

# Minding the Gap

Improving Health & Reducing Inequalities



## Yorkshire and the Humber Health and Wellbeing Monthly Update

Issue 93 - September 2023

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

This update is structured around four overarching themes:

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

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

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

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## POPULATIONS

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**Improving outcomes and reducing inequalities for children & young people**

**Regional Lead: Gemma Mann**

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No update this month.

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**Promoting healthy ageing across the lifecourse**

**Regional Lead: Ali Iliff**

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### **Good Practice Mentors: Tackling isolation and loneliness among older adults by sharing knowledge and expertise**

The Good Practice Mentor programme brings together legacy, learning and resources from Ageing Better, a 7-year project that worked to reduce social isolation and loneliness in people aged over 50. The Good Practice Mentors will share experience, build skills and confidence, influence decision makers and drive system change. There are a number of free taster sessions running through the autumn; please find details and booking information on [Eventbrite](#).

### **Alzheimer's Research UK report**

Alzheimer's Research UK have published a new report, Tipping Point: the future of dementia. It calls on all political parties to commit to harnessing the outputs of dementia research to revolutionise the way we prevent, diagnose and treat dementia.

Further details and the full report can be found [here](#).

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**Improving outcomes and reducing inequalities for inclusion health groups**

**Regional Lead: Cathie Railton**

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### **Guidance and resources**

#### **Migrant health intelligence tool – now live**

The regional OHID North East and Yorkshire have produced [a Health Intelligence Pack for Migrant Health: North East and Yorkshire](#). This health intelligence pack presents the latest available data on migrant populations, with the purpose of providing support for regional and local stakeholders focused on strategies for improving migrant health.

#### **Beyond Pockets of Excellence: Integrated Care Systems for Inclusion Health – A new report and network for local and national policymakers and commissioners**

Pathway, with support from Groundswell and The Kings' Fund, have produced a new [report](#) which shares lessons learned from a six-month collaboration between seven Integrated Care Systems (ICSs). The programme encouraged ICSs to explore how they could improve health and care outcomes for people in inclusion health groups.

## **Bevan resources – contraception choices**

Bevan have created a [web page on contraception choices](#) which have Arabic, Urdu, Kurdish and Persian translations (language tab at bottom of the online page).

## **Right to Care research**

You can read about the [findings](#) from the [Right to Care research](#) project on improving registration for inclusion health populations in England. The research aimed to develop and test new interventions, including changes to the Doctors of the World (DOTW) Safe Surgeries programme.

## **New resource: Safe Surgeries registration policy template**

One of the recommendations from the Right to Care project was a new Safe Surgeries resource: a template registration for GP practices signed up as Safe Surgeries to use and adapt as necessary. Practices can add their practice name using the [editable PDF](#).

## **Encouraging Safe Surgeries across Primary Care Networks (PCN)**

DOTW have released a [short guide](#) for PCN Health Inequalities Leads to support practices in their PCN to become Safe Surgeries and improve access to equitable and quality care for inclusion health populations.

## **Information**

### **Major Conditions Strategy**

Following the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care's commitment to [publish a major conditions strategy](#), DHSC has [published a report that sets out the case for change and strategic framework for the final strategy](#). This makes numerous references to inclusion health, including: *"The development of the major conditions strategy will include consideration of disparities in health outcomes from multiple angles, including ethnicity, deprivation and inclusion health."*

### **New report by Reclaim the Sea**

A new report by Reclaim the Sea examines the human and financial costs of the current response to accommodating asylum seekers. [Read more here](#).

### **Evaluation of the Migrant Health Guide – invitation for your feedback (Deadline: Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September)**

Please complete and share this short [survey about the Migrant Health Guide](#).

The survey aims to better understand:

1. the appropriateness of the Migrant Health Guide's content
2. the awareness and reach of the Migrant Health Guide among primary healthcare professionals and its other intended audiences.

