper – [Securing our healthy future: prevention is better than cure](#)

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

[SEPTEMBER 19, 2023](#) - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)"GET ACTIVE: A STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE OF SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY."

Department for Culture, Media & Sport; 2023.

This strategy sets out how the government will help build a healthier nation by tackling high levels of inactivity, and by making sure that the sport and physical activity sector thrives for future generations. There will be a focus on establishing a lifetime habit of being physically active amongst children and young people, including playing sport, supporting the sector to be welcoming to all, and ensuring the sector is prepared for both future challenges and opportunities

Read the Report – [Get Active: a strategy for the future of sport and physical activity.](#)

A new framework for tackling poverty: The interim report of the Poverty Strategy Commission.

[SEPTEMBER 19, 2023](#) - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)"A NEW FRAMEWORK FOR TACKLING POVERTY: THE INTERIM REPORT OF THE POVERTY

STRATEGY COMMISSION."

Poverty Strategy Commission; 2023.

While some progress has been made in reducing poverty amongst certain groups, including pensioners and lone parents, these gains have started to be reversed. Deep poverty has become more prevalent and little progress has been made in closing the resilience gaps in outcomes like health, education, family stability and labour market opportunities experienced by people in poverty

Read the Report – [A new framework for tackling poverty](#)

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

SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*RECIPE FOR CHANGE: BUILDING SUPPORT FOR AN INDUSTRY LEVY TO HELP MAKE OUR

FOOD HEALTHIER.*

Recipe for Change – September 2023

Recipe for Change is a campaign calling for a new industry levy to help make our food healthier, while raising revenue that can be invested back into children's health. 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. The products sold and served to us could and should be healthier, and healthier food should be more affordable and accessible than less healthy products. It looks at the history of policy making in this area, including the limitations of voluntary programmes, showing where more action is needed. It explores the success of the Soft Drinks Industry Levy in reducing sugar and raising revenues for child health, and the opportunities for building on this to improve the healthiness of our food and in turn the health of children and families all over the country.

Read the Report – [Recipe for Change: Building support for an industry levy to help make our food healthier.](#)

Centenarians living in England and Wales in 2021

SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*CENTENARIANS LIVING IN ENGLAND AND WALES IN 2021*

ONS – 18th September 2023

Main points

- Over the past century, the number of centenarians living in England and Wales has increased 127-fold, reaching 13,924 in 2021; however, centenarians still only represent 0.2% of the total population.
- Male centenarians in 2021 had outlived their life expectancy at birth by four decades and female centenarians by three decades.
- Two in five centenarians lived alone; one in five lived in private households with other people; the remaining two in five lived in a communal establishment.
- A higher proportion of male centenarians were married than female centenarians; this is because of the longer life expectancy of females and because men, on average, marry women slightly younger than themselves.
- A quarter of centenarians reported having good or very good health and almost a third were non-disabled.
- The three local authorities (LA) with the highest proportion of centenarians were on the south coast.
- The UK ranks as the seventh country worldwide for highest number of centenarians, and ninth once population size is taken into account.

Further information – [Centenarians living in England and Wales in 2021](#)

Empowered, connected and respected: a vision for general practice at scale and primary care networks

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) EMPOWERED, CONNECTED AND RESPECTED: A VISION FOR GENERAL PRACTICE AT SCALE

AND PRIMARY CARE NETWORKS*

NHS Confederation – 18th September 2023

Key points

- This paper sets out our vision for at-scale general practice in the context of the three core principles of the Fuller stocktake: personalised care for those who need it most delivered through integrated neighbourhood teams, a joined-up approach to prevention and streamlined access.
- Shaped by our members, our vision provides an ambition which we believe primary care should be striving for with the right support. As part of the NHS Confederation, our work to support, connect and represent our primary care members will be driven by our vision and the key principles that underpin that vision.
- Our members are at-scale providers of primary care services; they work to support and stabilise the partnership model and, where appropriate, develop new models of delivery based on local need.
- At-scale primary care is a critical system partner with the potential to deliver significant progress towards the ambitions of integrated care systems, and it must be empowered to lead and innovate to meet that potential.

