

# Minding the Gap

Improving Health & Reducing Inequalities



## Yorkshire and the Humber Health and Wellbeing Monthly Update

Issue 104 – September 2024

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.**

**Please note this is the final edition of this update and relevant information will now be shared in existing regional networks as appropriate.**

*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 updates this month.

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**Promoting healthy ageing across the lifecourse**

**Regional Lead: Ali Iliff**

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### **Pension pot needed for basic retirement rises 60% to nearly £110,00**

The Living Wage Foundation last year launched the Living Pension standard to tackle low pension saving, based on a framework from the Resolution Foundation. It sets out the pension contributions required for workers to receive an adequate income in retirement. An update for 2024 shows the average pension pot for a basic standard of living in retirement has increased by 60%, from £68,300 in 2020-21 to £107,800 in 2023-24, driven largely by the cost of living crisis.

The research describes the average income needed and also looks at differences by relationship status and housing tenure:

- single home-owning pensioners would need £258 per week (£13,500 annually)
- pensioner couples that own their own home would need £395 per week (£20,600 annually)
- single pensioners in private rented accommodation would need an additional £6,900 per year (total of £20,400 annual income) compared to a single homeowner.

Read the Living Wage Foundation's summary of the key points [here](#) and the Resolution Foundation's report [here](#).

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

**Regional Lead: Cathie Railton**

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### **Information, guidance and resources**

#### **Access to Education for asylum seeking children within families – Briefing**

A briefing from Migration Yorkshire about access to education for asylum seeking children with their family has been shared, found below:



Access to Education  
July 2024.pdf

### **ADPH piece following the UK riots**

Following the unrest during August ADPH have written a piece about promoting social inclusion which you can read [here](#).

### **Groundswell new resources on TB and Sepsis**

[Groundswell](#) have published some new resources about TB and Sepsis for people experiencing homelessness and those supporting them. The leaflets outline what each condition entails, what symptoms you may experience, the associated risks, and what action to take in the event that you contract TB/Sepsis.

Digital and printable versions of the flyers on TB can be found [here](#), and the same on Sepsis, [here](#).

### **Delivering with dignity: a framework for strengthening commissioning and provision of healthcare services for people seeking asylum - British Red Cross report**

[This report](#) sets out a framework of good practice to remove barriers and ensure people can access the healthcare to which they are entitled.

### **Events and learning**

#### **Excluded even within inclusion health? The importance of exploring and addressing the health & wellbeing needs of people selling sex across Yorkshire and the Humber – webinar**

**(Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October, online)**

Across Y&H OHID and UKHSA have been working in partnership with women with lived experience of sex work, local authorities, voluntary organisations supporting sex workers, NHS commissioners and providers, academics and the police, to improve our understanding about the health and wellbeing needs of people selling sex and to raise awareness across the wider system. This webinar is being held to launch our interactive tool 'A public health approach to sex work across Yorkshire and the Humber'.

Please find more details and registration details [here](#).

### **The Yorkshire Integration Festival returns for its third year**

This free, family-friendly event is a celebration of the positive impact made by migrants and refugees in Yorkshire and Humber, showcasing the diverse range of cultures and customs that make our region a special place to live. This year's Festival will be on Saturday 21 September at The Piece Hall, Halifax, and will feature artists, performers, exhibitors and small-business traders from across the Yorkshire and Humber region.

[More details on the Festival website](#).



## **City of Sanctuary Maternity Stream Conference (Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024 – London)**

Please find details about the event and call for abstracts below:



Maternity research  
CoS Conference flyers

### **Research**

#### **Research on mental health treatment for asylum seekers and refugees: NIHR**

New research has proposed taking a new 'cultural models' approach to mental health treatment for asylum seekers and refugees, to improve care.

Please read more [here](#).

### **Various**

#### **New to Leeds – new website**

The [New to Leeds](#) website which exists to help new migrants to Leeds to find their way around, and to help them to understand how to access support. It has recently been updated and contains information in accessing key services in Leeds such as housing, health, education, money, work etc. and can be translated in 51 languages by the click of a button.

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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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## **Reminder: Making a difference in Housing, Health, and Planning (Tuesday 12 November 2024, 10:30am - 12:00pm)**

This [webinar](#) has been developed with the Royal Town and Planning Institute and Public Health partners in the North, including the Planning Healthy Places Community of Improvement. It is free to attend so please share widely with partners and colleagues.