### **NAO investigation: Home for Ukraine scheme**

The National Audit Office (NAO) have [published the scope](#) of their investigation into how government is delivering the Homes for Ukraine scheme.

### **Feedback from people from inclusion health groups about their experiences of health and healthcare**

To inform the development of Spotlight (the new, public, data sharing platform which presents key statistics related to the public health outcomes of inclusion health groups), as part of the [VCSE Health and Wellbeing Alliance](#), [Roma Support Group](#) spoke to people from inclusion health groups about their experiences of health and healthcare.

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

### **British Journal of Nursing: ‘What is inclusion health and why is it important for all nurses and midwives?’**

An [article](#) on inclusion health and its importance for nurses and midwives.

### **Friends, Families & Travellers – New Project**

Friends, Families & Travellers have released [a new project](#) by the Crystal's Vardo team, Travelling Tales. It is an interactive dive into Crystal's microcosm, offering a first-hand look at how life on the road used to be and how communities have been persecuted through the centuries.

### **New guidance on health risks of damp and mould in the home**

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) have produced [new consolidated guidance on understanding and addressing the health risks of damp and mould in the home](#). This guidance is primarily aimed at social and private rented housing providers in England and, where applicable, their workforce.

### **Faculty of Public Health statement on earthquake in Morocco and Floods in Libya**

The Faculty of Public Health (FPH) [have issued a statement](#) about the recent earthquake in the High Atlas Mountains, near Marrakech, Morocco and Storm Daniel, in Derna in Libya. The statement highlights that the immediate impact of these events has been substantial, and the long-term public health impacts are likely to be significant, particularly for the most vulnerable populations.

## **Research**

### **New Research: Exploring the phenomenon of Roma homelessness in the UK**

Homeless Link have shared a new report and research by Heriot-Watt University's Social Policy, Housing and Equalities Research Unit exploring the phenomenon of Roma homelessness in the UK. [Read more here.](#)

### **Research on trauma-informed co-production: collaborating and combining expertise to improve access to primary care with women with complex needs**

[New research](#) has been published, which aims to consider the extent to which trauma-

informed and co-production practices overlap, along with how to tailor co-production approaches to support people who have experienced trauma.

### **Salvation Army: A homeless patient attends hospital every seven minutes**

The Salvation Army has [published concerning findings](#) about the frequency of A&E attendances by people with no fixed abode over 2021/22. They found that there has been a steep 60% rise in A&E attendances for this group compared with 2017/18, despite a parallel 4% drop in admissions in the general population.

### **Spotlight on Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) missing from education - Blog**

The Children's Commissioner has shared a spotlight blog on Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children missing from education. [Read more here](#).

### **Blog: Looked after Children who are not in school – The Children's Commissioner for England**

The Children's Commissioner for England has released a blog about her study on [children missing education](#), which found that unaccompanied children were much more likely to be missing school. As of March 2022, 21% of unaccompanied children were missing education, compared to 2% of all other looked after children.

### **Oral Health of People Experiencing Homelessness in London: A Mixed Methods Study**

People experiencing homelessness have significantly poorer oral health than the general population in addition to other health inequalities. The [aim of this new study](#), co-led by Faculty Oral Health Fellow Dr Sarah Kaddour, was to assess the oral health needs and oral health-related quality of life for those experiencing homelessness in the capital. The assessment consisted of quantitative and qualitative methods, including a survey questionnaire and focus group conducted with 13 peer advocates.

## **Events**

### **Yorkshire Integration Festival and Festival Fringe**

Migration Yorkshire are once again hosting the annual festival on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in Sheffield and virtual fringe events.

More details available:

- [Yorkshire Integration Festival 2023](#)
- [Yorkshire Integration Festival Fringe](#)

### **NHS Race and Health Observatory online report launch: inequalities in mental health for GRT communities**

The NHS Race and Health Observatory (NHS RHO) are [hosting on online event](#) to launch their latest report on 'Inequalities in Mental Health for Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller (GRT) Communities - Identifying Good Practice'.

