

# WHAT'S NEW

IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE FORTNIGHTLY BULLETIN  
KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE WITH ALL THE LATEST RESEARCH AND GUIDANCE IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE WE COLLATE IT SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO

7<sup>th</sup> December 2018

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**Please note:**

Research articles and guidance are selected in accordance with agreed inclusion/exclusion criteria. This is available on request and will be reviewed regularly. In brief, research is taken only from peer-reviewed, generic public health journals; guidance is taken only from reputable national organisations such as NICE, SCIE and SIGN

Follow the weblinks provided to access abstracts or where available, full text articles. Sometimes full text articles are only available via an Athens account.

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**ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

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**1. Safeguarding Adults, England, 2017-18**

Author: NHS DIGITAL

Date: 20 November 2018

Abstract: This report provides the findings from the Safeguarding Adults Collection (SAC) for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018. Key Facts include:-

- 394,655 concerns of abuse were raised during 2017-18, an increase of 8.2% on the previous year.
- There were 150,070 safeguarding enquiries that started in the year; a decrease of 1,090 (0.7%) on 2016-17.
- The number of Section 42 enquiries that commenced during the year fell by 1.1% to 131,860 and involved 107,550 individuals. The number of other enquiries increased by 1.8% to 18,210 during the same period.
- Older people are much more likely to be the subject of a Section 42 safeguarding enquiry; one in every 43 adults aged 85 and above, compared to one in every 862 adults aged 18-64.
- The most common type of risk in Section 42 enquiries that concluded in the year was Neglect and Acts of Omission, which accounted for 32.1% of risks, and the most common location of the risk was the person's own home at 43.5%. In 68.5% of Section 42 enquiries a risk was identified and action was taken.

Websites [NHS Digital](#)

**2. Review of Adult Social Care Complaints 2017-2018**

Author: LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN

Date: November 2018

Abstract: Over the past year, the Ombudsman has become increasingly concerned about the way some authorities are handling the need to balance the pressures they are under with the way they assess and charge for care. This report, which looks at the data behind every adult social care complaint the Ombudsman has received over the 12-month period, shows there has been a nine per cent increase in complaints about charging. And of those complaints, it is upholding 67% - higher than the average uphold rate for adult social care of 62%, and greater still than the 57% uphold rate for all complaints the Ombudsman investigates.

Websites [Report](#); [News](#)

**3. How do people access and experience home adaptations? Perspectives from people in later life and practitioners**

Author: HODGSON, P

Date: 29 November 2018

Abstract: This case study report summarises the findings from recent research conducted on the lived

experiences of home adaptations, funded by the Centre for Ageing Better. It draws on the views of both people in later life and practitioners to explore their home adaptations journey, including triggers, access, installation and outcomes.

Websites [Housing LIN](#)

#### **4. Primary care home and social care: working together**

Author: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIMARY CARE; ASSOCIATION OF DIRECTORS OF ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES

Date: 29 November 2018

Abstract: The National Association of Primary Care (NAPC) and Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) have launched a joint publication on how adult social care and primary care can work more closely together through the primary care home (PCH) model, an established primary care network. At a time when the health and social care community await both the new NHS 10-year plan and a green paper on social care, this report leads the way in highlighting the opportunities for a more joined up approach to enhance support for those in the greatest need, enabling them to live as healthily and independently as possible. Based on evidence and experience from across England, the guide examines barriers and challenges for integration and provides a toolkit for addressing the most common difficulties. It describes opportunities for collaboration and integration at the level of the individual patient, the local population and the wider system.

Websites [NAPC](#); [ADASS](#)

#### **5. Help at Home - Use of assistive technology for older people**

Author: NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH RESEARCH

Date: December 2018

Abstract: More people are living longer with complex conditions and needs. Technology can help people to stay living well and safely at home as they get older. But technology is changing rapidly and it can be challenging to get the right technology for the right person with the right support. There has been considerable investment recently in developing and evaluating assistive technologies for older people. But this is a relatively new field and there are important gaps in what we know. This review presents a selection of recent research on assistive technology for older people funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and other government funders. This has been selected with help from an expert steering group. In this review we focus on research around the use of technology in the home, remote monitoring systems and designing better environments for older people.