- A sustainable future for primary care must involve patients as partners in their own care, by providing them with the support, knowledge and technology to manage their health conditions and system pathways.
- To deliver the right care in the right place, primary care must have the flexibility and support to develop models of delivery which suit the needs of their population. Embracing new models and economies of scale shaped by primary care providers has the potential to build on the success of existing at-scale providers who have demonstrated that they can provide more efficient and effective care as part of an integrated system.
- Equity of access must be a priority for the future of primary care, with the outcomes for both longitudinal and episodic care recognised as more important than the number of appointments delivered.
- Primary care networks (PCNs) will continue to be a key driver of integration and hold a vital role in delivering integrated neighbourhood working as part of emerging 'teams of teams', which bring together local care providers and wider system partners to address the wider determinants of health, adopting a holistic approach to improving the health and wellbeing of communities, and reducing health inequalities.
- Effective population health management improvement will require a firm commitment to primary care at scale, through PCNs, GP federations and primary care collaboratives which can leverage their scale and combined resources to deliver for a whole population.

Read the Report – [**Empowered, connected and respected: a vision for general practice at scale and primary care networks**](#)

Warm Homes Prescription Impact and Value for Money Report

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) "WARM HOMES PRESCRIPTION IMPACT AND VALUE FOR MONEY REPORT"

SHU – September 2023

Warm Home Prescription works to find vulnerable people with health conditions made worse by the cold and gives them immediate, effective support by paying for the heating they need to keep their home at a healthy, warm, temperature. Alongside this it provided measures to better control heating and manage associated energy use and emissions.

The 2022/23 service trial was designed and managed by the Energy Systems Catapult through partnerships with NHS and energy advice organisations across 4 areas. Health professionals identified patients unable to afford the heating they need to stay well. An energy advice organisation then gathered some details from the patient, visiting their home if needed, and paid their predicted heating bill.

This report provides an Impact and Value for Money assessment of Energy Systems Catapult's Warm Home

Prescription (WHP) project, which was supported by BP. It has been produced by the Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research (CRESR) at Sheffield Hallam University.

Read the Report – [*Warm Homes Prescription Impact and Value for Money Report*](#)

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

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*WARM HOME PRESCRIPTION: IMPACT ON HEALTH & WELLBEING AND ATTITUDES TO HEAT*

Energy Systems Catapult – September 2023

This 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.

Read the Report – [*Warm Home Prescription – Impact on Health & Wellbeing and Attitudes to Heat*](#)

For public health and public finances: Reforming health and social care

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC FINANCES: REFORMING HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE*

IPPR – September 2023

The number of deaths that could have been avoided with timely healthcare or public health interventions is much higher in the UK than in all other comparable European nations. This is down to a wide range of factors, but the trajectory we are on is clearly not sustainable. It is not working for health nor prosperity.

We deliberated with citizens and service users across the country to understand what a service that works for both public health and public finances could look like, and have created a 10-point plan for the future of health and care.

Read the Report – [*For public health and public finances: Reforming health and social care*](#)

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

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)"RECIPE FOR CHANGE: BUILDING SUPPORT FOR AN INDUSTRY LEVY TO HELP MAKE OUR

FOOD HEALTHIER"

Recipe for Change – 13th September 2023

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.

Read the Report – [Recipe for Change: building support for an industry levy to help make our food healthier](#)

What is the Systems for Change project?

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)"WHAT IS THE SYSTEMS FOR CHANGE PROJECT?"

NHS Confederation – 13th September 2023

This article forms part of the Systems for Change project, which provides practical learning and tools to support integrated care systems to drive social and economic development.

If you work in an integrated care system, VCSE organisation, local government, business or academia and are looking to bring people together to improve people's lives, the [Systems for Change learning platform](#) has been developed for you.

[What is the Systems for Change project?](#)

Why is social and economic development a challenge?

NHS Confederation – 13th September 2023

This article forms part of the Systems for Change project, which provides practical learning and tools to support integrated care systems to drive social and economic development.

