

## More information

### Challenges and opportunities in planetary health for primary care providers - The Lancet Planetary Health (2018)

[This article by The Lancet \(Planetary Health\)](#) suggests that Primary care providers (PCPs) are trusted to provide a person-centred, comprehensive, and integrated response to health challenges. Through preventive health measures, PCPs also have a responsibility to strengthen the resilience of the communities they serve. Many environmental alterations, including climate change, air pollution, biodiversity loss, freshwater depletion, land use change, and exposures to toxic chemicals, threaten the advances in human health experienced in the past decades. PCPs can be instrumental in helping to address some of the causes and consequences of these environmental alterations. [Read this article](#)

### Destined to 'sink or swim together' - NHS, social care and public health

[A report by the Richmond Group of Charities](#) highlighted that significant funding into the NHS, social care and public health is urgently needed if they are to be sustainable.

### Changing trends in mortality in England and Wales

This is [ONS analysis](#) of whether there have been recent changes in the trends of mortality rates in England and Wales from 1990 to 2017. The ONS analysis provides independent evidence that there has been a significant reduction in mortality improvements compared with the durable, long-term mortality declines observed in the decades preceding 2010. The question is whether this plateau will continue in the coming years

### Healthy settings for older people are healthy settings for all: report 2018

This [report](#) shows how age-friendly environments have been created at the subnational level, using examples primarily from the Autonomous Region of Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Italy but also from other regions belonging to the WHO Regions for Health Network. Over the past 20 years, Friuli-Venezia Giulia has utilized WHO frameworks on healthy ageing and scaled up the pioneering experience of the city of Udine to develop a whole-of-the-region policy response to an ageing population, involving many sectors and all levels of governance. With the older segment of its population reaching 25% and still increasing, Friuli-Venezia Giulia put in place an integrated system to promote healthy ageing. The system incorporates new models of social protection and fosters new social relations and networks in local areas to promote sustainability; solidarity in relationships, behaviours and actions; and social responsibility.

### Sexual health, reproductive health and HIV services: evaluation resources

A new resource published by Public Health England, for public health practitioners to evaluate interventions in sexual health, reproductive health and HIV services. The [documents](#) are designed to be used together and consist of an introductory guide, an evaluation workbook with proformas and guidance and a list of standards and metrics

### Dementia risk now included as part of NHS Health Check

Healthcare professionals in GP surgeries and the community will [soon give advice on dementia risk to patients as part of the NHS Health Check](#)

### Alcohol and drug misuse prevention and treatment guidance

[Information and other resources](#) to support commissioners, service providers and others providing alcohol and drug interventions.

## **Dementia: assessment, management and support for people living with dementia and their carers | Guidance and guidelines from NICE**

[This NICE guideline covers diagnosing and managing dementia](#) (including Alzheimer's disease). It aims to improve care by making recommendations on training staff and helping carers to support people living with dementia. NICE has also produced a guideline on [mid-life approaches to delay or prevent the onset of dementia](#).

## **Musculoskeletal diseases profile**

[Update of data](#) on musculoskeletal conditions and services for local populations in England

## **Focus on brisk walking, not just 10,000 steps, say health experts**

[Public Health England and the Royal College of GPs](#) are encouraging adults to focus on walking briskly rather than just counting steps to improve their health.

## **Learning disability: applying All Our Health**

[Evidence and guidance](#) to help healthcare professionals to improve the health and wellbeing of people with learning disabilities.

## **Local Authority and CCG - Spend and outcome tool (SPOT)**

[An overview of spend and outcomes](#) in local authorities and clinical commissioning groups (CCGs), for public health teams and commissioners.

## **Children living in families facing adversity can struggle to access support**

[New report](#) from NSPCC helps professionals understand and support young people whose parents are affected by domestic abuse, substance misuse and mental health problems

## **Autism's sex ratio, explained**

Autism is significantly more common in boys than in girls. The most comprehensive analysis of autism's sex ratio, published in 2017, drew on data from 54 prevalence studies worldwide. [That analysis estimated about 4.2 boys with autism for every girl. The article explains this difference.](#)

## **Workplace interventions for reducing sitting at work**

[Cochrane Review find the quality of evidence is low to very low for most interventions, mainly because of limitations in study protocols and small sample sizes.](#) At present there is low-quality evidence that sit-stand desks may reduce sitting at work in the first year of their use. However, the effects are likely to reduce with time. There is generally insufficient evidence to draw conclusions about such effects for other types of interventions and for the effectiveness of reducing workplace sitting over periods longer than one year.

## **Childhood obesity: Time for action (Health and Social Care Commons Select Committee)**

[Health and Social Care Committee report on childhood obesity and priorities for reducing obesity](#), prior to the Government's refreshed version of the childhood obesity plan first published in summer 2016. The implementation of an effective childhood obesity plan demands a 'whole systems', collaborative approach driven by effective leadership and ambitious targets.