The online event will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 3:30 to 5pm. It will explore the health inequalities experienced by people in GRT communities, highlight examples of good practice, and first-hand experiences from those involved in the case study sites.

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# DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH & RISK FACTORS

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

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## **Community Engagement for Nature Based Solutions**

This [new guide](#) by the team at the University of Sheffield focusses on Nature Based Solutions, such as Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDS) and could also be applicable to other themes and interventions. There are some Yorkshire and Humber case studies in there, too.

## **The home and epigenome and Equality in Housing**

This [blog](#) from the University of Bath is on the UK Collaborative Centre for Housing Evidence ([CACHE](#)) website and discusses the connection between housing quality and mental health, highlighting the role of epigenetics in understanding this association.

The team at CACHE have also produced a number of [podcasts on Equality in Housing](#). Perfect for taking a break from your desk and popping out for a productive walk!

## **Open consultation: Permitted development rights**

This is a [Government consultation](#) on additional flexibilities to support housing delivery, the agricultural sector, businesses, high streets and open prisons; and a call for evidence on nature-based solutions, farm efficiency projects and diversification.

## **The history of decontaminating our water**

This "[explainer](#)" from the Association of Directors of Public Health outlines the history of water sanitation and its role in improving and protecting population health.

## **CONIFAS: Co-producing a nature-based intervention for children with ADHD**

Earlier this month, a webinar was held to present the findings from the CONIFAS co-produced research.

For anyone who was unable to attend this webinar, please find a link to the recording [here](#) and use Passcode: @9CsR&4r

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## **Achieving our Smokefree 2030 ambition**

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### **E-cigarettes associated with greatest chance of smoking cessation, suggests Cochrane review**

Results from a Cochrane review (recognised worldwide as the highest standard in evidence-based healthcare) have revealed that e-cigarettes, varenicline and cytisine were found to be most effective in helping people quit smoking at six months or longer, with no clear differences in effectiveness between the three.

Researchers reviewed 319 randomised controlled trials, published between April 2012 and April 2022, which included data from more than 150,000 participants. The majority of the studies were conducted in the United States or Europe.

The meta-analysis, [published on 12 September 2023](#), compared the effectiveness of smoking cessation treatments, tolerability, and potential to cause serious harm.

The review revealed that 10–19% of people were likely to quit smoking using an e-cigarette, 12–16% using varenicline and 10–18% using cytisine. There were no clear differences in serious adverse events between the three treatments.

Other treatment options included nicotine replace therapy (NRT) and antidepressants bupropion and nortriptyline. The data showed that combination NRT had similar efficacy to e-cigarettes, varenicline and cytisine, followed by bupropion, nortriptyline and single-form NRT.

At present, NRT remains the [only licensed medicine available for smoking cessation in the UK](#).

### **Vaping myths and the facts**

The NHS Better Health website has now added a [new vaping myths and facts](#) section to the website.

### **Stoptober**

Stoptober campaign resources are now available to download from the Campaign Resource Centre [here](#). These can be used from the launch date of 20th September to 31st October.

They include:

- Campaign toolkit containing key messages, stats and facts and long/short copy for newsletters and websites
- Digital posters
- Social media assets and suggested post copy
- Web banners
- Graphics for digital screens.
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If you want to watch the TV ad you can do so here: [here](#)

Since it first launched 12 years ago, Stoptober has helped over 2.5 million smokers to make a quit attempt. The campaign is driven by evidence that if a smoker can make it to 28 days smoke free, they are five times more likely to quit for good.

The theme for this year's campaign is '***When you stop smoking, good things start to happen***', reminding smokers of the many benefits of stopping smoking and signposting to a range of proven tools to help them on their quitting journey. The campaign encourages smokers to search 'Stoptober' which will direct them to the [Better Health Quit Smoking](#) website. Advertising will run in England across radio, social, video on demand (VOD), out-of-home and digital display.

