Wirral Intelligence Service Bulletin – Additional Content – October 2019

In brief

- You don't know what you've got till it's gone
- Many parents blame 'Bogof' deals for obesity
- Health profile for England: 2019
- Suicide: one person dies every 40 seconds internationally
- Many hospital patients get no visitors
- Why are we still waiting for social care funding reform?
- Dependence and withdrawal of prescribed medicines
- UK homelessness and rough sleeping: What's emerging?
- NHS says sepsis monitoring system has saved hundreds of lives
- Gap in NHS provision forcing gaming addicts to seek help abroad
- Personalised health checks to be considered in new review
- Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England 2018
- Young Minds see gaps in early support for young people with MH problems
- Commissioning explained

Research, evidence and reports collated for you

More harm than good: why more isn't always better with older people's medicines

This report calls for a more considered approach to prescribing medicines for our older population. It says too many older people in our society are on too many prescribed medicines, putting them at risk of side effects that in a worrying number of cases can lead to falls and a range of other serious harms. The report also provides evidence showing that prescribing more drugs isn't always the best option, particularly when it comes to older people. Press Release

Preventing falls in people with learning disabilities: making reasonable adjustments

This guide contains information to help staff in public health, health services and social care to prevent falls in people with learning disabilities. It is also intended to help falls prevention services to provide support that is accessible to people with learning disabilities. The guide can be used by family carers, friends and paid support staff to help them think about what risks may contribute to falls and how to reduce such risks.

Ageing confidently: supporting an ageing workforce

It is estimated that by 2035, over half of all adults in the UK will be over 50 years of age. This report proposes several recommendations to provide older people and employers with the support needed to unlock the potential of this demographic and enable older people to access the benefits of work. It states that without a concerted effort to increase the opportunities for older workers, individuals, businesses and the economy will suffer. Among the recommendations are enhanced healthcare support through improvements in occupational health, training in mental health first aid and further support for those aged 55 and over from the Work and Health Programme from the Department of Work and Pensions.

Public health advice and support arrangements into integrated care systems in England

Guidance for directors of public health and others around implications for statutory advice and support, arising from greater integration of health and care services.

Understanding the contribution of migrants to the UK's tourism and health sectors

[Fresh analysis by the Office for National Statistics](#) shows that the health and tourism sectors employ around three-quarters of a million non-British workers, with the majority of those coming from the European Union. Providing a better understanding of the migrant workforce is one of the ways being used to mobilise the power of data to help Britain make better decisions. In the blog Jay Lindop discusses this latest work and the ongoing transformation of UK population and migration statistics.

Generational income

[The Office for National Statistics release](#) highlights the effects of direct and indirect taxation and benefits received in cash or kind on household income, across the generations and by age.

Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), UK: August 2019

[The Office for National Statistics release](#) provides estimates of the number of young people (aged 16 to 24 years) who are not in education, employment or training, by age and sex.

What should be done to fix the crisis in social care?

This [Health Foundation press release](#) and [full report](#) are saying that the new government must urgently act to stabilise and reform adult social care in England if it is to avoid growing numbers of older and disabled people being unable to access the care they need. This analysis sets out the priorities for reform and what it would cost to establish a fairer, more comprehensive system.

What it is really like for children growing up in poverty in the UK in 2019

The [findings from the Buttle UK report and UK survey](#) of over 1,200 child support workers which aimed to find out about their current experiences of working with children in poverty.

Unrelieved pain in palliative care in England

This [Office for Health Economics study](#) estimates that currently there are approximately 125,971 end-of-life patients receiving, or in need of, palliative care suffering from unrelieved pain. Of these, an estimated 16,130 patients experience no relief from their pain at all in the last three months of life. Some of these patients suffer unnecessarily because of variations in the quality of care across care settings, for example, hospice versus at home services).