Websites [Report](#); [Further details](#)

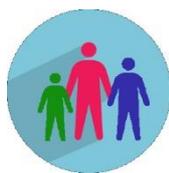
#### **6. Post-diagnostic support for dementia: What can be learned from service providers' experiences, model variation and information recording?**

Author: LEVIN, K.A

Journal: Health Education Vol: 118 Part: 4: Pages: 320-338

Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to examine three interpretations of post-diagnostic support (PDS) for dementia, to understand how best to support people recently diagnosed with dementia. Caseload varied greatly between sectors. Stage of disease and socioeconomic make-up of the local population were raised as factors determining the form of PDS offered. Some pillars appeared to be more easily achieved than others. There was a general agreement among all staff that "caseload" was misleading and that a measurement of workload would be preferable. Agile/mobile working was preferred by linkworkers. Even within teams there was variation in perceptions of PDS; some felt the linkworker role to be one of signposting, while others felt more involved with their client group, and for longer than 12 months. There is a growing interest in PDS for dementia. However, little is known about what a model of PDS should look like. This study attempts to capture the most important aspects of PDS delivery.

Websites [Emerald Insight](#)



## CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & FAMILIES

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### 7. Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), UK: November 2018

Author: OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS

Date: 22 November 2018

Abstract: Estimates of young people (aged 16 to 24 years) who are not in education, employment or training, by age and sex. Main points for July to September 2018:

- There were 760,000 young people (aged 16 to 24 years) in the UK who were not in education, employment or training (NEET); this number decreased by 23,000 from April to June 2018 and was down 29,000 when compared with July to September 2017.
- The percentage of all young people in the UK who were NEET was 10.9%; the proportion was down 0.3 percentage points from April to June 2018 and down 0.3 percentage points from July to September 2017.
- Of all young people in the UK who were NEET, 37.0% were looking for work and available for work and therefore classified as unemployed; the remainder were either not looking for work and/or not available for work and therefore classified as economically inactive.

Websites [ONS](#)

### 8. Young People and Gambling

Author: GAMBLING COMMISSION

Date: November 2018

Abstract: This report explores the gambling behaviours of young people aged between 11-16 years old in England, Scotland and Wales. The survey conducted by Ipsos MORI finds

- 14% Percentage of 11-16 year olds that have gambled in the last week
- 66% Percentage of 11-16 year olds that have seen gambling advertising on TV
- 1.7% Percentage of 11-16 year olds that are defined as problem gamblers
- 26% Percentage of 11-16 year olds that have seen their parents gamble
- 13% Percentage of 11-16 year olds that have played online-gambling style games
- 12% Percentage of 11-16 year olds that follow gambling companies on social media

Websites [Gambling Commission](#)

### 9. European status report on preventing child maltreatment (2018)

Author: WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION Regional Office for Europe

Date: November 2018

Abstract: Child maltreatment is a major public health problem, affecting at least 55 million children in the WHO European Region. The impact of abuse and/or neglect in childhood is detrimental to physical, psychological and reproductive health throughout the life-course, yet the high costs to society are avoidable. There are clear risk factors for maltreatment at the level of the individual, family, community and society. This

status report documents the progress that has been made by Member States in implementing the WHO European child maltreatment prevention action plan 2015–2020 at its midpoint. The plan has a target of a 20% reduction in child maltreatment and homicides by 2020.

Websites [WHO](#)

#### **10. Children's and young people's experiences of loneliness: 2018**

Author: OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS

Date: 05 December 2018

Abstract: Analysis of children's and young people's views, experiences and suggestions to overcome loneliness, using in-depth interviews, the Community Life Survey 2016 to 2017 and Good Childhood Index Survey, 2018.

Websites [ONS](#)

#### **11. Referrals and Child Protection in England: One in Five Children Referred to Children's Services and One in Nineteen Investigated before the Age of Five**

Author: BILSON, A

Journal: British Journal of Social Work Vol: 47 Part: 3: Pages: 793

Abstract: Based on a Freedom of Information request with data from 75 per cent of all English children's services departments covering over half a million children, this paper shows that 22.5 per cent of children born in the 2009–10 financial year were referred to children's social care before their fifth birthday. Three-quarters of them were at some point assessed, almost two-thirds found to be in need and a quarter formally investigated. These findings show the full extent of children's involvement in children's social care before the age of five. One in every nine children born in 2009–10 was suspected by social workers of being abused and this high level of involvement is only justifiable if it is demonstrably reducing harm and promoting well-being of children—an outcome which is contested. Early Help's introduction was associated with high proportions of children being referred and assessed and rapidly increasing numbers of investigations, thus questioning its ability to prevent entry to the child protection system. The paper calls for a change from the current emphasis on individualised and investigative approaches to child protection in order to provide an effective and humane response to children, the majority of whom live in families affected by high levels of deprivation and poverty.