If you work in an integrated care system, VCSE organisation, local government, business or academia and are looking to bring people together to improve people's lives, the [Systems for Change learning platform](#) has been developed for you.

Working together to improve the social, environmental and economic conditions in our communities, and the health and wellbeing of people that live in them, is a significant cross-cutting ambition. This means this is can be a crowded and contested space. There is overlap between social and economic development and the other ICS priorities around health inequalities, social determinants and population health.

Further information – [Why is social and economic development a challenge?](#)

Building an approach to the inclusive economies agenda

LGA

There is substantial scope for councils to pursue different approaches, strategies, and interventions to build inclusive economies. However, a prerequisite of any focus on inclusive economy is to ensure that it is embedded across the organisation. This section highlights how councils have drawn together an approach to inclusive economies by building consensuses, developing strategies, learning and working in partnership, and using evidence effectively.

Further information – [Building an approach to the inclusive economies agenda](#)

New perspectives on market facilitation: provider commissioner relationships

Institute of Public Care – September 2023

This 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.

Read the Report – [***New perspectives on market facilitation: provider commissioner relationships***](#)

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

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*ADDRESSING EDUCATION AND HEALTH INEQUITY: PERSPECTIVES FROM THE NORTH

OF ENGLAND*

Northern Health Science Alliance

As well as looking at the funding of schools, this report 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.

Read the Report – [***Addressing education and health inequity: perspectives from the North of England***](#)

Recovery support services and lived experience initiatives

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES AND LIVED EXPERIENCE INITIATIVES*

[Office for Health Improvement and Disparities](#) – 8th September 2023

This guidance supports alcohol and drug treatment and recovery partnerships to understand the evidence for, the value of, and ways to develop lived experience initiatives and recovery support services. These initiatives and services help people and their families sustain recovery long term.

It has been written in collaboration with:

- Dr Ed Day, National Recovery Champion
- the College of Lived Experience Recovery Organisations (CLERO) Connector leads
- members of the CLERO's lived experience recovery organisation network

The guidance is in 4 parts, as follows:

Part 1 introduces recovery, peer support and lived experience initiatives. It covers:

- what we mean by recovery and the factors that influence it
- what a recovery-oriented system of care is and how the services within it work together to promote and support recovery
- the role of peer support and lived experience initiatives

Part 2 outlines the evidence for and current provision of recovery support services in England. These are:

- mutual aid and facilitated access to mutual aid
- peer-based recovery support services
- recovery check-ups and continuing care
- recovery community centres
- recovery housing
- recovery support services in educational settings

Part 3 outlines how to develop systems of care that support recovery. It will help alcohol and drug partnerships to develop and support recovery support services and lived experience initiatives. It covers:

- lived experience in local partnerships
- asset mapping, connections and gaps
- building and integrating these assets
- safe and effective lived experience initiatives
- funding and growth of lived experience initiatives

This includes guidance on contracting lived experience initiatives.

Part 4 provides a glossary of terms used in the guidance, further resources and suggested reading.

[Recovery support services and lived experience initiatives](#)

A health promotion approach for reducing youth exposure to alcogenic environments: Snapshot series on alcohol policies and practice – WHO

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*A HEALTH PROMOTION APPROACH FOR REDUCING YOUTH EXPOSURE TO ALCOGENIC

ENVIRONMENTS: SNAPSHOT SERIES ON ALCOHOL POLICIES AND PRACTICE – WHO*

WHO – September 2023

The environment in which young people live, learn and play significantly affects their decisions about whether to consume alcohol. Environmental factors are the main risk factors driving alcohol consumption and related harm among young people. Environments that normalize alcohol consumption – termed alcogenic environments – include contexts with unregulated advertising and marketing of alcoholic beverages, higher alcohol outlet density, products designed to facilitate affordability and low prices of alcoholic beverages. A recent body of research evidence has emerged related to the measurement, functional significance and consequences of living in alcogenic environments. This includes findings on the complex and bidirectional interactions among alcohol acceptability, availability and affordability and how they create and perpetuate alcogenic environments. Comprehensive and enforced alcohol control policies are effective at delaying the age of onset and lowering alcohol prevalence and frequency among young people. Evidence consistently confirms the effectiveness of designing and implementing alcohol control policies that regulate upstream the drivers of alcogenic environment, including alcohol availability, acceptability and affordability. These policies need to be multipronged and address the complex interactions between these drivers and the local alcohol culture.

