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| **Minding the Gap - News Brief: No. 147** |
| **Mind the Income Gap**The income gap for those with mental health problems is significant – annual median income for people with common mental health conditions is estimated to be £8,400 less than that for the wider population. People with mental health problems are more likely to be unemployed, which has been driven in part by inflexible recruitment practices and discrimination from employers and when people with mental health problems are in work, they are more likely to be in the lowest paid occupations and face significant challenges in accessing higher paid jobs People with mental health problems are more likely to receive benefits, which provide a low level of financial support and they have also been hit harder by the freeze in working-related benefits.This report takes a longer-term look at the labour market and social security system, to help us understand how outcomes in each drive the mental health income gap and the challenges people with mental health problems can face. Mental health income gap is both large and long-standing. With typical incomes of people experiencing some mental health problems just two-thirds that of those without similar conditions, closing this gap will be a huge task. Nor is the income gap a new development or driven exclusively by recent changes; many of the issues identified in the analysis of the data and according to this report are embedded in the practices of employers and the social security system[Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.moneyandmentalhealth.org%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2020%2F09%2FMind-the-income-gap.pdf&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731033617&sdata=yazkmWaqpDJeHoj30J0%2BXFs825Wm3c58zfpr3gCZqjw%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Covid-19 and the Nation's Mental Health: Forecasting Needs and Risks in the UK**The Covid-19 pandemic has created economic, health and social uncertainty and insecurity. The impact on our mental health and corresponding need for mental health services is unknown and difficult to forecast. While the impact on our mental health and need for mental health services is yet unknown, it is crucial that we prepare for an increase in demand to protect people’s wellbeing across the country. Some groups are more at risk of experiencing mental ill health, including people with existing mental health conditions, NHS workers, ICU patients and their families, those who have been bereaved and those affected by unemployment. The report suggests that the Government and the NHS should take steps now to prepare for this additional need among people of all ages. A proactive, timely, compassionate and effective response will help people experiencing mental health difficulties before they reach crisis point.[Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.centreformentalhealth.org.uk%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fpublication%2Fdownload%2FCentreforMentalHealth_COVID_MH_Forecasting3_Oct20_0.pdf&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731043571&sdata=nFsG34N9K2pEFE%2BjNLC2BVaPtse8UOzx7cOqQ8ChrxA%3D&reserved=0) |
| **We Stopped the Most Distressing Debt Threats!**The Money and Mental Health Policy Institute have lobbied the government to make changes to the rules on the content of the most distressing debt collection letters. With millions of people facing financial difficulties as a result of Covid-19, this news couldn’t be better timed. The changes include, removing the requirement for large chunks of text to be written in capital letters, making the letters easier to understand, by adding explanations of complex legal terms where these have to be used and updating the signposting to help people find free debt advice.[Report and blog](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.moneyandmentalhealth.org%2Fstop-the-debt-threats-win-announcement%2F&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731043571&sdata=KnQp1LoZYk8O45vtDNEubast6goeNAwGXT8XVfIX4bY%3D&reserved=0) |
| **The Broken Plate 2020: The State of the Nation’s Food System**This report presents 10 vital signs that document the health of our food system, how it impacts on our lives, and why we must change the food environment. It highlights the struggle for lower-income families to afford a healthy diet, arguing that 20 per cent of households with the lowest levels of disposable income would have to spend 39 per cent of their disposable income in order to eat a healthy diet, as defined by the government’s recommended Eatwell Guide.The report suggests that we need to address both the health implications of the food system and the growing food insecurity that many of our fellow citizens face day in and day out. This report aims to inform the change that is needed to reverse the human and environmental impacts of a damaging food environment. The report explains why we must change the food system if we are to improve the nation’s health. [Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffoodfoundation.org.uk%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2020%2F09%2FFF-Broken-Plate-2020-DIGITAL-FULL.pdf%3Futm_source%3DThe%2520King%2527s%2520Fund%2520newsletters%2520%2528main%2520account%2529%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3D11824179_NEWSL_HWB_2020-09-28%26dm_i%3D21A8%2C71FLF%2CFLWQCU%2CSGGGQ%2C1&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731053540&sdata=7hyugymGq%2BoTuCv3xtW2ep5MmvlRHkEoUnzSvWp9kLo%3D&reserved=0) |