## **The 100-year life: the role of housing, planning and design**

One in three children born in the UK today can expect to live to 100 – presenting challenges and opportunities to innovate. Co-producing housing, planning and design solutions with older people can support us to live independently in our own homes for longer – and generate new markets. This [report](#) – written in conjunction with [Design Council](#) and the [Centre for Ageing Better](#) – sets out recommendations for central and local government, builders, planners, designers and lenders.

## UK child poverty gaps still increasing (Child Poverty Action Group)

The most recent Households Below Average Income (HBAI) government statistics for 2016-17 show an increase in child poverty rates (after housing costs). However the HBAI series have never included poverty gap data: for households below the poverty line, the average of how far their incomes are from the poverty threshold. But poverty gaps are important, because they tell us about likely levels of hardship for those living below the poverty line. Poverty rates may be falling when poverty gaps are rising and vice versa. [The Child Poverty Action Group \(CPAG\) has looked at trends in the poverty gaps for families with children from 2007/8 to 2016/17 in this new analysis.](#)

## Tackling alcohol-related anti-social behaviour: new powers, old issues?

A new [report](#) released by Alcohol Concern/Alcohol Research UK explores the current use and issues over legal powers available to address alcohol-related Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB). The Government estimates that alcohol misuse costs the criminal justice system £11bn every year, though the report states this is likely to be a significant under-estimation. Indeed the figure has been used since the 2003 Cabinet Analysis estimating total costs to society of £21 billion, though has since been subject to repeated calls for a comprehensive update. The report highlights six legal powers introduced by the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 intended to support frontline agencies in tackling anti-social behaviour. These include Civil Injunctions (CIs) and Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs), which have replaced Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs), though consultation with stakeholders only identified the use of CBOs. [Alcohol Policy UK](#) discusses the report.

## HPV vaccine reduces cancer-causing infection by 86 per cent

A new study has found that the HPV vaccination has led to major reductions in the number of young women who have the infection, which can cause cervical cancer. [Read more](#)

## Schools and Youth Mental Health: a briefing on current challenges and ways forward

A new [report](#) sets out to demonstrate the scale of the UK's Youth Mental health crisis, showing that some children in need are being refused help. One young person was told a suicide attempt was 'not serious enough' for them to access support and another to put their 'chin up'. The briefing, published by [Minds Ahead](#) with the education and youth 'think and action tank' [LKMco](#), warns that despite the government's increasing focus on mental health it is likely to miss its own targets for improved services due to patchy implementation, lack of funding and a shortage of trained specialists.

## Prime Minister sets out 5-year NHS funding plan

[Prime Minister Theresa May spoke about the future of the NHS](#) at the Royal Free Hospital, London. The NHS is to receive an average 3.4 per cent a year real-terms increase in funding over the next 5 years. The increased funding will support a new 10-year long-term plan the NHS will bring forward. This long-term funding commitment means the NHS has the financial security to develop a 10-year plan. The plan will be developed by the NHS, working closely with government and be published later this year. The priorities include:

- getting back on the path to delivering agreed performance standards – locking in and further building on the recent progress made in the safety and quality of care
- transforming cancer care so that patient outcomes move towards the very best in Europe
- better access to mental health services, to help achieve the government's commitment to parity of esteem between mental and physical health
- better integration of health and social care, so that care does not suffer when patients are moved between systems
- focusing on the prevention of ill-health, so people live longer, healthier lives

## Measles and summer travel to Europe

[Public Health England](#) is encouraging young people to make sure they have had both doses of the MMR vaccine before going on holiday to Europe where there are large outbreaks of measles. The vaccine is available free to anyone who has not received both doses as a child. It protects against measles, mumps and rubella, all of which can be very serious diseases and are highly infectious.

While vaccine uptake levels in the UK in young children are currently very high, coverage levels dipped to a low of 80% in 2003. This means that there are significant numbers of unprotected teenagers and young adults who could catch measles both in England, particularly in environments of close mixing such as summer festivals and when they travel abroad for the summer holidays.

## Hearing loss in adults: assessment and management (NG98)

Hearing loss is a major public health issue affecting about 9 million people in England. Because age-related hearing loss is the most common type of hearing loss, it is estimated that by 2035 there will be around 13 million people with hearing loss in England – a fifth of the population. The psychological, financial and health burden of hearing loss can be reduced by prompt and accurate referral, robust assessment and correct management. This [guideline](#), from the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) covers some aspects of assessing and managing hearing loss in primary, community and secondary care. It aims to improve the quality of life for adults with hearing loss by advising healthcare staff on assessing hearing difficulties, managing earwax and referring people for audiological or specialist assessment and management.

## England's poorest areas are fast food hotspots

[New figures from Public Health England \(PHE\)](#) show higher concentrations of fast food outlets in England's most deprived communities.