Further information – [**A health promotion approach for reducing youth exposure to alcogenic environments**](#)

Our Annual Report and Accounts 2023 – British Heart Foundation

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*OUR ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2023 – BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION*

BHF – September 2023

This year's annual report showcases our ongoing resilience in the wake of the pandemic and the incredible work of our BHF family to recover our income, support millions of families in their time of need, and make history by funding more ambitious research than ever before.

Read the Report – [**Our Annual Report and Accounts 2023**](#) – British Heart Foundation

Systems for change: Driving social and economic development – Practical learning and tools for ICS's

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*SYSTEMS FOR CHANGE: DRIVING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – PRACTICAL

LEARNING AND TOOLS FOR ICS'S*

NHS Confederation – 13th September 2023

One of the four key purposes of integrated care systems (ICSs) is to help the NHS support broader social and economic development. For many people working in local areas – in the NHS, local government, VCSE sector, business, academia and finance – this objective presents an exciting opportunity to change how we work together, and with people and communities, to create a positive and lasting impact on people's lives.

While there is enthusiasm about the possibilities, there is currently a lack of practical support and guidance about how ICSs can approach this purpose in practice, and what could help partners make progress. Until now.

This platform, developed by the [Systems for Change project](#), captures the learning from systems making strides on this objective. Presenting practical insights in bitesize chunks, it guides you through everything you need to know to make progress on social and economic development.

If you work in an integrated care system, VCSE organisation, local government, business or academia and are looking to bring people together to improve people's lives, this platform is for you.

Access resources to help you:

- learn more about the topic and unpack key concepts
- discover common approaches and characteristics for making progress
- learn from the experiences of systems making strides
- access case studies, practical tools and further resources.

Further information – [Systems for change: Driving social and economic development](#)

How confident are people about accessing NHS healthcare?

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*HOW CONFIDENT ARE PEOPLE ABOUT ACCESSING NHS HEALTHCARE?*

Healthwatch England – September 2023

This 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.

Read the Research – [How confident are people about accessing NHS healthcare?](#)

A community-centred approach to musculoskeletal care

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)"A COMMUNITY-CENTRED APPROACH TO MUSCULOSKELETAL CARE"

NHS Confederation – 11th September 2023

Sussex MSK Partnership has successfully developed a community-centred approach to musculoskeletal (MSK) care through the use of community appointment days (CADs). Over two days in different locations, the partnership delivered a personalised approach to care, increasing staff morale and improving outcomes for their patients.

Read the case study – [A community-centred approach to musculoskeletal care](#)

Questions of fairness in health and social care policy decisions: a Socratic approach

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)"QUESTIONS OF FAIRNESS IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE POLICY DECISIONS: A

SOCRATIC APPROACH"

Centre for Health Economics – Sept 2023

The Socratic method is a way of teaching attributed by Plato to Socrates that works through teachers asking questions of their students, to clarify students' thinking and expose the reasons for thinking as they do. This research paper takes the form of a checklist of questions for those who make and implement health and social care policies. The questions cover the broad context of health and care, fairness as a concept, public health, implementation and other topics.

Read the paper – [Questions of fairness in health and social care policy decisions: a Socratic approach](#)

Digital and data strategy for health and social care in Wales – Welsh Govt

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*DIGITAL AND DATA STRATEGY FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE IN WALES – WELSH GOVT*

NHS Wales – 27th July 2023

Our system of delivering joined-up health and social care needs further development. Digital transformation is key to successful and improved health and social care outcomes. The refreshed '[Digital and data strategy for health and social care in Wales](#)' builds upon previous successes and sets out future ambitions. User-centred digital services built upon better digital skills, data and platforms are critical.