| **The Long Shadow of Deprivation: Differences in Opportunities Across England**Fifty local authorities have both very low levels of pay for those from disadvantaged backgrounds and a big pay gap between those from poorer and more affluent families. It is in these areas – the ‘coldest’ spots in the country – where this report provides a clear roadmap of priority areas where local politicians, metro mayors and employers can choose to redouble their efforts. At the national level, government has made some useful inroads to addressing disparities of place. Both the Towns Fund and Opportunity Areas have made a helpful contribution and started to shift the dial in places where geographical disadvantage is entrenched. The good news is that many of the coldest spots are being addressed by existing interventions. A socially mobile country provides equal opportunities for everyone, across big cities and small towns, and regardless of whether your parents are rich or poor. This report highlights the differences in social mobility opportunities within local areas in England. It finds that social mobility in England is a postcode lottery, with large differences across areas in both the adult pay of disadvantaged adults, and the size of the pay gap for those from deprived families, relative to those from affluent families. The research shines a spotlight most clearly on the areas not covered by these programmes. The findings of the report align with the Commission’s monitoring of social mobility, and with previous recommendations to embed social mobility into the delivery process and outcomes data (such as in the Towns Fund) and to think beyond educational levers to address social mobility (such as in Opportunity Areas). [Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fassets.publishing.service.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fuploads%2Fsystem%2Fuploads%2Fattachment_data%2Ffile%2F917278%2FThe_long_shadow_of_deprivation_-_differences_in_opportunities_across_England.pdf%3Futm_source%3DThe%2520King%2527s%2520Fund%2520newsletters%2520%2528main%2520account%2529%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3D11824179_NEWSL_HWB_2020-09-28%26dm_i%3D21A8%2C71FLF%2CFLWQCU%2CSF9I6%2C1&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731053540&sdata=ZQRO1r3S5hMCo5uMCtGC5CiTxM%2BuNURFhmxE%2B04WY7Y%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Lockdown, Lifelines and the Long Haul Ahead: The Impact of Covid-19 on Food Banks in the Trussell Trust Network**Levels of need at food banks in the Trussell Trust network were rising steadily in the years before the pandemic. The need to use a food bank is typically caused by some combination of inadequate or reduced benefits, a challenging life experience (such as illness or a household breakdown) and a lack of informal and / or formal support. This report presents findings of research carried out by the Trussell Trust and Heriot Watt University. It estimates that 846,000 food parcels will need to be provided to people in crisis during October to December 2020 – a 61 per cent increase on last year. It also estimates that an additional 670,000 people will be destitute by the end of the year, meaning they cannot afford essentials such as housing, energy and food.  [Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.trusselltrust.org%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2Fsites%2F2%2F2020%2F09%2Fthe-impact-of-covid-19-on-food-banks-report.pdf%3Futm_source%3DThe%2520King%2527s%2520Fund%2520newsletters%2520%2528main%2520account%2529%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3D11824179_NEWSL_HWB_2020-09-28%26dm_i%3D21A8%2C71FLF%2CFLWQCU%2CSEMPW%2C1&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731063487&sdata=KpXz9CuuP0clSNpFBEvStr0t20Q6KZjcUunY%2FBexRMs%3D&reserved=0) |