## **Managing takeaways near schools: a toolkit for local authorities**

Designed in partnership with local authority staff, [this toolkit](#) provides four practical steps to support you to successfully implement evidence based takeaway management zones in your local authority.

## **The Conversation: Most Gypsy and Traveller sites in Great Britain are located within 100 metres of major pollutants - research**

[This article](#) in The Conversation summarises [research](#) from the University of Manchester and University of West London and highlights the inequalities in housing faced by Gypsy, Traveller and Nomadic Communities.

## **LGA Creating Healthy Places Report**

LGA have published a report on Creating Healthy Places.

[Please see more here.](#)

## **JRF Event- Framing stats and data to talk about homes (Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024)**

Join FrameWorks UK, in partnership with JRF and the Nationwide Foundation, for a [useful webinar](#) that will provide insights and tips to help you:

- Understand why framing data makes a difference to your communications
- Hone your skills – with practical guidance and examples, so you can use numbers to make the right impact
- Decide if, when and how to make the economic case for changes to our housing system.

## **Transport for the North: Carbon Assessment Framework**

The new Carbon Assessment Playbook, an easy-to-use tool for early stage “in-house” carbon assessment to support key decisions when considering transport interventions and preparing your LTPs. The webinar is open to all local authority officers involved in transport planning and preparing local transport plans, including planners, policy officers, analysts and modelers.

## **Webinar details:**

- **Date:** Choose from 10th or 22nd October
- **Time:** 12:00pm - 2:00pm

[Please register for your preferred webinar date here.](#)

### **Nature for the North Focus Groups: 3 dates in October**

In February 2025, Nature North will launch a plan for Nature recovery for people and places across the north of England.

They will use these online focus group sessions to create a shared vision that is representative of a diverse range of people and organisations from across the North of England.

Each session will be 2 hours, online on Teams, with multiple dates available.

[Please book your place here.](#)

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## **Achieving our Smokefree 2030 ambition**

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### **Stoptober 2024: Webinar and Resources to Support Your Local Quit Campaigns**

As we gear up for Stoptober, there are valuable resources and insights to help you support smokers in their quit attempts. A recent webinar, *“Using Stoptober Resources to Create Local and Regional Quit Campaigns”*, is now available to watch and apply in your own campaigns.

This informative session featured expert speakers who shared strategies for using Stoptober resources effectively:

- **Alex Trehitt**, Partnerships Lead, Behavioural Programmes Unit, Department for Health and Social Care
- **Katy Connolly**, Marketing and Communications Manager, Humber and North Yorkshire Centre for Excellence in Tobacco Control

If you missed the live session or want to revisit the material, you can watch the recorded webinar [here](#).

The session provides practical tips to help enhance your local and regional efforts during Stoptober.

### **Stoptober Campaign Resources Available Now**

To further support your local Stoptober activities, a variety of resources are now available for download from the Campaign Resource Centre. These resources are designed to raise awareness and encourage smokers to make a quit attempt, and they include:

- **Campaign Toolkit:** Key messages, facts, statistics, and suggestions for social media and evaluation.
- **Digital Posters:** Ready for use in local promotions.
- **Social Media Assets:** Static and animated graphics for use online.
- **Graphics for Digital Screens:** For community digital boards.
- **Email Signatures:** To promote Stoptober through email communication.

[Please download the Stoptober resources now here](#) and start planning how you can make Stoptober 2024 impactful in your area.

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

### Research – housing and gambling harm

Earlier this year, a 2-year study by [Aston University](#) in conjunction with Birmingham City Council on gambling and tenancy insecurity concluded. The research, which combined quantitative surveys and focus groups, investigated the links between gambling harms and issues with housing tenancy, finding a bi-directional relationship.

Gambling impacted on finances, affecting ability to sustain a tenancy, but conversely was seen as a solution – in pursuit of winnings. Ultimately this led to further harm and risk of homelessness – further exacerbated by low income and disadvantage. People gambling at ‘problem’ level were more likely to be in rent arrears compared to others who were gambling (4 in 10 vs 2 in 10), with 1 in 5 tenants being affected. There were also higher rates of borrowing and mental health issues. More than half affected had not received other support and were embarrassed or felt ashamed, which affected help-seeking – and had not wanted to risk losing their tenancies. The proliferation of advertising and betting venues in local areas was also noted.