The strategy identifies a series of priorities to be delivered through six missions.

- digital skills
- digital economy
- data and collaboration
- digital Infrastructure and connectivity
- user-centred services
- digital inclusion

We will place digital and data at the heart of our plans when developing health and social care services. This strategy reinforces our commitment to supporting citizens to lead longer, happier lives.

Read the Report – '[Digital and data strategy for health and social care in Wales](#)' – Welsh Govt

Health inequalities: improving accountability in the NHS

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*HEALTH INEQUALITIES: IMPROVING ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE NHS*

Institute of Health Equity – September 2023

This 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.

Read the Report – [Health inequalities: improving accountability in the NHS](#)

Towards a unified vision of nursing and midwifery documentation

[SEPTEMBER 12, 2023](#) – [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) – [EDIT](#) "TOWARDS A UNIFIED VISION OF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY DOCUMENTATION"

NHS England – 12 September 2023

This guidance sets the direction for all nursing documentation across hospitals, community and nursing homes. It is intended to help organisations implement record systems and policies which support nurses to produce good documentation that supports and evidences professional decision making and care, while minimising time spent on producing those records.

[Towards a unified vision of nursing and midwifery documentation](#)

Our 2023/24 business plan – NHS England

[SEPTEMBER 12, 2023](#) – [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) – [EDIT](#) "OUR 2023/24 BUSINESS PLAN – NHS ENGLAND"

NHS England – 12th September 2023

In 2023/24 the NHS has three key tasks. The immediate priority is to recover our core services and productivity. Second, as we recover, we need to make progress in delivering the key ambitions in the NHS Long Term Plan. Third, we need to continue transforming the NHS for the future.

This business plan sets out NHS England's work in leading and supporting the NHS to respond to these three key tasks, as well as a fourth task in creating a new organisation following the legal merger of NHS England with NHS Digital on 1 February 2023, and Health Education England on 1 April 2023.

[Our 2023/24 business plan](#)

Committee on Fuel Poverty annual report: 2023

[SEPTEMBER 11, 2023](#) – [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) – [EDIT](#) "COMMITTEE ON FUEL POVERTY ANNUAL REPORT: 2023"

Committee on Fuel Poverty' – 2023

The Committee on Fuel Poverty's 2023 Annual Report, Meeting or Missing the Milestones, argues that a dramatic reduction in fuel poverty is within reach, but only if the government "improve(s) targeting of payments to support bills and better targeted energy efficiency programmes to meet the government's target and milestones."

The report argues that the 704,000 properties in England rated E, F and G, require urgent upgrading, or the second 2025 milestone will also be missed, and this will have a knock-on impact on the government's 2030 fuel poverty target.

The report leads with 5 broad recommendations, which are:

1. Ensure a robust Fuel Poverty Strategy and effective measurement of fuel poverty that leaves no one behind.
2. Improve targeting of payments to support bills and better targeted energy efficiency programmes to meet the government's milestones.
3. Improve affordability of bills through fairer pricing and better regulation to protect the fuel poor.
4. A shared mission to tackle fuel poverty adopted by government, local government and the NHS.
5. A fair transition to net zero that does not increase fuel poverty.

These are underpinned by 19 calls to action.

Meeting or missing the milestones: Committee on Fuel Poverty annual report 2023

The Children's Commissioner's response to 'Youth vaping: call for evidence'

[SEPTEMBER 11, 2023](#) - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)"THE CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER'S RESPONSE TO 'YOUTH VAPING: CALL FOR EVIDENCE'"

Children's Commissioner – June 2023

In this report, the Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, draws together findings from her recent nationally representative survey of children aged 8-17 and their parents, as well as qualitative findings from The Big Ask, the largest ever survey of children in England. These findings are new and are presented in response to the call for evidence from the Department for Health and Social Care into children and vaping, to inform evidence-based policy decisions.

Findings from the Children's Commissioner's 2023 survey support existing research that the likelihood of vaping amongst children increases with age. New analysis also suggests that children with existing vulnerabilities, including having a social worker or a disabled parent, are more likely to vape than those

who do not.