| **The Economy of Wellbeing: What is it and What are the Implications for Health?**The concept of wellbeing is often used interchangeably with concepts such as happiness or social welfare, although some commentators have explored distinctions between them In practice, a common approach has been to assess an individual’s wellbeing through survey questions about their life satisfaction using simple self-assessment questions. Health makes a large contribution to most measures of wellbeing, but it is by no means the main or even most reliable element of wellbeing. This article suggests that health policy makers and analysts should consider new approaches that highlight the multiple direct and indirect pathways by which health systems contribute to wellbeing and ensure that these are incorporated into evaluation methods[Article](file://\\wakefield.gov.uk\datastore\Public%20Health\Joint%20Public%20Health\Minding%20the%20Gap\2012%20and%20beyond\LA%20Newsletters\The%20concept%20of%20wellbeing%20is%20often%20used%20interchangeably%20with%20concepts%20such%20as%20happiness%20or%20social%20welfare,%20although%20some%20commentators%20have%20explored%20distinctions%20between%20them.4%20In%20practice,%20a%20common%20approach%20has%20been%20to%20assess%20an%20individual’s%20wellbeing%20through%20survey%20questions%20about%20their%20life%20satisfaction%20using%20simple%20self-assessment%20questions%20such%20as,%20“How%20satisfied%20are%20you%20with%20your%20life%20nowadays) |
| **No Way Out: Children Stuck in B&Bs during Lockdown**Lockdown has impacted on all children, but at a time when so much of life is centred on the home, it has had stark implications for children who are homeless and around 120,000 children are being housed by their council in temporary accommodation. The very nature of this means that these conditions make it difficult for families to take protective measures and socially distance in the ways called for by Government guidance. These conditions also present real challenges to children who were unable to attend school and therefore needed to do schoolwork from their B&Bs. This report highlights that homeless children will need to be prioritised for extra support, including tuition and other catch up help at school being funded by the Department for Education’s £1billion catch-up programme. In the event of further lockdowns, the Government must work with councils to move families out of B&Bs and provide the funding to enable them to do so. There is more that needs to be done to prevent a new wave of family homelessness over the next few months and there needs to be a package of support put in place to help families meet housing costs, as the eviction ban and furlough scheme come to the end.This report suggests, it is critical that councils and the Government ensure they are better prepared for the possibility of more local lockdowns or a second wave. The first wave saw the government take unprecedented action to get rough sleepers off the streets, but there was no similar drive to protect homeless families across the country. The ending of the eviction ban in August and the furlough scheme in October are likely to add further pressure as more families are likely to be made homeless at these points. The report calls for support for children who were homeless during lockdown and that all families housed in B&Bs to be moved out of them in the event of further local or national lockdowns and that there should be action to prevent new family homelessness in the coming weeks and months.[Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2020%2F08%2Fcco-no-way-out.pdf&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731063487&sdata=5W9qtBGPvQs26Sp2n%2B9A%2F6O9Rsa2c8DrW%2BsjKfx23mA%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Level or Not? Comparing General Practice in Areas of High and Low Socioeconomic Deprivation in England**Ensuring equal access for equal need is a fundamental principle of the NHS, but need for health care is not equally distributed across the country. People living in socioeconomically deprived areas are at greater risk of having multiple health conditions, and are likely to have multiple conditions at younger ages. Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy are also lower in areas of high deprivation. In 2017, healthy life expectancy at birth was on average 12 years lower for people living in the most deprived local authority areas in England as compared to the least.General practice plays a vital role in the NHS. For the majority of the population it is the main source of health care services, providing over 1.2 million appointments in England every weekday. General practice plays a key part in promoting health, preventing disease, and managing chronic illness. It helps to keep people well and out of hospital, and acts as a gatekeeper for access to other parts of the health care system.This briefing explores the current relationship between population need and supply in general practice and seeks to answer the question, how does general practice compare in areas of higher and lower socioeconomic deprivation in England? [Briefing](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.health.org.uk%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fupload%2Fpublications%2F2020%2FLevelOrNot_Web1_0.pdf&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731063487&sdata=wD1xAwT0%2B4WidTSHVFUN8EbDVBY1Xfeb0GHA3Je9%2FrM%3D&reserved=0) |