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**Preventing Gambling-Related Harm**  
**Regional Lead: Simone Arratoonian**

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### **Gambling Understood**

There is still time to share and promote the [Gambling Understood](#) campaign via your communication channels, including social media. The Y&H campaign is aimed at men who gamble but is relevant for anyone who gambles or knows someone who does – help us to make this a success. The campaign is being evaluated in conjunction with the University of Nottingham. The second campaign burst begins this autumn. Find resources to download and more information on the link above.

For answers to any queries, please contact [simone.arratoonian@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:simone.arratoonian@dhsc.gov.uk)

### **Greater Manchester (GM) campaign: ‘Odds Are: They Win’**

Greater Manchester Combined Authority’s launched a gambling harms campaign around the time of the last World Cup (November 2022) which aimed to increase people’s knowledge of risks related to gambling and encourage conversations about their experiences of gambling. Similar to ‘Gambling Understood’, the campaign moved away from traditional individual narratives about personal responsibility and onto tactics of gambling industry. Although the campaign was focused on men in GM who gamble, it was picked up with interest further afield with lots of positive feedback. Find out more about the campaign and its evaluation [here](#).

### **Sports sponsorship**

Premier league football team Wolverhampton Wanderers have recently agreed a ‘record’ partnership deal with LeoVegas, a global gaming and mobile casino operator in Europe, for the 2023-24 season. The deal will include front of shirt sponsorship. According to the Wolves’ reporting, ‘responsible gaming has been an important feature of the (LeoVegas) company’s culture’. The impact of advertising on gambling and betting and subsequent harm, and the importance of restriction has clearly not been acknowledged, despite the impending ban on football shirt gambling advertising due in 2026-27.

### **White Paper consultations**

Just a reminder of the three main consultations currently open following the White Paper earlier this year as part of the [review](#) of the Gambling Act (2005).

The first of these from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport ends on 4<sup>th</sup> October: [A maximum stake limit for online slots games in Great Britain - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

A further DCMS consultation on [measures relating to the land-based gambling sector](#) closes on 4<sup>th</sup> October.

Finally, the [Gambling Commission](#) is asking for responses by 18<sup>th</sup> October to proposals which cover direct marketing, age verification in premises, remote game design and financial risk in relation to remote gambling. All stakeholders including customers are invited to respond.



## Enforcement news

Following a £6.1m fine in January this year, In Touch Games Ltd has now had licences to operate in Great Britain suspended by the Gambling Commission. The suspension, effective immediately, is in response to breaches of licence conditions including failure to follow measures which prevent money laundering.

The company operates the platforms: bonusboss.co.uk, cashmo.co.uk, casino.mfortune.co.uk, casino2020.co.uk, drslot.co.uk, jammymonkey.com, mfortune.co.uk, mrspin.co.uk, pocketwin.co.uk and slotfactory.com. Investigations will continue, to determine any responsibility of personal licence holders; and the named websites will close. Customer withdrawal of funds will be supported.

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

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### Sustain: Good to Grow September Newsletter

This month's newsletter includes a report launched on increasing inclusion in Community Supported Agriculture, information on climate-friendly food fills 'holiday hunger' gap and debt, migration and exploitation.

Please [click here](#) to read the newsletter.

### DHSC Consultation: Nutrition and health claims on food: proposed legislative reforms

On 9th August, DHSC launched a [consultation](#) seeking views on proposed changes in relation to nutrition labelling, composition and standards (NLCS) retained EU law. The consultation closes at 11:59pm on Tuesday 31 October 2023.

Respond online [here](#).

### National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) Monthly Update – July 2023

Please see attached below the NCMP monthly update for July, the slides include information on: the newly published [NCMP operational guidance 2023](#); NCMP parent feedback letters; NCMP School feedback letters; NHS BMI Calculator; Survey of appetite types in primary school children - Expressions of interest; Study on supporting conversations with children about weight - Recruiting school staff.