Websites [Oxford](#)

#### **12. Randomized controlled trial of educational intervention to increase consumption of vegetables by Japanese university students**

Author: OHTSUKI, M

Journal: Health Education Vol: 118 Part: 4: Pages: 290-303

Abstract: This study is an open, parallel randomized controlled trial for 25 weeks. University students aged 18–24 years were divided into an intervention group and a control group. Vegetable intake was assessed using a questionnaire. The purpose of this paper is to evaluate the effect of an educational intervention to increase vegetable consumption by university students. On investigation, the results indicated that the vegetable intake of the intervention group was well maintained at the end of the study, whereas that of the control group was significantly decreased by the seasonal change. This research showed that using three educational projects could significantly improve the vegetable consumption of university students. These results suggest that the educational approach is a promising method to improve the vegetable consumption status, particularly the consumption of green and yellow vegetables, by university students.

Websites [Emerald Insight](#)

**13. Intra-familial stigmatization: An adverse outcome of a family-based health education intervention to reduce childhood obesity**

Author: HOEEG, D

Journal: Health Education Vol: 118 Part: 3: Pages: 227-238

Abstract: To treat childhood obesity, health education interventions are often aimed at the whole family. However, such interventions seem to have a relatively limited effect on weight loss. The purpose of this paper is to examine how families enrolled in a family-based health education intervention manage the intervention in their daily lives and to understand how and why intra-familial conflicts may occur. The findings show that actively involving all family members in the intervention proved difficult in many families. Often, the children experienced inconsistent family support, which led to intra-familial conflicts. When parents were unsuccessful in changing unhealthy habits, the responsibility for healthy living was often passed on to the obese child. Thus, several families managed the intervention by making specific rules that only the obese child was required to adhere to. This resulted in several children feeling stigmatized in their own family. The study concludes that professionals working with family-based health education interventions should understand that, in order to minimize the risk of intra-familial conflicts and stigmatization of the obese child, all family members must be equally committed to the lifestyle intervention.

Websites [Emerald Insight](#)

**14. Eating and risk: adolescents' reasoning regarding body and image**

Author: RENDAHL, J

Journal: Health Education Vol: 118 Part: 3: Pages: 262-276

Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to explore and elucidate adolescents' reasoning about risks related to food and eating. Boys and girls aged 15-16 years participated in a focus group interview with role-playing as a stimulus for discussion and reflection. The findings suggested that there were two main themes of risk profiling related to eating. One concerned bodily risk related to the food ingested and included concerns both about not reaching health and performance due to the unfavourable intake of calories, nutrients, additives, bacteria, viruses and parasites, and threats to immediate well-being following consumption. The second main category concerned the risk of being conspicuous, or "sticking out", which incorporated food-based gender norms and norms related to table manners. In practice, the risk of not displaying an appropriate image of themselves through their food and eating choices was more prominent than risk perceptions related to impacts of food choices on well-being and performance. Difficulties in classifying foods as "good" or "bad" enhanced their uncertainty. The results suggest that health-promotion activities for young people should focus not only on how to feed their bodies but also on how to avoid feeding their anxieties.

Websites [Emerald Insight](#)

**15. Gamification of health education: Schoolchildren's participation in the development of a serious game to promote health and learning**

Author: KOSTENIUS, C

Journal: Health Education Vol: 118 Part: 4: Pages: 354-368

Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to examine how a participatory approach can deepen the understanding of how schoolchildren relate to and use gamification as a tool to promote physical activity and learning. Inspired by the concept and process of empowerment and child participation, the methodological focus of this study was on consulting schoolchildren. During a two-month period, 18 schoolchildren (10-12 years old) participated in workshops to create game ideas that would motivate them to be physically active and learn in school. Findings show that the phenomenological analysis resulted in one main theme, "Playing games for fun to be the best I can be." This consisted of four themes with two sub-themes each. The findings offer insights on how to increase physical activity and health education opportunities using serious games in school.

Websites [Emerald Insight](#)

**16. Friends drinking together: young adults' evolving support practices**

Author: DRESLER, E

Journal: Health Education Vol: 118 Part: 3: Pages: 212-226

Abstract: Young adult's drinking is about pleasure, a communal practice of socialising together in a friendship group. The purpose of this paper is to investigate the evolving support practices of drinking groups for better targeting of health communications messages. This qualitative descriptive study examined the narratives of 28 young people's (age 18-24 years old) experience of a "night out" framed as the Alcohol Consumption Journey. Findings show that the Alcohol Consumption Journey ritual consisted of three phases: preloading, going out and recovery. The participants described multiple forms of support practices located at each phase of the Alcohol Consumption Journey for maximising pleasure, minimising risk, encouraging supportive behaviours, enhancing group cohesion and protecting the drinkers from alcohol-related harm. Hence, support practices played a critical part in constituting and consolidating the drinking group. While the support practices appeared to be structured into the Alcohol Consumption Journey, they were activated differently for young men and young women. Support practices were an important driver in perpetuating the Alcohol Consumption Journey.