| **The COVID-19 Pandemic and Health Inequalities**This essay examines the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic for health inequalities. It outlines historical and contemporary evidence of inequalities in pandemics—drawing on international research into the Spanish influenza pandemic of 1918, the H1N1 outbreak of 2009 and the emerging international estimates of socio-economic, ethnic and geographical inequalities in COVID-19 infection and mortality rates. It then examines how these inequalities in COVID-19 are related to existing inequalities in chronic diseases and the social determinants of health, arguing that we are experiencing a syndemic pandemic. It then explores the potential consequences for health inequalities of the lockdown measures implemented internationally as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, focusing on the likely unequal impacts of the economic crisis. The essay concludes by reflecting on the longer-term public health policy responses needed to ensure that the COVID-19 pandemic does not increase health inequalities for future generations.[Essay](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fjech.bmj.com%2Fcontent%2Fearly%2F2020%2F06%2F13%2Fjech-2020-214401.full&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731073444&sdata=B3gohTBxfNzEjhllD096iTqTEo8d1Jw%2BI7%2FD0JbhScQ%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Worst Hit: Dementia During Coronavirus**Since the coronavirus (Covid-19) lockdown on 23 March, this investigation found family and friends have spent an extra 92 million hours caring for loved ones with dementia, due to the double impact of lockdown making dementia symptoms worse, and the chronically underfunded social care system leaving them nowhere else to turn. The COVID-19 pandemic has dreadfully exposed the dire state of social care and made the need for urgent reform indisputable. We welcome the Government’s confirmation of a public inquiry so that lessons can be learnt, and the same mistakes not repeated. However, they must ensure that the needs and views of people affected by dementia, as those worst hit by the pandemic, are recognised as central to this process. The report suggests that the government must fix social care now, learning lessons to avoid further winter tragedy, as dementia carers struggle with depression, insomnia and exhaustion.[Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.alzheimers.org.uk%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2F2020-09%2FWorst-hit-Dementia-during-coronavirus-report.pdf%3Futm_source%3DThe%2520King%2527s%2520Fund%2520newsletters%2520%2528main%2520account%2529%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3D11848312_NEWSL_HMP%25202020-09-29%26dm_i%3D21A8%2C71Y7S%2CFLWQCU%2CSI4WW%2C1&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731073444&sdata=6sCnDyEbHURC%2BfBX1eGZc9HBRrnLQP5VCGyoPiGO87s%3D&reserved=0) |
| **COVID-19 and English Council Funding: What is the Medium-Term Outlook?**The COVID-19 crisis is having immediate effects on councils’ budgets as a result of increases in spending on local services and reductions in income from sales, fees and charges and commercial activities. However, the crisis will cast a longer shadow on councils’ finances. There will be reduced council tax and business rates revenues collected this year which will feed through to budgets over the next three years. In addition, the COVID-19-related spending pressures and reductions in revenues are likely to persist for some time, leaving a funding gap. This report considers how councils’ revenues and spending needs may evolve over the period to 2024–25, accounting for both the impact of COVID-19 and the pre-COVID funding outlook.[Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fifs.org.uk%2Fuploads%2FR179-COVID-19-and-English-council-funding-what-is-the-medium-term-outlook-1.pdf%3Futm_source%3DThe%2520King%2527s%2520Fund%2520newsletters%2520%2528main%2520account%2529%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3D11848312_NEWSL_HMP%25202020-09-29%26dm_i%3D21A8%2C71Y7S%2CFLWQCU%2CSHB3A%2C1&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731073444&sdata=r70k0r%2FVHwXo%2F9DcT1C0SeKDysF%2BTvd90vHBUlG0uYg%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Social Mobility and COVID-19: Implications Of The Covid-19 Crisis For Educational Inequality**The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are far reaching and are likely to impact on practically every area of government policy for a long time to come. This briefing covers the Sutton Trust’s immediate concerns, based on the information available, looking at how the crisis is likely to impact the most disadvantaged young people through their time in education and into the workplace. It includes immediate areas of concern which will need quick action from policymakers, as well as areas which will need further research in the coming weeks and months. In the longer term, the economic impact is likely to have a profound impact on social mobility, with the damage caused leading to fewer job opportunities, which will in turn likely fuel greater inequality of opportunity.[Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.suttontrust.com%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2020%2F04%2FCOVID-19-and-Social-Mobility-1.pdf&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731083401&sdata=MbxnzfvMkxFLTpH9%2Fs14aEg4OUukYsAQab7hQ%2BSgVVE%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Apprenticeships and Social Mobility: Fulfilling Potential**Apprenticeships are one of the few indisputably effective tools of social mobility currently available to the government. There is now a mountain of evidence to confirm the benefits they confer on workplace learners – such as enhanced career earnings, continued education and richer, more fulfilled working lives. This report suggests that the system is not working. Instead, the main beneficiaries of apprenticeships are the people who do not need them. This study explains how the apprenticeship levy has disproportionately funded higher-level apprenticeships for learners from more advantaged communities, rather than those from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds, who would benefit more. The research also reveals how disadvantage gaps exist at every stage of the apprenticeship journey, from initial selection of candidates by employers to the quality of training disadvantaged apprentices get. Geography is also an issue. Lack of opportunities in deprived areas can force disadvantaged learners to undertake expensive and difficult journeys to reach work.[Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fassets.publishing.service.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fuploads%2Fsystem%2Fuploads%2Fattachment_data%2Ffile%2F894303%2FApprenticeships_and_social_mobility_report.pdf&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731083401&sdata=hI1kgx4zptMZap0r5U128vV0wfv2M4dWztZbfXPetgI%3D&reserved=0) |
| **‘It’s Everywhere’ – Alcohol’s Public Face and Private Harm**Alcohol is celebrated throughout our society and culture. Yet the harm caused by alcohol – physical, mental, economic and social – is everywhere, hidden in plain sight and often endured privately. This report examines the lives of people that are most affected by alcohol and those who best understand its impact and the voices often missing from policy discussions. The report called for evidence from people with personal experience of alcohol harm from hospitals, local councils, UK and devolved government, academics and universities, alcohol treatment providers, the alcohol industryThe report calls for an alcohol strategy to help put an end to alcohol harm. This strategy should be coordinated with devolved national governments so that reserved policies, such as alcohol duty, can complement devolved policies, such as minimum unit pricing.[Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2F12coez15v41j2cf7acjzaodh-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2020%2F09%2F10_07_20-JK-smallest-file-size.pdf%3Futm_source%3DThe%2520King%2527s%2520Fund%2520newsletters%2520%2528main%2520account%2529%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3D11824179_NEWSL_HWB_2020-09-28%26dm_i%3D21A8%2C71FLF%2CFLWQCU%2CSEEJ7%2C1&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731093359&sdata=AUxahadn3paukzmoPcxoW1ExWVaFjLfZ6EQ0tHFW8Hs%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Signalling Virtue, Promoting Harm Unhealthy Commodity Industries and Covid-19**[Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fncdalliance.org%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fresource_files%2FSignalling%2520Virtue%252C%2520Promoting%2520Harm_Sept2020_FINALv.pdf&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731093359&sdata=kJTpr5MakgbGKblARy2IFpx2qxtXFd5WjIrVccoQvK8%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Homes, Health and COVID-19**For some, the guidance to stay at home has meant more time with loved ones, catching up on DIY projects and a newly found appreciation for afternoons in the garden. For some, lockdown at home has been a positive change for their wellbeing. However, lockdown has not been experienced in the same way by all. In the same way that certain groups have disproportionately been hit by the spread and worst outcomes of Covid-19, these same groups are often disproportionately impacted by the measures taken to control it. Those living in the 4.3 million homes that do not meet the minimum requirements defined by the government’s Decent Homes Standard, and the near 800,000 people living in homes that are overcrowded, are living through lockdown with a very different perspective.This report summarises what existing research tells us about the role and impact of poor-quality housing on health, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The report offers an insight into the current context of poor housing and identifies the key pathways in which poor-quality housing can impact health. The report examines the various housing interventions that have been found to improve health and prevent ill-health.[Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ageing-better.org.uk%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2F2020-09%2FHomes-health-and-COVID-19.pdf&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731103315&sdata=YvQGMpAuBAbLsopRmpEeGl%2BcmdKstPnuIvYE3wJGVqk%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Where the UK Government is Going Wrong in its Coronavirus Messaging, According to a Marketing Expert**The UK is at a “perilous turning point” in the pandemic, with case numbers returning to levels seen in the spring and the threat of a second nationwide lockdown on the horizon. Public health measures will be crucial to controlling this second wave, but these will only work if people comply, but widespread confusion over the government’s advice is threatening public compliance. The use of complex, confusing and ever-changing coronavirus messaging is partly to blame. This article explains that this is a constantly changing situation and effective messaging to drive the public compliance needed to beat the virus[Article](file://\\wakefield.gov.uk\datastore\Public%20Health\Joint%20Public%20Health\Minding%20the%20Gap\2012%20and%20beyond\LA%20Newsletters\the%20constantly%20changing%20situation%20means%20the%20task%20the%20government%20faces%20is%20highly%20complex.%20Developing%20effective%20messaging%20for%20a%20brand%20is%20arguably%20more%20straightforward.%20Yet%20even%20well-known%20brands%20face%20turbulence%20and%20must%20evolve%20over%20time%20to%20survive.%20But%20while%20a%20good%20brand%20has%20a%20strong%20central%20theme%20on%20which%20to%20build,%20these%20foundations%20have%20largely%20been%20absent%20from%20the%20government’s%20coronavirus%20messaging.) |
| **The Facts About Herd Immunity and COVID-19: Why Aiming for Herd Immunity Still Makes No Sense for COVID-19**This article explains that when people are proposing herd immunity as an exit strategy for COVID-19, what they are implicitly arguing is that, once infected, you cannot get the disease again — you are immune. However, we do not yet know whether this is the case and the article suggests that ‘it simply isn’t the case’. There are already widespread reports of people getting re-infected with COVID-19, and worryingly some of these people are having MORE severe infections the second time around.[Article](file://\\wakefield.gov.uk\datastore\Public%20Health\Joint%20Public%20Health\Minding%20the%20Gap\2012%20and%20beyond\LA%20Newsletters\When%20people%20are%20proposing%20herd%20immunity%20as%20an%20exit%20strategy%20for%20COVID-19,%20what%20they%20are%20implicitly%20arguing%20is%20that,%20once%20infected,%20you%20cannot%20get%20the%20disease%20again%20—%20you%20are%20immune.) |
| **'Lockdown is Nothing New for Many Disabled People'**Disabled people have a long history of coming together to support each other when social systems fail the community. Clare Bonetree, a disabled artist and activist, realised that this experience could be an invaluable tool in responding to the Covid-19 pandemic. In this video she shares her experience of creating a forum to provide support and share expertise on how to maintain wellbeing during lockdown.[Video (Three minute Watch)](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.kingsfund.org.uk%2Faudio-video%2Fdisability-solidarity-covid-19-clare-bonetree%3Futm_source%3DThe%2520King%2527s%2520Fund%2520newsletters%2520%2528main%2520account%2529%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3D11874421_Copy%2520of%2520NEWSL_The%2520Weekly%2520Update%25202020-10-02%26utm_content%3Dltc_video%26dm_i%3D21A8%2C72ID1%2CFLWQCU%2CSJRAT%2C1&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731103315&sdata=bSJF41UHA9j7lLv9zzrKpEYtjGrhA%2B6SdWNIjxxrgRY%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Government must overcome its ‘centralising tendencies’ on test and trace**According to this article, the NHS Test & Trace needs to go back to first principles to develop a fully functioning system and avoid another national lockdown. A number of pilot schemes reached an increased proportion of people, improving those reached to 90 per cent from 79% by the national NHS Test & Trace call centres .They found that a local phone number, local voice, local knowledge and actually building a rapport with the person was central to increasing the yield.[Article](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.lgcplus.com%2Fpolitics%2Fcoronavirus%2Fmcmanus-government-must-overcome-its-centralising-tendencies-on-test-and-trace-06-10-2020%2F&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731113268&sdata=LRm8TUv5DdCrvhsveB7Nu%2FsB75UZk5L1VXTeOIlS47A%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Marmot Review 10 Years On**It has been ten years since the publication of The Marmot Review, for the first time in more than 100 years life expectancy has failed to increase across the country, and for the poorest 10% of women it has actually declined. Over the last decade health inequalities have widened overall, and the amount of time people spend in poor health has increased since 2010.                                                                                     #Marmot2020 confirms an increase in the north/south health gap, where the largest decreases were seen in the most deprived 10% of neighbourhoods in the North East, and the largest increases in the least deprived 10% of neighbourhoods in London.There are a number of key points made within the report, but the principle point I would like to make is that, the more deprived the area, the shorter the life expectancy. This social gradient has become steeper over the last decade, and women in the most deprived 10% of areas for whom life expectancy fell from 2010-12 and 2016-18. There are marked regional differences in life expectancy, particularly among people living in more deprived areas, a general point is that the North is doing worse than the South.Mortality rates are increasing for men and women aged 45-49 – perhaps related to so-called ‘deaths of despair’ (suicide, drugs and alcohol abuse) as seen in the USA. Child poverty has increased with children’s and youth centres have closing and the reduction in funding for education. There is a housing crisis and a rise in homelessness, people have insufficient income to lead a healthy life and there are more ignored communities with poor conditions leaving people with little reason for hope, aspiration and tangible possibility to improve their lot!Marmot Review 2020[Executive Summary](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.health.org.uk%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2F2020-03%2FHealth%2520Equity%2520in%2520England_The%2520Marmot%2520Review%252010%2520Years%2520On_executive%2520summary_web.pdf&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731113268&sdata=R9wA8H%2FvrWwrP5dLUwLlbtmKoHnXIVVv1ms9dcbw6dY%3D&reserved=0)[Full Report](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.health.org.uk%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fupload%2Fpublications%2F2020%2FHealth%2520Equity%2520in%2520England_The%2520Marmot%2520Review%252010%2520Years%2520On_full%2520report.pdf&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731113268&sdata=zgbvCHoMueMFtftpSTSyO%2FvZzGopCJptx06O4LFrIpc%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Research Assistant/Associate - Knowledge Exchange**Applications are invited for the position of Research Assistant/Associate - Knowledge Exchange to work at the interface between the NIHR Public Health Intervention Responsive Studies Teams (PHIRST) academic work programme and a wide range of policy and practice partner organisations in the field of public health.  The successful candidate will perform the role of Knowledge Exchange Broker (KEB) and will work across Local Government to broker selected intervention evaluations, which have been approved as eligible projects by the NIHR Public Health Research programme and allocated to our PHIRST. In addition to Fuse our PHIRST includes academic partners in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Yorkshire.This role is part time at 0.5 FTE and is Fixed Term until 31/07/2023. Further information can be obtained by contacting Mrs Laura Ritson (laura.ritson@ncl.ac.uk), PHIRST Project Manager. [Full details available here](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fjobs.ncl.ac.uk%2Fjob%2FNewcastle-Research-AssistantAssociate-Knowledge-Exchange%2F619995601%2F&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731123222&sdata=nLdS%2BuHKDD5E91Ml%2BFXjlBw3oFtHns4MI3HGoMXRR%2BI%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Inequalities and Marginalised Communities** **Venue:**             Online**Date:**                Wednesday, 7 October 2020**Time:**               14:00 – 16:00This is the first event for the Inequalities and Marginalised Communities theme.It aims to bring together partners, contributors and anyone else with an interest in this area of work.Hosted by Professor Clare Bambra, NIHR ARC NENC theme lead for Inequalities and Marginalised Communities, Professor of Public Health at Newcastle University.[For more information](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.co.uk%2Fe%2Finequalities-and-marginalised-communities-event-for-partners-tickets-120180638525&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731123222&sdata=ym17svEUNKbfbZoWEDtqk0T7pdZKL3ThgJomsg0mLRg%3D&reserved=0) |
| **COVID-19 and Health Inequalities: Levelling-Up in Our Post-Pandemic Future****Venue:**             Online**Date:**             Wednesday, 14th October 2020**Time:**             2:00 - 3:00pmChaired by Dr Luke Munford - Health Economist, University of ManchesterProfessor Clare Bambra, Professor of Public Health, Newcastle University and Inequalities Lead for the NIHR ARC North East and North Cumbria.**What can health organisations do to address inequalities?** Dr John Ford, Clinical Lecturer in Public Health at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG and the University of Cambridge Including an opportunity for Q&As with the panel**Who is it for?** Anyone with an interest in public health and inequalities – including researchers, policy makers and the practice community within the wider health system.Sign up here:[https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/covid-19-and-health-inequalities-tickets-122719307753](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.co.uk%2Fe%2Fcovid-19-and-health-inequalities-tickets-122719307753&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731133183&sdata=JoP7UrwV0MNhcyuznMtV2UXPl7fbmAfqHDLnXU6Wiug%3D&reserved=0) |