The study led to development of a framework to intervene and support – from pre-letting through to tenancy maintenance; training for housing officers and dedicated support; and pathways to local support services.

To learn more, find a helpful poster [here](#) and the full report online [here](#).

### Gambling harm and suicide prevention

This month, the Lancet features an impactful series of papers on a public health approach to [suicide prevention](#) ([Sept 9th edition](#)), including themes of particular relevance to gambling harm.

In exploring the [key risk factors](#) and how to address them, Pirkis et al acknowledge the ‘powerful influence of social determinants’ on suicide risk, setting out the types of interventions that might be applied from universal to individual level – illustrated for alcohol, gambling, domestic violence and suicide bereavement. Universal interventions are emphasised due to the impact these can have at multiple levels on gambling-related suicide risk – restriction of product supply can reduce harmful gambling activity at source, and advertising restrictions can reduce demand and de-normalise.

It is noted that actions such as these are more likely to reduce harm at all levels of suicide risk, rather than selective interventions which miss people who may still be experiencing suicidal thoughts or feelings even at lower levels of gambling participation. Broader approaches can then be supplemented by more selective interventions within gambling product environments. The review by [Marionneau et al \(2022\)](#) suggested that indebtedness and shame are linked to gambling-related suicide risk, rather than mental illness.

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### **Sky Bet use of customer data**

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) recently investigated Sky Betting and Gaming following [an alert from the 'Clean up Gambling'](#) group that the company was misusing customers' personal data. Although the operator had not used the information to target 'vulnerable' people gambling, it had processed personal data without permission over a 7-week period in early 2023; this was then shared with advertising tech companies. This was explained as a 'technical error'.

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

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### **Information on future updates following this final HWB Update**

Please note as this is the final YH HWB update all future information regarding Healthy Weight, Nutrition and Food will be available via the YH Healthy Weight Knowledge Hub. [Sign up here](#) to become a member.

### **Dietary Patterns in UK Consumer Purchase Data**

Professor Michelle Morris will be discussing the methods to collect quality dietary information at scale for population research are time consuming, expensive and biased. Novel data sources, such as supermarket sales transactions and loyalty card data, offer the potential to overcome these challenges and better understand population dietary patterns.

In this talk, Michelle will share examples of how this data can be used to better understand population level dietary patterns, how these compare with national recommendations, how they vary by sociodemographic characteristics and what we can do to change them.

Register for your free place [here](#).

### **Key data and tools**

Risk factors are things that increase the chance of developing a disease. Resources are available on alcohol and drugs, healthy weight and physical activity, gambling, sexual and reproductive health and smoking.

[PH Online](#) is your go to place to search for the most up to date data and resources to support your work.

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

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No updates this month.

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

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**Final HWB Bulletin**

Please note as this is the final YH HWB update all future information regarding Physical Activity will be available via the YH Physical Activity Knowledge Hub.

[Sign up here](#) to become a member.

**Key data and tools**

Risk factors are things that increase the chance of developing a disease. Resources are available on alcohol and drugs, healthy weight and physical activity, gambling, sexual and reproductive health and smoking.

[PH Online](#) is your go to place to search for the most up to date data and resources to support your work.

**Millions More Moving webinar**

[Millions More Moving](#), is the Richmond Group's report on tackling inactivity by supporting people with long-term conditions to be active. They recently held a webinar and have shared a recording of the discussion, which is available [here](#). They have also shared the lived experience insights that informed Millions More Moving, available in the report [Bridging The Gap](#) and as a [data dashboard](#). Finally, several participants at the webinar shared links in the Q&A so these are below in case of interest:

- ❖ [We Are Undefeatable](#)
- ❖ [Leamington PCN case study](#) - Dr Hussain's example
- ❖ [Be Well in Blackburn with Darwen](#) - We Are Undefeatable activation
- ❖ [Active Partnerships](#) – working to integrate health and physical activity
- ❖ [Flippin' Pain](#) – managing pain as a barrier to being active
- ❖ [Sport England](#) – more information on connecting health and wellbeing.

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**Tackling racism, discrimination and their outcomes**

**Regional Lead: Abi Brown**

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**Statement in response to Lord Darzi review**

In response to the [Darzi Review](#) findings, Professor Habib Naqvi (Chief Executive of the NHS Race and Health Observatory) has shared a statement highlighting the need for 'concerted action' and change using evidence, following the review highlighting ethnic health inequalities.