Websites [Emerald Insight](#)

**HEALTH CARE PUBLIC HEALTH**

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**17. National Cardiac Audit Programme (NCAP) Annual Report 2018**

Author: HEALTHCARE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP

Date: 22 November 2018

Abstract: This report by NCAP reports on six major national clinical audits of care of patients treated in the UK for heart disease. The six audits are: Congenital audit, Heart Attack audit, Angioplasty audit, Adult Surgery audit, Heart Failure audit and Arrhythmia audit. This aggregate report highlights aspects of safety, clinical effectiveness and patient outcomes. The audit findings recognise areas of clinical excellence that can be adopted across the NHS, but also identify areas where care falls below expected standards. These standards should be used to determine local and national quality improvement aims for clinicians, service managers and commissioners. The emphasis of this report has moved away from the simple reporting of data to the recommendation of key national improvement targets and the highlighting of best practice. The report focuses on quality improvements grouped around three themes:

- Patient outcomes
- Safety
- Clinical effectiveness

Websites [HQIP](#)

**18. Medical & Surgical Review Programme: Acute Heart Failure Report 2018**

Author: HEALTHCARE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP

Date: 22 November 2018

Abstract: This report provides a focused review of the quality of care provided to patients who were admitted to hospital with acute heart failure. In England and Wales there is an almost five-fold variation in inpatient mortality due to heart failure between acute hospitals (lowest 6%, highest 26%). The study presented in this

report was proposed to explore the variation in the organisation of heart failures services and clinical care for patients with acute heart failure on arrival at, and admission to, hospitals in the United Kingdom.

Websites [HQIP](#)

### **19. Unfinished business: An assessment of the national approach to improving cancer services in England 1995–2015**

Author: RICHARDS, M

Date: November 2018

Abstract: This report looks at progress in cancer care over two decades. It finds that progress has been made on reducing mortality, and improving the chances of survival and the experience of care, for people in England diagnosed with cancer. However, despite persistent ambitions to be the best in Europe and the world, the gap in survival rates has not been closed. The report sets out recommendations to help close the gap in survival between England and other comparable countries.

Websites [Health Foundation](#)



## **HEALTH IMPROVEMENT**

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### **20. A vision for population health: Towards a healthier future**

Author: BUCK, D

Date: 27 November 2018

Abstract: Substantial improvements in life expectancy over the past 100 years mean that people are living longer, healthier lives than ever before. However, England lags behind other countries on many key health outcomes, improvements in life expectancy have stalled and health inequalities are widening. This report sets out The King's Fund's vision for population health, their reasoning behind why such a vision is urgently needed and the next steps on the journey towards achieving it.

Websites [King's Fund](#); [King's Fund Press Release](#)

### **21. Shooting Up: infections among people who inject drugs in the UK**

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 19 November 2018

Abstract: The annual Shooting Up report provides an overview of infections among people who inject drugs (PWID) in the UK.

Websites [PHE](#)

### **22. Public Health and Alcohol**

Author: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

Date: November 2018

Abstract: It is universally acknowledged that alcohol is a major contributing factor to health. Despite this,

alcohol-related risk/harm is often overlooked even though the impact is visible in the major spheres of life. To help drive a conversation about alcohol, this collation of papers highlights key alcohol research across a range of Oxford University Press Journals. The article collection explores some of the different areas impacted by alcohol such as childhood to parenthood, the older population, disease, ethics, policy, prevention, technology, and the workplace.

Websites [OUP](#)

### **23. Alcohol Framework 2018 (Scotland)**

Author: SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Date: 20 November 2018

Abstract: The Scottish Government has published a new Alcohol Framework 2018, outlining 20 key actions that seek to 'reduce consumption and minimise alcohol-related harm arising in the first place'. The strategy follows on from the [implementation of Minimum Unit Pricing \(MUP\)](#) earlier this year after a long running legal challenge by sections of the alcohol industry. Alcohol Policy UK explores the issues surrounding the framework and compares it to work reported to be in development on a new national alcohol policy for England and Wales.