How to become a Healthy Living Pharmacy Level 1

This [Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee briefing](#) provides an overview of how to become a Healthy Living Pharmacy (HLP) Level 1 via the self-assessment route. The briefing gives details of the HLP framework, describes the role of HLPs in the health and care system, and outlines the ways in which contractors can achieve HLP Level 1 status.

Healthy Living Pharmacy: holding a health promotion event/campaign

To achieve and to maintain Healthy Living Pharmacy Level 1 status, pharmacy teams are required to meet 27 quality criteria. Holding health promotion events/campaigns and documenting details of these are a way for pharmacy teams to demonstrate that they meet several of these criteria. [This briefing](#) provides guidance for community pharmacy contractors and their teams on holding a health promotion event/campaign.

Support for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities in England

This [National Audit Office report](#) assesses how well pupils with special educational needs and disabilities are being supported. It examines how effectively education services and health and social care services work together in order to meet those needs.

The Autism Act, 10 years on: a report from the All Party Parliamentary Group on Autism on understanding, services and support for autistic people and their families in England

Under the landmark Autism Act, alongside other important laws like the Care Act, people with autism in England are entitled to the care and support they need. But this All Party Parliamentary Group on Autism inquiry report, based on a survey of around 11,000 people with autism and their families, finds that not enough has been done locally and nationally to ensure that the Autism Act makes a real difference to those people throughout the country. It concludes that progress has been held up because there isn't enough understanding of the Act's duties on councils and the NHS and of how to implement them.

Advancing our health: prevention in the 2020s (Community Pharmacy impact)

In July 2019, the government published a Green Paper consultation document, *Advancing our health: prevention in the 2020s*, which outlines policy ideas to help prevent and detect ill health at an earlier stage. This PSNC Briefing summarises the key elements which are of most relevance to community pharmacy. The public consultation on the Green Paper closes on 14 October 2019.

Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) in the UK annual report

Preliminary data indicate that mortality attributable to hepatitis C-related end-stage liver disease, including liver cancer, fell in the UK in 2018 for the third successive year (having been rising steadily prior to 2015). This meant that total reported deaths from serious hepatitis C-related liver disease fell 19% between 2015 and 2018 (from 468 to 380). There was also a more than 20% drop in the number of people living with HCV infection over the same period, an estimated 143,000 people in the UK were living with chronic hepatitis C virus infection in 2018. These are among the conclusions of Public Health England's (PHE) eleventh annual Hepatitis C in the UK report, published on 13 September 2019.

Tackling loneliness. Briefing paper (House of Commons Library)

The Government's Loneliness Strategy was published in October 2018. It set out a wide variety of cross-departmental measures that the Government would take to provide 'national leadership' to tackle loneliness in England. As well as explaining the Strategy and the steps taken so far by the Government, this paper also looks at research into the causes and impact of loneliness and possible interventions. Finally, this briefing also briefly outlines the situation in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. For further reading, the Library has also published a Loneliness reading list which provides links to other loneliness research. The latest official figures suggest that just under half of adults in England experience loneliness occasionally or more often. The proportion of adults reporting that they feel lonely (6%) shows little variation by gender or by region, but the data does suggest that younger people are more likely to report feeling frequently lonely.

NatCen British Social Attitudes Survey 2019

Every year since 1983, social research company NatCen has surveyed over 3,000 people about life in Britain and their views on how the country is being run. The results for the latest survey, British Social Attitudes Survey 36 (BSA36), conducted in 2018, have been published.

The Good Childhood Report 2019

The Good Childhood Report 2019 is the eighth in the Children's Society annual series and alongside the latest trends in children's well-being, also looks at family, financial circumstance, multiple disadvantage and what children and young people think about the future.

Inclusive by default

As more public services are delivered digitally, there is an imperative to tackle the causes of digital exclusion. This report by Reform finds a lack of skills, motivation and the right infrastructure are some of the key factors that make digital exclusion more likely. In addition to providing alternative routes for those unable to access digital public services, it is essential that these barriers are overcome. Designing accessible services, community support and partnerships across sectors are tools that can help to make digital public services inclusive by default.