| **We’re Putting Local Authority Food Outlet Data on the Map – What’s Next?****Venue:**             Online**Date:**                Thursday, 15th October 2020**Time:**               10:00 - 12:00The Food Standards Agency publishes food outlet data online for all local authorities across England. Join NIHR-funded researchers as we reveal how complete and accurate these data are; how we’ve been working to preserve these data and to make them even more useful; and to discuss what’s next, including how we can help make the data work better for you.This workshop is designed for policymakers, and those working in planning, public health and environmental health in local and national government, including Public Health England (regional and national).[For more information](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fsphr.nihr.ac.uk%2Fnews-and-events%2Fwere-putting-local-authority-food-outlet-data-on-the-map-whats-next%2F&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731133183&sdata=2LvaEDMTrXjHrVxKVgcvC0pd9xWH6gKCbCUn5kXsI%2FM%3D&reserved=0) |
| **Living our Values Equality, diversity and inclusion in the British Association of Social Workers (BASW)****Venue:**             Online**Date:**             Thursday, 12th November, 2020**Time:**             16.00 to 17.15Social work has an international Code of Ethics that includes challenging discrimination and recognising diversity. BASW is engaged in extensive work to increase its equality, diversity and inclusion, and to support the social work profession to challenge inequality.This free online seminar will share experiences and learning from BASW’s equality, diversity and inclusion work. It will be place this in the context of international social work efforts to promote social justice and draw on learning from other countries, and will explore the challenges in BASW’s work and highlight factors that have supported change.This event will be held online from 16.00 to 17.10. For further details or to request your free seminar place please [click here](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.co.uk%2Fe%2Fliving-our-values-equality-diversity-and-inclusion-in-basw-registration-122557559961&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731133183&sdata=YTpcTp2%2B0aCrFNXaNqRfmJETieUvHbA8%2BO8qfd14pWM%3D&reserved=0)PLEASE NOTE that places are limited so please be sure you can attend before booking.  You must also be an Academy member in order to attend any events. If you are not yet a member you will be prompted to join when registering to attend this event. |
| **Prevention in Mental Health: From Theory to Practice** **Venue:** Online**Date:                7th – 10th December 2020**Mental ill health will always be a part of many people’s lives but, increasingly, many of the causes of mental ill health can be successfully addressed.  Preventive approaches can help to reduce levels of mental ill health in the population and can also mean that more people living with mental health problems are able to stay well and avoid relapse or crisis.The Covid-19 pandemic has shown that addressing growing levels of mental ill health is one of the defining public health challenges of our time. Preventive approaches are fundamental to achieving this, but there often needs to be greater clarity about what these mean in practice and how they can be implemented within the NHS, local communities, schools and families.From health promotion to suicide prevention, and from the role of general practitioners to that of local authorities, this conference will bring together experts from all parts of the health and care sector to discuss what prevention means with regard to mental health and how preventive approaches can be applied in practice. Join us to hear from a range of speakers, including academic and policy experts, national body leaders, frontline staff, experts by experience and young people.This event is run in partnership with the Mental Health Foundation. You can watch the sessions live or catch up on demand until Sunday 20 December.How does the virtual conference format work?Full programme coming soon.Early bird rates available until Sunday 8 November. Find out more and register [here](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.kingsfund.org.uk%2Fevents%2Fprevention-mental-health%3Futm_source%3DThe%2520King%2527s%2520Fund%2520newsletters%2520%2528main%2520account%2529%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3D11858934_MKEVT_J1344_Prevention%2520in%2520mental%2520health_Soft_launch%26utm_content%3DFind%2520out%2520more%2520and%2520register%26dm_i%3D21A8%2C726EU%2CFLWQCU%2CSI5Q3%2C1&data=02%7C01%7CAzariah.Jenney%40phe.gov.uk%7Cd7bc4383625f4d35e53e08d86b0978cb%7Cee4e14994a354b2ead475f3cf9de8666%7C0%7C0%7C637377035731143138&sdata=pMsxSpR4gIeXPsoHgIupuZdI9koJiLvXdcn%2BX92Kuzg%3D&reserved=0) |
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