You can read the statement in full [here](#).

**Black Maternity Matters – Podcast episode by NHS Confederation**

Black Maternity Matters is a ground-breaking collaboration tackling the inequitable maternity outcomes faced by black mothers and their babies.

This episode will discuss more about the inequalities faced, with episode topics including maternal loss and baby loss.

***(Please note:***

*During this episode guests and hosts use the term ‘racialised as black’, alongside talking about the experience of Black mothers, parents, and Black children. The use of ‘racialised’ acknowledges that white-centric societies have systemically categorised people according to the colour of their skin, or their culture.*

*This act of racialising people with healthcare leads directly into these stark differences in experiences of care, treatment, and health. As Esmee Fairburn put it, “‘racialised’ doesn’t define people’s community or identity, but the phenomenon that is happening to them”.)*

[Please listen here.](#)

**Statement in response to new Health Services Safety Investigations Body (HSSIB) report on NHS temporary workforce and patient safety – NHS Race and Health Observatory**

In response to the HSSIB investigation report which highlights how discrimination is preventing NHS temporary workers speaking up about safety concerns, Professor Habib Naqvi (Chief Executive of the NHS Race and Health Observatory) has shared a statement response on work needed to tackle this.

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

**The EMPOWER Dementia Network**

Dementia Network is a collaboration of six leading UK universities with expertise in dementia care, social care, primary care, public health, and palliative care, working alongside experts by lived experience and 11 community partners dedicated to improving dementia care.

Please read more about the network on the Race Equality Foundation Website [here](#).

**‘September: A Time of New Beginnings and Hard Realities’ – Race Equality Foundation blog**

In this blog on the Race Equality Foundation website, there is discussion on key policy areas which will have an impact on Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic individuals and their potential impact over the coming months.

This includes the impact of the end of Winter Fuel Payments, The Two Child Benefit Cap and the fallout from the UK Riots.

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

**‘The Equality Act is not fit for purpose’ say leading race equality organisations’ – article following a new report on tackling institutional racism**

In a report released at the start of this month (‘A better way to tackle Institutional Racism’) Alliance for Racial Justice - a coalition of leading race equality organisation - have called for equality laws to undergo major updates to tackle deep-rooted

discrimination and inequality across Britain. This calls on government to commit to a major review of the Equality Act 2010.

[Please read more and find the report here.](#)

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## Creating fair employment and good work for all

Regional Lead: Nicola Corrigan

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### Final HWB Update

Please note as this is the final YH HWB Update all future information regarding Work and Health will be available via the YH Work and Health Knowledge Hub.

[Sign up here](#) to become a member.

If you are interested in joining the North East and Yorkshire Good Work Community of Practice, or the North East and Yorkshire Anchor Organisations Network please register to [become a member using this link](#).

### Healthy Places Prosperous Lives

The UK is getting poorer and sicker, and this trend is not equal across the country. Poorer and sicker areas are getting poorer and sicker the most quickly. To help develop a path forward, Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) held a series of multi-day deliberative workshops across the country, each exploring people's understanding of health, its relationship with prosperity, and priorities for change. The following links are the resources and interactive maps to support improved understanding of the impact of and inequalities in economic inactivity and present some recommendations for action:

- [Healthy places, prosperous lives | IPPR](#)
- [Revealed: Sickness epidemic creating new wave of economically inactive in 'bad health blackspots' | IPPR](#)
- [Healthy Places | Flourish](#)
- [Scale of the challenge: Obesity and the labour market | IPPR](#)
- [Obesity | Flourish](#)

### Health at work: Why SMEs need OH support – Subtitled

Occupational health (OH) assists small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to look after the health of their employees.

[Watch this video](#) to find out more about how OH can help.

### Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) Good Work Index

The CIPD Good Work Index is an annual benchmark of job quality in the UK. Each year, we survey more than 5,000 workers from different sectors and occupations about key aspects of their work and employment to offer evidence-based insights for people professionals, employers and policy-makers to improve work and working lives.

Please read the index [here](#).

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

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No updates this month.

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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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### 2023 Suicide data published

The 2023 suicide data has been [published](#) by the Office for National Statistics.