Websites [Scottish Government](#); [Alcohol Policy UK](#)

### **24. The Alcohol Change Report**

Author: ALCOHOL CHANGE UK

Date: November 2018

Abstract: Alcohol Change UK is an alcohol charity formed from the merger of Alcohol Concern and Alcohol Research UK. This report sets out their approach to alcohol harm and how they will work with Government, public bodies, organisations, charities and individuals to reduce it. But more than that, it looks at the UK today and makes the case for some key changes that we must all work towards if our society is to end serious alcohol harm.

Websites [Alcohol Change UK](#)

### **25. Overwhelming public support for sugar and calorie reduction**

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 20 November 2018

Abstract: A new survey from Public Health England (PHE) shows overwhelming public support for reducing sugar and calories in everyday foods. The survey, carried out by Ipsos MORI, found around 9 in 10 people support the government working with the food industry (manufacturers, supermarkets and the eating out of home sector) to make everyday foods and drinks healthier. Helping the NHS was named as one of the main reasons for people supporting this work. The survey explored the public's perception of obesity, and PHE's reduction programmes that have challenged the food industry to reduce sugar and calories by 20% in everyday foods such as breakfast cereals, yoghurts and pizzas, as well as ready meals.

Websites [PHE](#)

### **26. Cycling and walking for individual and population health benefits: A rapid evidence review for health and care system decision-makers**

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: November 2018

Abstract: Regular physical activity benefits long-term health, including mental health, and helps to prevent

over 20 common health conditions. The UK Chief Medical Officers' guidance for adults includes 150 minutes of moderate intensity activity a week, and that the easiest way to achieve this is through daily activity such as walking and cycling. This rapid evidence review is intended for health and social care policy makers, decision makers and commissioners and attempts to address the following question: "What is the impact of walking and/or cycling on different health outcomes?" This review found that walking and cycling benefit health in a number of ways:

- people who walk or cycle have improved metabolic health and a reduced risk of premature mortality
- walking and cycling reduce the risk factors for a number of diseases, including cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease, some cancers, and Type II diabetes
- walking and cycling also have positive effects on mental health and general well-being. The mental health and neurological benefits include reduced risk of dementia, improved sleep quality, and a greater sense of wellbeing
- in environmental terms, health benefits accrue for the general population from a reduction in pollution due to car use and a decrease in road congestion
- the evidence is that the health benefits of walking and cycling outweigh any potential health risks and harms – for example from injury or pollution

Websites [PHE](#)

### **27. Self care Councils helping people look after themselves**

Author: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Date: 30 November 2018

Abstract: Whatever the situation, there is one thing all people who self care have in common: they feel empowered and confident to take responsibility for their own health. Not only is this good for the individual, it is also important for the health and care system which is under more strain than ever. We can support patients and teach them how to look after themselves. We can encourage them to make lifestyle changes that will improve their health in the long-term. We can provide the equipment and know-how so they can self-manage their illnesses. The starting point for all is working out what matters to the person – and helping them achieve that. This LGA report you will find examples of all of these approaches – and more. Councils and clinical commissioning groups are working together with other partners to make a real difference to people's lives.

Websites [LGA](#)

### **28. Statistics on Drug Misuse, England, 2018 (November update)**

Author: NHS DIGITAL

Date: 29 November 2018

Abstract: This report presents a range of information on drug use by adults and children drawn together from a variety of sources. It focuses on England only where possible although some statistics are only readily available at GB or UK level or for England and Wales combined. Key facts:

- 7,358 hospital admissions for drug related mental and behavioural disorders
- 17,032 hospital admissions for poisoning by drug misuse
- 2,503 deaths related to poisoning by drug misuses
- 9.0% of adults ages 16-59 took an illicit drug last year
- 19.8% of young adults aged 16-24 took an illicit drug last year.

Websites [NHS Digital](#)

### 29. Drinking behaviour and moderation among UK adults

Author: GUNSTONE, B  
Date: November 2018

Abstract: This report sets out findings from research conducted by YouGov in spring 2018 into UK adults' behaviour and attitudes in relation to alcohol and drinking moderation. It also explores the issue of drinking within the wider context of healthy lifestyles.

Websites [Drinkaware](#); [Alcohol Policy UK - Analysis of Results](#)

### 30. Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy (CWIS) safety review

Author: DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT  
Date: 22 November 2018

Abstract: Earlier in 2018 there was a consultation on ways to make cycling and walking safer while supporting the government's ambition to increase cycling and walking. A number of initiatives have been announced, by the Department for Transport, as part of a 2 year action plan to improve road safety:

- review the existing guidance in the Highway Code to improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians
- invest £100,000 to support police enforcement by developing a national back office function to handle dash-cam footage
- improve enforcement against parking in cycle lanes
- appoint a cycle and walking champion
- encourage local authorities to increase investment in cycling and walking infrastructure to 15% of total transport infrastructure spending
- engage with cycling and walking bodies to develop a behaviour change campaign.