The majority of children surveyed thought that all types of vapes are harmful to children's health and wellbeing. However, our analysis suggests that children who have vaped were less likely to believe it is harmful than those who haven't.

Read the Report – [The Children's Commissioner's response to 'Youth vaping: call for evidence'](#)

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

[SEPTEMBER 8, 2023](#) - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*DAMP AND MOULD: UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING THE HEALTH RISKS FOR RENTED

HOUSING PROVIDERS*

Department of Health and Social Care, – 7th September 2023

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.

Understanding and addressing the health risks of damp and mould in the home

Delivering meaningful patient involvement: the MTG's guide for integrated care systems

[SEPTEMBER 8, 2023](#) - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*DELIVERING MEANINGFUL PATIENT INVOLVEMENT: THE MTG'S GUIDE FOR INTEGRATED

CARE SYSTEMS*

The Medical Technology Group (MTG) – September 2023

There is widespread variation in the instance and quality of meaningful patient involvement across the 42 Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) of NHS England.

This variation is seen throughout the structures, policies, and processes of the ICSs, from the omission of patient representatives on decision-making bodies – such as the Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) – to the neglect of clear consultation when decisions are made concerning a patient's care.

From the research and analysis conducted by the MTG during the creation of this report, it is apparent that currently it is where a patient lives that is the biggest determinant to whether they are involved in their care meaningfully, or at all.

Read the Report – [Delivering meaningful patient involvement: the MTG's guide for integrated care systems](#)

Maximising the potential of digital in mental health

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) 'MAXIMISING THE POTENTIAL OF DIGITAL IN MENTAL HEALTH'

NHS Confederation – 7th September 2023

Key points

- Digital technologies, platforms and applications are a reality within the delivery of mental health care pathways in England, and have an important role to play in improving the mental health of the population and the delivery of health services.
- However, there are still barriers holding back progress, meaning that digital isn't being fully utilised in tackling the biggest problems that mental health providers, commissioners, policy makers and the public face.
- To do nothing is not an option. If we don't make more progress we miss a key opportunity to make improvements to mental health services such as improving access; providing early intervention and prevention at scale; implementing new ways of reaching people; and helping to meet the demand supply gap; and at the same time opening up access so that inequalities in access to healthcare and support for mental health are reduced.
- The NHS Confederation's Mental Health Network explored the current challenges and opportunities the mental health sector faces in developing and using digital products and services now, and the sector's ideas for what can help in the immediate and longer-term future.
- This report identifies current activities across national policy and strategy and makes suggestions as to how work on digital mental health can further maximise its potential and increase its contribution to mental healthcare and population mental health.
- For digital to be an effective enabler for mental health services and towards improving population mental health, three principles are fundamental to future work: collaboration, clarity, and coordination between stakeholders.
- From these principles, there are a range of building blocks needed for digital to be maximised in mental healthcare and population mental health, including a focus on building a shared narrative around needs-led solutions rather than technology led; working effectively within new and evolving local governance

infrastructures such as integrated care systems (ICSs); and tackling inclusion and working together to build a modern, fit-for-purpose regulatory system.

- This report highlights practical and achievable suggested discussion points that aim to bridge this gap and make a difference. They include a call for a wider and deeper national conversation on digital mental health and its future and consider developing effective ways of scaling digital mental health solutions in local and national solutions.
- The Mental Health Network is committed to working with our members and partners to continue this conversation and support collaborations that maximise the potential for digital mental health to make a real difference to people, families and communities.