- There were 6,069 suicides registered in England and Wales (11.4 deaths per 100,000 people) in 2023; this is an increase compared with 2022 (10.7 deaths per 100,000, or 5,642 deaths) and the highest rate seen since 1999.
- The suicide rate for males in England and Wales increased to 17.4 deaths per 100,000 in 2023, from 16.4 deaths per 100,000 in 2022; this is the highest rate for males since 1999.
- The suicide rate for females in England and Wales increased to 5.7 deaths per 100,000 in 2023, from 5.4 deaths per 100,000 in 2022; this is the highest rate for females since 1994.
- The age-specific suicide rate was highest for males aged 45 to 49 years (25.5 deaths per 100,000), and for females aged 50 to 54 years (9.2 deaths per 100,000).
- In 2023, suicide rates in Wales (14.0 deaths per 100,000) were higher than in England (11.2 deaths per 100,000), although rates increased from 2022 in both England (10.5 deaths per 100,000) and Wales (12.5 deaths per 100,000).
- The rate in Yorkshire and the Humber was 12.3 per 100,000, an increase from 12.1 per 100,000 in 2022.

Data for [suicides registered between 2021 and 2023 by local authority](#) was also published. For our region the highest rates were seen in Calderdale and Wakefield, and the lowest rates in North Lincolnshire and York. Four local authorities (York, Barnsley, Sheffield and Leeds) had a reduction in the suicide rate compared to 2020-22.

The data reflect the date of registration rather than the date of death. There are continuing and growing delays between death and registration; the median delay in England was 199 days, increasing from 195 days in 2022. 39% of the deaths registered in 2023 occurred in 2023, 51% occurred in 2022 and the remainder occurred in 2021 or earlier.

In Y&H the median delay in registration was 205 days (an increase from 188 in 2022). There is wide variation across the local authorities, with the longest median delays seen in North East Lincs (758 days, up from 542 days in 2022), North Lincs (608 days, up from 508 days in 2022) and York (435 days, up from 267 in 2022). Wakefield has the lowest delay (108 day, a reduction from 140 days in 2022). Two other local authority areas (Barnsley and Hull) have shorter delays to inquests than in 2022. [Provisional quarterly suicide death registration data](#) has also been published, covering the first two quarters of the 2024 calendar year.

## **NHS 111 offering crisis mental health support**

People of all ages, including children, who are in crisis or concerned about loved ones can now call 111, select the mental health option and speak to a trained mental health professional.

This means England is one of the first countries to offer access to 24/7 mental health crisis support through a single phone line.

Further details can be found [here](#).

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### **Improving sexual and reproductive health**

**Regional Lead: Georgina Wilkinson**

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## **HIV Prevention England Conference 2024**

This conference took place on 6 September 2024.

You can view the slides and watch selected sessions [here](#).

## **Investigating and managing outbreaks of sexually transmitted infections (STIs)**

This [document](#) provides guidance to support the detection, investigation, and control of STI outbreaks and the development of local STI outbreak control strategies.

## **A blueprint for the future: Sexual and reproductive health and HIV services in England – Local Government Association report**

This [report](#) has been shaped by the Local Government Association (LGA), Association Directors of Public Health (ADPH) and English HIV and Sexual Health Commissioners Group (EHSCHG), with input from partners across the system, and sets out a shared intent for improving the sexual health and wellbeing of all residents.

## **Breaking barriers: Inequalities in access to contraception in England - report**

[The Advisory Group on Contraception](#) (AGC) – with support from the English HIV and Sexual Health Commissioners Group (EHSCHG) – have launched this new [report](#). Based on a survey of over 1,000 women in England, the report explores the experiences of those in certain marginalised groups and makes recommendations for ensuring that all women, regardless of background, age, postcode or personal circumstance, can access contraception through comprehensive reproductive healthcare provision.

## **Sexual and Reproductive Health Competency Framework Caring for Women in Prison – new Royal College of Nursing publication**

This [document](#) has been published. This framework has been developed for nurses, midwives, and those supporting nursing teams, who provide sexual and reproductive health care to women in prison. It takes account of nursing teams who may have limited experience caring for pregnant women.

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

**Regional Lead: Toni Williams**

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No updates this month.

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# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TO TACKLE HEALTH INEQUALITIES

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Regional Lead: Chris Sharp

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## **Health inequalities in 2040: Current and projected patterns of illness by deprivation in England - Kings Fund Webinar (Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024)**

Decades of research has shown that the health of the population in England is unequal, with people who live in more deprived areas experiencing illness earlier in life and dying younger.