Websites [DfT](#)

### 31. Continuity of care for prisoners who need substance misuse treatment

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND  
Date: 30 November 2018

Abstract: An updated audit toolkit and guidance on data recording, for prison and community treatment providers and commissioners. This update has added 'Continuity of care for adult prisoners with a substance misuse need - report on the London deep dive' document.

Websites [PHE](#)

### 32. Personal well-being in the UK: July 2017 to June 2018

Author: OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS  
Date: 28 November 2018

Abstract: Estimates of life satisfaction, feeling that the things done in life are worthwhile, happiness and anxiety at the UK and country level. Main points include:-

Between the years ending June 2017 and June 2018:

- The average life satisfaction, worthwhile, happiness and anxiety ratings showed no overall change in the UK; however, fewer people reported low happiness ratings and more people reported very low anxiety ratings.
- The proportion of people reporting very low anxiety ratings in England increased; this could be driving the improvement seen in the UK for those reporting very low levels of anxiety.

- Compared with the UK, a larger proportion of people in Wales reported “poor” personal well-being ratings across all measures.
- Compared with both the UK and the other countries, people in Northern Ireland continued to report better average ratings across all personal well-being measures.
- There were no overall changes in Scotland across the measures of personal well-being.

Websites [ONS](#)

### 33. NHS Health Check quarterly statistics: November 2018

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 28 November 2018

Abstract: Public Health England has published the NHS Health Check offers and uptake data update for July to September 2018. This update contains data from 152 local authorities for July to September 2018 (quarter 2 for 2018 to 2019) and cumulative data from 1 April 2014 to 30 September 2018. The cumulative data also includes amended statistics for 20 local authorities for April to June 2018 (quarter 1 of 2018 to 2019).

Websites [PHE](#)

### 34. Cervical screening programme 2017-18

Author: NHS DIGITAL

Date: 27 November 2018

Abstract: Women between the ages of 25 and 64 are invited for regular cervical screening under the NHS Cervical Screening Programme. This is intended to detect abnormalities within the cervix that could, if undetected and untreated, develop into cervical cancer. This report presents information about the NHS Cervical Screening Programme in England in 2017-18 and includes data on the call and recall system, on screening samples examined by pathology laboratories and on referrals to colposcopy clinics.

Websites [NHS Digital](#)



## HEALTH PROTECTION

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### 35. Winter weather survey 2018

Author: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Date: 24 November 2018

Abstract: The Winter Weather Survey 2018 was conducted in October 2018 to gather information about local authorities' plans and preparations in case of severe weather, to help the LGA's lobbying of central government and to highlight the scale of authorities' efforts.

Websites [LGA](#)

**36. Hepatitis C: guidance, data and analysis**

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND  
Date: 23 November 2018

Abstract: Hepatitis means swelling or inflammation of the liver. The most common causes of hepatitis are viral infections. Hepatitis C is a virus that can cause long-lasting infection and is transmitted when blood from an infected person gets into the bloodstream of another. This collection on the characteristics, diagnosis, management and epidemiology of hepatitis C (Hep C, HCV) has been updated to include Hepatitis C treatment monitoring in England report.

Websites [PHE](#)

**37. Measles, mumps and rubella: laboratory confirmed cases in England 2018**

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND  
Date: 23 November 2018

Abstract: Quarterly reports, with commentary, on cases confirmed by PHE's Virus Reference Department or national routine laboratory testing (mumps only). The latest report is for July to September 2018.

Websites [PHE](#)

**38. Extension of HPV vaccination to boys: equality analysis**

Author: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE  
Date: 23 November 2018

Abstract: This document reviews equality issues related to human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination in England, to support consideration of the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation's [advice on extending HPV vaccination to adolescent boys](#). The document also covers equality issues around the current HPV vaccination programme for adolescent girls and men who have sex with men (MSM). The analysis was used to support a ministerial decision on whether or not to extend the existing HPV vaccination programme to adolescent boys. In July 2018 the government announced that adolescent boys would be offered the HPV vaccine.

Websites [DHSC](#), [Hea](#)

**39. National chlamydia screening programme (NSCP) standards**

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND  
Date: 28 November 2018

Abstract: The NSCP standards support an evidence-based and cost-effective approach to delivering chlamydia screening. This document outlines the minimum standards for local implementation and should be used by commissioners and providers to form the basis for local screening plans.