Community wealth building 2019

This Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) publication provides an overview of the theory of community wealth building, highlights of the past year, tried and tested practice, as well as the ways in which people, organisations and areas across the UK are forging new ground. In addition, the publication outlines the challenges that are currently affecting the advancement of community wealth building. It also provides some next steps that we hope will continue to build and grow this flourishing movement, enabling it to develop at scale across the UK.

Psychological perspectives on obesity: addressing policy, practice and research priorities

This British Psychological Society report calls for the government to ensure every initiative aimed at promoting a healthy weight is informed by psychological evidence. It says weight management services are best delivered by multidisciplinary teams that include psychologists. All health professionals working in obesity services should be trained in the psychological understanding of obesity so they understand the factors that can contribute to the condition and to the success or failure of treatment.

Status report on alcohol consumption, harm and policy responses in 30 European countries 2019

This World Health Organisation report, which uses data gathered from 2010 to 2016, shows that more than 290,000 people lose their life in Europe per year from alcohol-attributable causes, and urges stronger policy action by countries to help reduce the numbers.

Government outsourcing: what has worked and what needs reform?

This Institute for Government report ranks which services have been outsourced successfully and which need reform. It also shows that consecutive governments have overstated the benefits of outsourcing. Senior politicians regularly claim outsourcing can still deliver 20–30 per cent savings, but there is no evidence to support this.

National Cancer Patient Experience Survey 2018: national results summary

This report suggests that the experience of cancer patients in England continues to be generally very positive. Asked to rate their care on a scale of zero (very poor) to ten (very good), respondents gave an average rating of 8.8 (Q59). On nearly half of the questions in the survey, over 80 per cent of respondents gave positive responses. Compared with last year's survey, there were significant improvements on three questions; scores deteriorated significantly on six; and there was no significant difference on 43 questions.

Holy Alliances: Church-secular partnerships for social good

This Demos report shows that due to austerity, more churches are partnering with non-faith voluntary organisations to tackle local issues such as poverty, mental health and loneliness. The research shows that partnership-working has led to a number of benefits including unlocking resources and funding, boosting impact, administrative support and assistance in targeting the right group. While there are a number of positive outcomes from church-secular partnerships, the report also highlights some difficulties, including a fear of the religious motivation of church volunteers from secular partners, which could lead to a lack of trust.

Contained or contagious? The future of infectious disease in ageing societies

This report by the International Longevity Centre UK urges policymakers across the world to do more to adequately prepare for the growing risk of future pandemics. A number of global developments are currently increasing the likelihood of future outbreaks, including complacency around vaccination uptake, lack of awareness of the risks of infectious disease, antimicrobial resistance, climate change and global population migration. Moreover, in an ageing society, more of us are likely to be susceptible to infectious disease and experience complications resulting from disease.

Value of arts and culture in place-shaping

Looking at six different places across the country (Birmingham, Halifax, Hastings, Redruth, Southampton and Stoke-on-Trent), Arts Council for England commissioned this research into if and how an area's arts and cultural offer attracts individuals and businesses to settle there; whether it's a factor in them staying there; and whether that cultural offer shapes a place's local identity. This research found art and culture positively impacts places in many ways.

Who cares? The financialisation of adult social care

According to this Institute for Public Policy Research analysis, social care's reliance on private bed provision is growing. The report finds that the private sector now provides 84 per cent of beds for people needing residential social care, up from an estimated 82 per cent in 2015. It also finds that larger providers – particularly those funded by private equity firms – are becoming more dominant. It concludes that a growing reliance on private provision could mean lower-quality care.