Read the Report – [Maximising the potential of digital in mental health](#)

Adult smoking habits in the UK: 2022

SEPTEMBER 6, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) ADULT SMOKING HABITS IN THE UK: 2022*

ONS- 5th September 2023

Main points

- In the UK population in 2022, 12.9% of people aged 18 years and over, or around 6.4 million people, smoked cigarettes; this is the lowest proportion of current smokers since records began in 2011 based on our estimates from the Annual Population Survey (APS).
- Of the constituent countries, the lowest proportion of current smokers was in England (12.7%); Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland reported 14.1%, 14.0% and 13.9%, respectively.
- In the UK, 14.6% of men smoked compared with 11.2% of women; this difference has been consistent since 2011.
- People aged 25 to 34 years had the highest proportion of current smokers in the UK (16.3%); those aged 65 years and over had the lowest (8.3%) in 2022.
- In Great Britain, 8.7% of Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (OPN) respondents, or around 4.5 million adults, said they currently used an e-cigarette daily or occasionally; this is an increase from 2021 where 7.7% of people reported daily or occasional e-cigarette use.
- E-cigarette use was highest among those aged 16 to 24 years in Great Britain; the percentage of people in this age group who were daily or occasional vapers in 2022 has increased to 15.5% compared with 11.1% in 2021.

- Changes in e-cigarette usage are particularly evident in younger females, with a statistically significant increase in the proportion of women aged 16 to 24 years who were daily e-cigarette users in 2022 (6.7%), compared with 2021 (1.9%).

Read the Report – [Adult smoking habits in the UK: 2022](#)

Why health should be at the heart of transport

SEPTEMBER 6, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) *WHY HEALTH SHOULD BE AT THE HEART OF TRANSPORT*

Association of Directors of Public Health – 25th August 2023

Transport plays a vital role in supporting the delivery of many areas of wider Government policy and has important implications for our health. As such, there should be an overarching national transport strategy to lay out the vision for a sustainable transport network.

In our response we have explained that transport, which is a means to an end, not an end in itself, should be focused on the efficient movement of people rather than vehicles. Having access to good transport systems is a key determinant of good health and therefore, if properly managed, is a powerful driver in reducing health inequalities. We would like to see the health and social impacts of transport policy properly calculated and taken into account in all decisions. In particular, we would like to see active travel prioritised, and a reduction in reliance on motorised vehicles, especially in cities.

Read the Report – [Strategic transport objectives inquiry](#)

Reform law and expand treatment options to tackle cost of drugs on society – Home Affairs Committee finds

SEPTEMBER 6, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#) *REFORM LAW AND EXPAND TREATMENT OPTIONS TO TACKLE COST OF DRUGS ON SOCIETY –

HOME AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FINDS*

[Home Affairs Committee](#) – August 31st August 2023

In a report published today, the Committee calls for a new legislative and funding framework that enables practical, risk-reducing interventions such as establishing a pilot drug consumption facility and drug testing at festivals. It further calls for a move away from an abstinence-only approach towards harm reduction with improved cross-working between police, health and social services.

The Committee found that law enforcement should continue to do all it can to stamp out the illicit trade of controlled drugs, but will need to be bolstered by a stronger public health response that helps people escape drug addiction and related criminality. The total cost of drugs to society is estimated to be £19 billion, more than twice the value of the illicit drug trade.

Read the Report – [Drugs](#)

Interim Report launch: A new framework for tackling poverty

SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 - LEAVE A COMMENT - EDIT "INTERIM REPORT LAUNCH: A NEW FRAMEWORK FOR TACKLING POVERTY"

Poverty Strategy Commission (PSC); 2023.

The Commission's Interim Report summarises the findings of the Commission's work since 2022. It brings together the first steps towards the Commission's goals of building consensus around the need to tackle poverty in the UK and the tools and approaches that could be successful in doing so.

The starting point is that poverty in the UK is too high and has a range of damaging consequences for individuals in poverty themselves, their families and communities, and the whole of society.

The overall rate of poverty in the UK has remained stubbornly high, a third of children are in poverty and 7% of the population is in deep poverty. While some progress has been made in reducing poverty amongst certain groups, including pensioners and lone parents, these gains have started to be reversed. Deep poverty has become more prevalent and there has been little progress in closing the resilience gaps in outcomes like health, education, family stability and labour market opportunities experienced by people in poverty. The twin challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent cost-of-living crisis have only served to deepen these challenges.