Websites [PHE](#)

**40. A councillor's guide to civil emergencies**

Author: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
Date: 28 November 2018

Abstract: The principles for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a civil emergency are much the same whatever the emergency. With civil protection arrangements needing to be fully integrated across all responders; the first principle is anticipation and assessment of risk and the last, effective response and recovery arrangements. This is otherwise known as integrated emergency management; a holistic approach to

preventing and managing emergencies. The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the role and responsibilities of councils, cabinet members, and ward councillors, in terms of ensuring preparedness and resilience, responding to, and recovering from emergencies.

Websites [LGA](#)

#### **41. Tuberculosis (TB): regional and devolved administration reports**

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 30 November 2018

Abstract: Public Health England has added 3 new reports to its collection of annual regional reports for the recent epidemiology of TB. These are:-

- Tuberculosis in London: annual review 2017 data
- Tuberculosis in the South East: annual review 2017 data
- Tuberculosis in the South West: annual review 2017 data

Websites [PHE](#)

#### **42. Progress towards ending the HIV epidemic in the UK: 2018 report**

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 29 November 2018

Abstract: Public Health England have published Progress towards ending the HIV epidemic in the UK: 2018 report, summary and appendix. An estimated total of 102,000 people were living with HIV in the UK in 2017, with 8% (8,200) unaware of their infection. As a result of treatment, 87% of all people living with HIV have an undetectable viral load and are unable to pass on their infection to other people (this is widely known as 'Undetectable equals Untransmissible' or 'U=U'). The report shows that the UK is one of the first countries to meet the UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets, highlighting that prevention efforts are working in the UK. New estimates revealed that in 2017, 92% of people living with HIV in the UK have been diagnosed, 98% of those diagnosed were on treatment, and 97% of those on treatment were virally suppressed.

Websites [PHE](#); [Report](#); [Summary](#); [Appendix](#)

#### **43. Point of care tests for influenza and other respiratory viruses**

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 27 November 2018

Abstract: Support for hospital trusts considering the introduction of point of care testing (POCT) for influenza and other respiratory viruses during winter 2018 to 2019. This document includes:

- information regarding POCT test technologies
- factors to consider for implementation
- clinical governance and quality assurance considerations
- findings from UK centres that have already integrated POCT testing
- an implementation checklist

Websites [PHE](#)

#### **44. Tetanus: the green book, chapter 30**

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 26 November 2018

Abstract: The Green Book has the latest information on vaccines and vaccination procedures, for vaccine preventable infectious diseases in the UK. This is the latest update.

Websites [Tetanus update](#); [Green Book - PHE](#)

#### 45. Progress toward Regional Measles Elimination — Worldwide, 2000–2017

Author: DABBAGH, A

Date: 30 November 2018

Abstract: In 2012, the World Health Assembly endorsed the Global Vaccine Action Plan (GVAP), with the objective of eliminating measles in four of the six World Health Organization (WHO) regions by 2015 and in five regions by 2020. Countries in all six WHO regions have adopted goals for measles elimination by 2020. This report describes progress toward global measles control milestones and regional measles elimination goals during 2000–2017 and updates a previous report. During 2000–2017, estimated MCV1 coverage increased globally from 72% to 85%; annual reported measles incidence decreased 83%, from 145 to 25 cases per million population; and annual estimated measles deaths decreased 80%, from 545,174 to 109,638. During this period, measles vaccination prevented an estimated 21.1 million deaths. However, measles elimination milestones have not been met, and three regions are experiencing a large measles resurgence. To make further progress, case-based surveillance needs to be strengthened, and coverage with MCV1 and the second dose of measles-containing vaccine (MCV2) needs to increase; in addition, it will be important to maintain political commitment and ensure substantial, sustained investments to achieve global and regional measles elimination goals.

Websites [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#)

#### 46. Why the HIV epidemic is not over

Author: WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Date: 30 November 2018

Abstract: 1 December 2018 marked the 30th anniversary of World AIDS Day – a day created to raise awareness about HIV and the resulting AIDS epidemics. Since the beginning of the epidemic, more than 70 million people have acquired the infection, and about 35 million people have died. Today, around 37 million worldwide live with HIV, of whom 22 million are on treatment. The theme of this year World AIDS Day was – Know Your Status. One in four people with HIV don't know that they have HIV. To bridge some critical gaps in the availability of HIV tests, WHO recommends the use of self-tests for HIV. WHO first recommended HIV self-testing in 2016, and now more than 50 countries have developed policies on self-testing. This document summarises the history of HIV, how far we have come and what we need to do in the future to see and end of AIDs.