NCMP Monthly  
Update\_July 2023\_FIN

### NCMP trends in child obesity

Over the summer, a new report was published by the OHID Population Health Analysis team on [NCMP changes in the prevalence of child obesity between 2019/20 and 2021/22](#).

## **Yorkshire Obesity Research Alliance**

The [latest bulletin from YORA](#) contains a survey on Emotional Eating and Weight Management Services.

### **Food Active Bulletin**

[Food Active](#) is a healthier weight programme of work delivered by the Health Equalities Group, advocating for action to promote healthier weight, regionally and nationally.

### **Consultation: Nutrition and health claims on food: proposed legislative reforms**

On Wednesday (9th August) [DHSC launched a consultation](#) seeking views on proposed changes in relation to nutrition labelling, composition and standards (NLCS) retained EU law.

The nutrition and health claims regulations ensure that claims made about a food or drink are accurate and not misleading so that consumers can make informed choices to meet their lifestyle and nutritional needs.

The consultation closes at 11:59pm on Tuesday 31 October 2023.

### **Local Levers for Diet and Healthy Weight**

A [New report from Public Health Scotland](#) has reviewed the evidence and recommends seven measures which can be utilised as part of a place-based approach to addressing diet and healthy weight.

The report recommends action to restrict food marketing, utilise planning to improve food environments, and strengthen public food procurement and provision standards.

It further supports moves to work with the out of home sector to reduce calories on menus, promote and support physical activity, protect, promote, and support breastfeeding and healthy diets for children, and improve uptake of school meals.

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

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### **Institute of Alcohol Studies new film series**

A [new film series](#) recently launched by IAS explains the tactics and strategies used by alcohol industry to increase profit at the expense of health. The first film, 'Big Alcohol: Explained', delves into the influence of the sector on health policy, shaping of narrative and the evidence base, and impact on the economy. Other films in the series will include a focus on marketing and pricing. The films will support learning for anyone with an interest in public health, health policy or the commercial determinants of health.

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**Promoting physical activity**  
**Regional Lead: Nicola Corrigan**

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### **Physical Activity Clinical Champions**

The Physical Activity Clinical Champions programme has now moved to a new provider. The Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre will lead a consortium with the Faculty of Sport and Exercise Medicine and Intelligent Health to run the Sport England-funded Physical Activity Clinical Champions (PACC) Programme. OHID and Sport England are collaborating with the consortium to transition the programme to its new home. The programme timelines are being developed, and the programme partners are working with the current PACCs to understand the implications on training delivery. Email [pacc@shu.ac.uk](mailto:pacc@shu.ac.uk) or visit [the website](#) to find out more about the programme

### **Yorkshire Sport Foundation Monthly Newsletter**

To subscribe to this newsletter and receive monthly updates for sport and physical activity across West and South Yorkshire [sign up here](#).

### **'Sharing the Learning Series'**

Active Partnerships are supporting a consortium of partners working collaboratively from across Yorkshire and the Humber to achieve this. We bring regional and national partners together to share experiences on whole systems physical activity approaches.

Register for the next event on Tues 10 October, 1pm - 2.30pm [here](#).

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

[This strategy](#) sets out how the government will work with the sector to achieve these aims by ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to be active. Central to this 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.

### **North Yorkshire Sport – Impact Report Launch**

North Yorkshire Sport is delighted to showcase our 2022 – 2023 Impact Report. This can be [viewed online via Youtube](#) or [a digital report](#) which can be viewed and downloaded.

### **We Are Undefeatable Big Talk: Public Consultation**

Since 2019 'We Are Undefeatable' has been on a mission to inspire and support more people with long-term health conditions to become physically active. This September, they're launching [the Big Talk public consultation](#) to inform the resources and materials We Are Undefeatable will provide in the future.

They're inviting participation from people who live with a health condition, their carers and those with a professional interest in supporting people with health conditions, for example, people who work in health or social care, in the charity or voluntary sector, in sport or physical activity or in local or national government. The consultation will be live 4<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September.