Previous Health Foundation analysis has projected that 9.3 million people could be living with major illness by 2040, which is 2.6 million, or 39%, more people than in 2019. In April, the Health Foundation's REAL Centre published its second report in our 'Health in 2040' series, this time exploring how current patterns of ill health vary with deprivation across England, and to what extent this is projected to change by 2040.

The findings have important implications for health inequality among the working age population and how it poses a challenge to labour supply and economic growth.

This webinar will convene experts to explore what the findings mean for how we might need to change as a society, and what can we do to better prepare for the future.

[Please register here.](#)

## **An Introduction to Health Inequalities Webinar (Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 12– 1pm)**

To mark Public Health Workforce Week (7-11th October 2024) the School of Public Health Yorkshire & The Humber invite you to join us for a lunch and learn webinar focusing on health inequalities.

Public Health Workforce Week is celebrating the wider public health workforce and how, by embedding public health principles across society, we can mobilise and collaborate to meet the widening health inequalities that we face.

The webinar will be led by the Foundation Programme in Public Health and will include an introduction to health inequalities and an overview of Public Health workforce development opportunities.

[Please register here.](#)



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## ANY OTHER RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

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### **Woman of the North Report – Health Equity North**

This report highlights how women in the North of England live shorter lives, work more hours for less pay, are more likely to be an unpaid carer, and more likely to live in poverty than women in other regions of England.

It exposes the growing regional inequalities over the last decade and the impact this has on women's quality of life, health, work, their families and communities.

Please read the report [here](#).

### **Fairer, Healthier Leeds: Reducing Health Inequalities – Institute of Health Equity (IHE)**

In 2023 Leeds made a commitment to become a Marmot place, embarking on a two-year partnership with the IHE to deliver 'Fairer, Healthier Leeds'.

In 2023/24, Leeds carried out a 'whole-system review'. This analysed a wide range of data on health outcomes and the social determinants of health, alongside the city's strategic approaches to reducing health inequalities.

Outputs from the review included a report, set of recommendations and indicators that will be taken forward to build and strengthen the ways Leeds tackles health inequity. The high-level system indicators are designed to monitor progress over the next 5 – 10 years.

Please read the report [here](#).

### **Convention Policy Brief: People and Place**

This paper sets out a series of policy propositions in the field of People and Place, for discussion at the 2024 Convention of the North. This has been drafted by a group of policy officers across the North of England drawing on the expertise of local authorities, combined authorities, and place-based partnerships.

Please read more [here](#).

### **Patient Information Forum (PIF) Directory – latest edition**

The latest edition of the PIF Directory is out now. This free resource aims to support healthcare professional to easily find trusted sources of health information. Published every six months, the latest edition includes more than 130 PIF TICK certified organisations and individuals, sorted by health topic.

To be included, creators must show their information production process meets 10 key criteria. This includes that information is evidence-based, up-to-date and easy to use and understand. This edition also includes the first PIF TICK ambassador Dr Nighat Arif; bestselling author, medical broadcaster, online content creator and honorary fellow of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. As PIF TICK Ambassador,

she will support PIF's mission to help everyone access health information they can understand and use.

The PIF TICK is the only independently-assessed certification for both print and digital health information and is run by the [Patient Information Forum \(PIF\)](#) on a non-profit basis.

Please find the latest version of the PIF Directory [here](#).

### **Regional inequalities in Long Covid rates revealed - Health Equity North**

This research fifth of patients in some areas of the North of England have Long Covid, according to research released today (Friday 23rd August 2024).

Navigating the Long Haul: Understanding Long Covid in Northern England, published by Health Equity North, reveals the striking inequalities in Long Covid rates and a clear North-South divide.

Analysis of General Practice Patient Survey data from 2022 found the North West had the highest number of people reporting Long Covid symptoms (5.5%) followed by the North East and Yorkshire (5.1%).

In some northern GP practices as many as one in five patients (20%) reported having Long Covid.

The regions with the lowest rates were the South West (3.4%) and the South East (3.6%), and the average for England as a whole was 4.4%.

The research suggests that people in the North of England are among the worst affected by Long Covid, which follows patterns evidenced in previous reports highlighting the devastating impact of Covid-19 across northern regions.

Please read more [here](#).