Health care's climate footprint: how the health sector contributes to the global climate crisis and opportunities for action

According to this Health Care Without Harm report, if the global health care sector were a country it would be the fifth-largest greenhouse gas emitter on the planet. The report finds that health care's footprint is equivalent to 4.4 per cent of global net emissions and that fossil fuel combustion makes up well over half of health care's global climate footprint. The report makes the case for a transformation of the health care sector that aligns it with the Paris Agreement goal of limiting climate change to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The New Realists: Students and their first year at University

This report, produced by Unite Students and the Higher Education Policy Institute, investigates young people's transition to university, their expectations and their experiences in the first year, looking at both academic and non-academic aspects. Among the findings are that loneliness and mental health are growing issues, with one in four students 'often' (22 per cent) or 'always' (4 per cent) lonely.

Public Health England strategy 2020-25

This strategy sets out how Public Health England (PHE) will work to protect and improve the public's health and reduce health inequalities over the next five years. It outlines PHE's role within the public health system, 10 priorities where PHE will focus particular effort, and the areas where PHE will build capability within the organisation to support delivery of its strategic objectives and wider activities.

The good life: measuring inclusive growth across communities

This Centre for Progressive Policy report, produced jointly with the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Inclusive Growth, introduces the new Inclusive Growth Community Index. This combines data on five key outcomes – consumption, healthy life expectancy, leisure, inequality and unemployment – to create an inclusive growth score (IG score) applicable to local and combined authorities up and down the UK.

The Treasury's responsibility for the results of public spending

This Institute for Government report finds that public spending is often wasteful, with the government failing to set out clear spending intentions and taking decisions without clear information. It calls for a change in the role of the Treasury – in how it takes on responsibilities for the results of spending and understands better the effects outside Whitehall. The Treasury needs to do more than simply set budgets – it needs to apply itself, consistently, to how money can be spent to achieve as much impact as possible.

Centre for Mental Health Policy briefing: social care funding and mental health

This Centre for Mental Health briefing explores what a fair and sustainable funding settlement for social care needs to look like in order to deliver parity of esteem for mental health and sufficient funding to support people of working age as well as those in later life. It reviews the current funding and provision of mental health social work for people of working age in England. It finds that mental health social work plays a vital role in helping people to live independently and to secure their rights and dignity.

Homing in on free personal care

This Independent Age report outlines the various reasons why free personal care can help provide the systemic change that social care needs. The report shows the scale of how many older people have had to sell their homes to pay for care, as well as how the current deferred payments system is not working.

Creating healthy lives: a whole-government approach to long-term investment in the nation's health

This Health Foundation publication makes the case for an ambitious, whole-government approach to long-term investment in the nation's health. It recommends five shifts in the government's overall approach to achieving this aim and outlines how investment can be rebalanced towards areas of spending that maintain and improve health, such as early years services, housing and social security.

Routing out childhood obesity

This Royal Society for Public Health report outlines a range of recommendations for transforming the street environment, particularly around schools, with the ambition that all children should have access to a healthy route home.

UK Chief Medical Officers' physical activity guidelines

These guidelines are for health professionals, policymakers and others working to promote physical activity, sport and exercise for health benefits. They emphasise the importance of building strength and balance for adults, and include recommendations for pregnant women, new mothers and people with disabilities.

Encouraging healthier 'out of home' food provision: a toolkit for local councils working with small food businesses'

Public Health England (PHE) and its partners have developed this toolkit to support local councils and independent food businesses in helping children and families to choose healthier food. It is part of PHE's approach to dealing with obesity.

Individual and local area factors associated with self-reported wellbeing, perceived social cohesion and sense of attachment to one's community: analysis of the Understanding Society Survey

The 'What works wellbeing' findings reported here are from an analysis of data from the Understanding Society Survey (USS), which follows a large sample of people from across England over time. This study was undertaken to examine questions likely to be especially relevant for those working in the field of public health intelligence, using small area statistics to identify localities where interventions may particularly need to be targeted in order to reduce inequalities in wellbeing across England.

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Thanks,
John