## **The social impact and the economic importance of sport and physical activity in England**

In 2020 Sport England commissioned the Sport Industry Research Centre at Sheffield Hallam University to calculate the social impact and the economic importance of sport and physical activity in England.

They found that, when measured against costs of engagement and providing opportunities, for every £1 spent on community sport and physical activity, a return on investment (ROI) of £3.91 was created for individuals and society.

Furthermore, the combined economic and social value (SROI) of taking part in community sport and physical activity in England in 2017/2018 was £85.5 billion.

[Other key findings can be found here](#)

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### **Tackling racism, discrimination and their outcomes**

**Regional Lead: Abi Brown**

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#### **Recognising racism as a public health crisis - BioMed Central (BMC) Public Health Editorial**

Racism has increasingly been recognised and understood as a driver of poor health. To work to reduce racial inequalities in health, there is a need for strategy and sustainable actions that combat racial discrimination, recognising the current systemic and structural barriers that currently exist.

As part of the Collection titled 'Racism as a Public Health Crisis', a [quest editorial paper](#) was published discussing the intersections of structural inequities and health disparities.

The call for papers to collection is open with a deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023. You can find out more about the collection [here](#).

#### **Ethnic inequalities in mortality in England – The King's Fund blog**

Following the [latest data](#) from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on the national profile of ethnic inequalities in mortality overall and from common physical conditions, Veena Raleigh (Senior Fellow, Policy) at The King's Fund details the findings and their complexities [in this 4-minute read blog](#).

The importance of understanding differences between people from different ethnic minority groups to impact policy is discussed.

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### **Creating fair employment and good work for all**

**Regional Lead: Nicola Corrigan**

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#### **Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Work and Health Report**

The Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) work and health report produced by LKIS North East and Yorkshire has now been published. This report presents publicly available data at national and regional level and SME size, around wages and

sickness absence. It explores the cost of staff turnover, raises awareness of presenteeism, provides links to a range of resources and highlights gaps in data. A [webinar on the SME report](#) has been produced to accompany this report which we hope you find useful. Please note that the report is currently a beta version.

- [SME Work and Health report](#)
- [Feedback Form](#)

### **Access to NHS employment for people with lived experience of homelessness**

In April 2021, NHS England and Improvement worked with various partner organisations including Pathway to launch a pilot programme facilitating access to employment in Health Care Support Worker roles for people with lived experience of homelessness.

The access to employment programme concluded in September 2022 and [this final report](#) presents the findings from an evaluation of the programme carried out by Ian Kessler, Professor of Public Policy and Management, King's College London.

### **Labour Market Statistics - August 20-23**

[This briefing note](#) sets out analysis of the Labour Market Statistics published this morning. The analysis mainly draws on Labour Force Survey (LFS) data, which is the main household survey that collects official figures on employment, unemployment and economic inactivity and covers the period up to June 2023 (the most recent quarter being April to June 2023).

### **Plans to improve health in the workplace – reminder**

On 20 July the Department for Work and Pensions and Department of Health and Social Care published [a consultation on ways to increase uptake of Occupational Health provision](#).

Employers will be encouraged to take up Occupational Health offers to help employees access mental and physical health support at work, particularly for those working in small and medium-sized enterprises. The consultation closes on 12th October.

### **Disability Confident Employer- Online Forms**

The online forms employers use to register, renew, progress, or change their details within the Disability Confident scheme have been updated as part of ongoing improvements. The [guidance](#) has been amended to link directly to the new forms and anyone using links to the old forms will be automatically re-directed to the new ones.