Read the Report – [A new framework for tackling poverty](#)

Food poverty: Households, food banks and free school meals

SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 - LEAVE A COMMENT - EDIT "FOOD POVERTY: HOUSEHOLDS, FOOD BANKS AND FREE SCHOOL MEALS"

House of Comms Briefing – 24th August 2023

This paper provides statistics on household food insecurity, food bank usage and free school meals in the UK, and tracks the impact of rising living costs.

Read the Report – [Food poverty: Households, food banks and free school meals](#)

A strategy for the care workforce

[SEPTEMBER 4, 2023](#) – [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) – [EDIT](#) "A STRATEGY FOR THE CARE WORKFORCE"

TUC – 4th September 2023

We propose four key focus areas for the national care workforce strategy:

- Worker voices heard and valued including through sectoral collective bargaining arrangements and through the creation of National Partnership Forums in social care and childcare.
- Decent pay and conditions for all care workers through a collectively bargained sectoral agreement on fair pay and decent working conditions, a new sectoral minimum wage of £15 per hour, sick pay, secure contracts and full payment for all time worked, as well as access to efficient labour market enforcement mechanisms.
- Skills, training, and progression pathways with nationally negotiated training frameworks to ensure consistency and quality. These should be aligned with national pay structures to make sure staff are fairly remunerated and can progress as they acquire new skills and knowledge. Training must be accredited and qualifications recognised and transferrable to new employers.
- Protect health, safety, and wellbeing including ensuring that staffing levels are based on care and education needs and not arbitrary ratios. And a zero-tolerance approach to workplace abuse with comprehensive safeguarding and support, notably for staff who may be at increased risk of experiencing abuse and harassment including Black and migrant workers

Read the Report – [A strategy for the care workforce](#)

Inequalities in mortality involving common physical health conditions, England: 21 March 2021 to 31 January 2023

[SEPTEMBER 4, 2023](#) – [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) – [EDIT](#) "INEQUALITIES IN MORTALITY INVOLVING COMMON PHYSICAL HEALTH CONDITIONS, ENGLAND:"

21 MARCH 2021 TO 31 JANUARY 2023*

ONS – 31 August 2023

Main points

- Age-standardised mortality rates (ASMRs) were higher among males than females for all-cause mortality and most individual conditions; however, females had higher rates of mortality involving asthma and dementia.
- ASMRs for all-cause mortality and most individual conditions were generally highest in the most deprived areas and among people who were long-term unemployed or had never worked; the largest differences by deprivation were observed for mortality involving chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, followed by lung cancer and asthma.
- The ASMR for all-cause mortality was higher for the White British population than for other ethnic groups; the White British group also had higher mortality rates than most ethnic minority groups for several types of cancers, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and dementia.
- Out of all ethnic groups, the Bangladeshi and Pakistani groups had the highest ASMRs for many individual conditions including diabetes, chronic kidney disease, ischaemic heart disease, hypertension, stroke, myocardial infarction, asthma, pneumonia, and coronavirus (COVID-19); the Black Caribbean group had the highest ASMRs for blood cancer and prostate cancer.
- There were differences in some of the patterns by ethnicity between males and females; for example, the Bangladeshi group had among the highest ASMRs for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and lung cancer among males, whereas this was not true for females.
- ASMRs for all-cause mortality and most, though not all, individual conditions were generally higher in the north of England and the Midlands than in the south of England and London.

Further information – [*Inequalities in mortality involving common physical health conditions, England: 21 March 2021 to 31 January 2023*](#)

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

SEPTEMBER 4, 2023 - [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) - [EDIT](#)*HOME IMPROVEMENT: A TRIPLE DIVIDEND – PART ONE: BOOSTING THE BRITISH ECONOMY*

DEMOS – 23 Aug 2023

This 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.

Read the Report – [*Home improvement: a triple dividend – Part one: boosting the British economy*](#)

Inequalities in disability

[SEPTEMBER 4, 2023](#) – [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) – [EDIT](#) "INEQUALITIES IN DISABILITY"

IFS – 23rd August 2023

This analysis 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.

Read the Report – [*Inequalities in disability*](#)