## Maternity Services Survey 2017

This CQC publication provided results of the 2017 Maternity Services Survey. In total, they received responses from 18,426 women who gave birth in January and February 2016. Overall, we found that women had positive perceptions of their maternity care, and that, nationally speaking, there were small improvements in results for almost every question in comparison to the maternity survey carried out in 2015. The statistical release for the survey can be downloaded [here](#) and Wirral University Teaching Hospital results [here](#)

## The Gosport Independent Panel Report

The Gosport Independent Panel was set up to address concerns raised by families over a number of years about the initial care of their relatives in Gosport War Memorial Hospital, Hampshire and the subsequent investigations into their deaths. The [report](#) follows several inquiries into the prescribing of sedatives at the hospital. The report is an in-depth analysis of the Gosport Independent Panel's findings. It explains how the information reviewed by the Panel informed those findings and illustrates how the disclosed documents add to public understanding of events at the hospital and their aftermath. The panel, led by former Bishop of Liverpool James Jones, spoke to more than 100 families and analysed 800 death certificates.

## Childhood obesity: a plan for action, chapter 2 (Department of Health and Social Care)

[Part 2 of the government's plan for action to significantly reduce childhood obesity by supporting healthier choices](#). This publication outlines the actions the government will take towards its goal of halving childhood obesity and reducing the gap in obesity between children from the most and least deprived areas by 2030. It follows [part one of the childhood obesity plan](#).

## **The social determinants of young people's health**

[Association for Young People's Health explores in this report](#) the identification of key issues and assess how young people are doing in the 2010s.

## **Local Tobacco Control Profiles**

[An overview of the extent of tobacco use, tobacco related harm and the measures being taken to reduce this harm at a local level in England](#). A new indicator has been added to measure the gap in smoking prevalence between those in routine & manual occupations and other occupations.

## **Health and work: infographics**

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

## **Major health benefits from strengthening and balance activity**

[New evidence review](#) concludes that adults should do strengthening and balancing exercises twice a week alongside aerobic exercise.

## **Health Profiles**

The [Health Profiles](#) provide a snapshot overview of health for each local authority in England.

## **Living standards, poverty and inequality in the UK: 2018 (Institute for Fiscal Studies)**

[This report examines changes in the distribution of household incomes in the UK, and the determinants and consequences of recent trends](#). This includes analysing changes not only in average living standards but also in household income inequality and measures of income poverty and deprivation. The report also examines changes in the housing costs of low-income households with children and shows how these trends have caused different measures of poverty to gradually diverge over the last 15 years.

## **Vulnerability report 2018 (The Children's Commissioner's Office)**

[This year's 2018 vulnerability report](#) tells us about the numbers of children who are growing up in England with vulnerability and risks that could affect their lives, wellbeing and life chances. The overview report provides a summary of the underlying data and analysis, which is set out in more detail in four technical reports.

## **National intelligence network on drug health harms briefing**

[Briefings based on presentations](#) and discussion from the meeting of the national intelligence network on the health harms associated with drug use

## **Accessing Public Health England data**

[Details of the services offered by the PHE Office for Data Release](#) (ODR) and guidance on how to access PHE held data.

## **Malaria in the UK: annual report**

[Annual reports](#) presenting data on malaria imported into the UK.

## **NHS RightCare scenarios**

NHS RightCare has developed [a series of scenarios, each based on a fictional patient](#), to demonstrate opportunities to reduce the unwarranted variation in care. Topics include Chronic Kidney disease, multimorbidity, colorectal cancer, Parkinson's, Dementia, Osteoporosis, wound care, frailty, diabetes, and sepsis.

### **Cancer patients at increased risk of suicide**

The [first national study](#) of its kind in England shows cancer patients have a 20% increased risk of suicide.

### **What works to enhance the effectiveness of the Healthy Child Programme: An evidence update**

This report updates previous evidence reviews to support the Healthy Child Programme 0–5 (HCP 0–5) framework for the delivery of public health services to families with a child between conception and age 5.

### **“A game of two halves?” Understanding the process and outcomes of English care home closures: Qualitative and quantitative perspectives. Social Policy & Administration**

[This article reports findings](#) from an independent evaluation of what is believed to be the largest care home closure program in the UK (Birmingham) including qualitative interviews with older people, families, care staff, and social work assessors during the closure process in one case study care home and one linked day centre.

### **The state of care in urgent primary care services**

[New CQC analysis in ‘The state of care in urgent primary care services’](#) shows that the majority of walk-in and urgent care centres, NHS 111 and GP out-of-hours services in England are rated good (118) or outstanding (10). The report highlights that effective urgent primary care benefits not only patients but the wider healthcare system, by easing pressure on other services. Voluntary sector groups raised concerns that there is a lack of public information about which services to contact and when.

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

Thanks  
John