Links to the new forms are provided below:

Registering for the first time -

- [find a job dwp.gov.uk/disabilityconfident/sign-up](https://findajob.dwp.gov.uk/disabilityconfident/sign-up)

Reporting changes to their business details e.g., address or contact details -

- [find a job dwp.gov.uk/disabilityconfident/update-details](https://findajob.dwp.gov.uk/disabilityconfident/update-details)

Renewing or changing level -

- [find a job dwp.gov.uk/disabilityconfident/update-dc-status](https://www.dwp.gov.uk/disabilityconfident/update-dc-status)

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

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**A Public Health Response to Tackle Financial Insecurity**

The Royal Society of Public Health has published a research report examining the types and causes of financial insecurity and the impacts this has on people's health and well-being. This report was commissioned by Hull City Council. The report's findings include:

- The cost-of-living crisis effect on individuals, families, and those living with health conditions.
- The impact on individuals directly on food and fuel affordability
- Effects of financial insecurity on well-being
- Effect on physical health through affordability of exercise activities and healthy foods
- Effects of cutting back on fuel and the exacerbation of chronic and acute illnesses.

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

**The power of working together: when health and financial wellbeing services join forces**

In this blog from the [Glasgow Centre for Population Health](#), the authors describe how the 'Healthier Wealthier Families' (HWF) pilot in Australia is helping families to reduce financial hardship.

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# PRIORITY CONDITIONS AND EQUITABLE SERVICES

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**Promoting public mental health and wellbeing**

**Regional Lead: Ali Iliff**

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## **Suicide Prevention Strategy 2023-2028**

The Government has published the new [suicide prevention strategy](#).

The content of the strategy was informed by data, evidence, and engagement with stakeholders, including people with lived experience and by the mental health call for evidence that DHSC ran in 2022.

The priority areas for action are:

- Improving data and evidence
- Tailored, targeted support to priority groups, including those at higher risk of suicide
- Addressing common risk factors linked to suicide at a population level
- Promoting online safety and responsible media content to reduce harms and improve support and signposting
- Providing effective crisis support across sectors for those who reach crisis point
- Reducing access to means and methods of suicide
- Providing effective bereavement support to those affected by suicide
- Making suicide everybody's business.

Priority groups identified at a national level include

- children and young people
- middle-aged men
- people who have self-harmed
- people in contact with mental health services
- people in contact with the justice system
- autistic people
- pregnant women and new mothers

Common risk factors addressed include

- physical illness
- financial difficulty and economic diversity
- gambling
- substance misuse
- domestic abuse

- social isolation and loneliness.

### **Suicide Prevention Grant Fund Webinars**

On Friday 25 August, the Government announced a further [£10 million for a fund](#) to support suicide prevention activities delivered in England by VCSE organisations in 2023 to 2025. Applications for funding close at 11.59pm on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023.

DHSC has held two 'Suicide Prevention: Meet the Funder' webinars describing the objectives of the grant, who is eligible to apply, and provide some pointers on the application process. Recordings of the webinars can be accessed via the following links:

- [First webinar](#)
- [Second webinar](#)

### **West Yorkshire Suicide Prevention Champions**

West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership has launched their campaign to create a community of suicide prevention champions, who will learn about suicide prevention so they can help friends, relatives, colleagues or strangers by having conversations and challenging stigma.

More information about the campaign [here](#).

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## **Improving sexual and reproductive health**

**Regional Lead: Georgina Wilkinson**

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### **Update on the Women's Health Strategy**

This [press release](#) provides a summary of the action taken since the publication of the Women's Health Strategy including the announcement of funding for women's health hubs in each Integrated Care Board (ICB) area.

### **DHSC launch national survey to seek women's views on reproductive health**

This [press release](#) provides details of a new [national online survey](#) to gather vital data on women's menstrual health, contraception, pregnancy planning, and menopause. This was a key commitment in the [Women's Health Strategy](#).

### **Spotlight on HIV in Yorkshire and Humber: 2021 data**

This [report](#) has been published to provide an epidemiological overview of HIV in Yorkshire & Humber, based on the most recent annual data.

### **HIV Prevention England – Gonorrhoea Briefing**

HIV Prevention England have published this [2023 briefing](#) to provide an overview of gonorrhoea epidemiology in England, research on gonorrhoea and antibiotic resistance, treatment guidelines, and the implications for HIV prevention and services.

### **HIV in the Workplace: A guide for employers and employees**

BHA for Equality have worked with partners to produce a [new resource](#) that will support employers to reduce HIV stigma within the workplace, and to ensure that employees living with HIV are protected from discrimination. The guide will also help



working people living with HIV to understand the rights and protection enshrined in The Equality Act 2010 and help them advocate for those rights if necessary.

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## **Improving health and reducing inequalities through health and care services**

**Regional Lead: Toni Williams**

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### **NHS Confederation responds to the Major Conditions Strategy**

In this blog published by the NHS Confederation the authors explore how the [Major Conditions Strategy case for change and strategic framework](#) aligns with recommendations from health and care leaders.

### **Improving health inequalities: accountability in the NHS**

This Institute for Health Equity [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).

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# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TO TACKLE HEALTH INEQUALITIES

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**Regional Lead: Chris Sharp**

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## **Specialty Training Programme Recruitment Event for 2024 intake: Yorkshire and Humber School of Public Health**

The Yorkshire and the Humber School of Public Health is recruiting as part of an annual national programme, and we have an [online recruitment information session on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023 2pm-4pm](#) which can answer all your queries.

- Do you want to join an exciting Public Health training scheme and contribute to improving health and wellbeing and reducing inequalities for our local communities?
- Do you have a medical degree with current GMC registration and a minimum of two years postgraduate medical experience OR do you have 48 months' work experience (including 24 months at Band 6 Agenda for Change work experience which is relevant to population health practice) over the previous four years and a degree at 2:1 or above or a master's degree?

[To book a place on the session click here](#)

## **NIHR SPHR fellowships in public health research**

The NIHR School for Public Health Research (SPHR) is funding up to 10 pre-doctoral and post-doctoral launching fellowships as part of its initiative to build capacity in public health research.

The fellowship competition is now open, offering a flexible opportunity to undertake either a pre-doctoral or post-doctoral fellowship on a full-time or part-time basis. Applications are invited from individuals who wish to pursue an academic or practice academic career in public health research. Applications are also welcome from those that may have worked or are currently working within public health practice.

The fellowships are expected to begin in April 2024 and will be available across the nine members of SPHR. [Click here for further information](#).

The closing date for applications to both schemes is 12 noon, Monday 23rd October 2023.

## **UKPHR Public Health Practitioner Conference & Awards 2023**

The conference will be held virtually on the Wednesday 4 October (9.00 - 17.00) on the Crowdcomms virtual event platform, so like last year's event we are planning for a really interactive day, full of networking opportunities.

This year's theme for the awards is 'Public Health Practitioners: Building a Culture of Inclusivity'. The day will include a focus on equality, diversity & inclusion in the public health workforce, breakout sessions featuring some of our 2022 award winning teams

and a keynote session from William Roberts, CEO of the Royal Society for Public Health.

To register your place at the conference please use the link below:

[UKPHR Public Health Practitioner Conference - Crowdcomms](#)

**NIHR CRN Yorkshire & Humber Mental Health & Addictions Research Conference: Tuesday 10th October 2023, The Principal Hotel York**

You are invited to join us for the NIHR Clinical Research Network Yorkshire & Humber Mental Health & Addictions Research Conference - A Strategic Look Across the Lifespan: Celebration and Collaboration Event.

This event will take place on:

- Tuesday 10th October 2023 (10.00 am - 4.00 pm)

The conference will celebrate current research activity and look at future collaborative opportunities to develop research aligned with the wider national and regional strategic aims for mental health and addictions. It will be an opportunity for you to network with colleagues, hear about research happening in Yorkshire & Humber and will feature the following topics:

- Early life and prevention
- Mental health and multimorbidity
- Addictions.

To register your place at the conference please [click here](#).

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## ANY OTHER RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

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### **New Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) policy position statement on air quality**

The ADPH have released a new policy position statement on air quality, outlining the main issues for public health, including their national and local recommendations for improving air quality in the UK.

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