Websites [WHO](#)



## MATERNITY AND INFANTS

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#### 47. Childbearing for women born in different years, England and Wales: 2017

Author: OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS

Date: 22 November 2018

Abstract: The changing composition of families over time, comparing the fertility of women of the same age and the number of children they have had. Main points include:-

- The average completed family size for women in England and Wales who reached the age of 45 years in 2017 was 1.89 children, the lowest level recorded to date.
- Of the women who reached the age of 45 years in 2017, 18% were childless at the end of their childbearing years compared to 10% a generation before (born 1945).
- The most common age of childbirth for women born in 1972 who reached age 45 years in 2017 was 31 years, compared to between 23 and 24 years for women born in 1945.
- A quarter of women who reached age 25 years in 2017 had at least one child – the lowest percentage on record.

Websites [ONS](#)

#### **48. Pertussis immunisation in pregnancy: vaccine coverage estimates (England)**

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 23 November 2018

Abstract: Quarterly vaccine uptake data and commentary relating to the Pertussis vaccination programme for pregnant women. This quarter covers April to June 2018

Websites [PHE](#)

#### **49. Health visitor service metrics and outcomes definitions from CSDS**

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 27 November 2018

Abstract: These documents present metadata including the definitions of health visitor service delivery metrics and associated outcomes as calculated from the Community Services Dataset (CSDS). They also include responses to an online survey about working definitions for these metrics. These initial definitions will form the basis for ongoing refinement, allowing for improvement over time.

Websites [PHE](#)



## **MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

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#### **50. Community mental health survey 2018**

Author: CARE QUALITY COMMISSION

Date: 22 November 2018

Abstract: The 2018 community mental health survey looked at the experiences of people receiving community mental health services. The survey received feedback from 12,796 people who were treated for a mental health condition between 1 September and 30 November 2017. Results from the 2018 community mental health survey, compared with results from previous years, showed declines across several areas. This includes people's perceptions of: seeing someone from NHS mental health services often enough; being involved in

agreeing their care; their agreed care taking personal circumstances into account; receiving help with finding support for their physical health needs and receiving help with finding support for financial advice or benefit. People's experience of mental health services were more positive for some questions, this includes: knowing how to contact the person in charge of their care, if they had a concern and knowing who to contact, out of office hours, during a crisis. Certain groups of people consistently reported poorer experiences of using mental health services, including: younger people (aged 18-35) and people diagnosed with non-psychotic chaotic and challenging disorders

Websites [CQC](#)

### **51. Policing and Mental Health: Picking Up the Pieces**

Author: HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

Date: November 2018

Abstract: This report confirms that police officers are increasingly being used as the service of default in responding to people with mental health problems. The report makes it clear that whilst the police service is doing a good job in difficult circumstances, there are concerns over whether the police should be involved in responding to mental health problems at the current level. The report emphasises that there needs to be a radical rethink and a longer-term solution to what has become a national crisis.

Websites [Report](#); [Press Release](#)

### **52. Investigation into the provision of mental health care to patients presenting at the emergency department**

Author: HEALTHCARE SAFETY INVESTIGATION BRANCH

Date: November 2018

Abstract: This Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch (HSIB) report highlights the variation in mental health care across emergency departments. The investigation followed HSIB being notified of the case of Diane, a 57-year-old woman who died by suicide. The early investigation focused on her last four presentations at her local emergency department, the last one being the day before she died. The investigation also examined her interactions with local healthcare services spanning two years. The report sets out four recommendations aimed at improving patient care.

Websites [Press Release](#); [Report](#)

### **53. Psychological Therapies, Annual report on the use of IAPT services - England, 2017-18**

Author: NHS DIGITAL

Date: 20 November 2018

Abstract: This statistical release is the annual report on the Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) programme. IAPT is run by the NHS in England and offers NICE-approved therapies for treating people with anxiety or depression. The publication contains analyses on activity, waiting times and outcomes such as recovery in 2017-18. In addition, the report covers a range of demographic analyses including outcomes for patients of different ages, ethnic group and separately for ex-British Armed Forces personnel.

Websites [NHS Digital](#)

### **54. Community mental health survey 2018**

Author: CARE QUALITY COMMISSION

Date: 22 November 2018

Abstract: This report highlights concerns around access to care, care planning and support for people with

mental health conditions in relation to physical health needs, financial advice or benefits. More than 12,700 people took part in this year's survey which asked them about their experience of being cared for outside of hospital by community-based mental health services. These include specialist outpatient clinics as well as teams that visit people in their homes. Although 71% of respondents felt they were 'always' treated with respect and dignity by NHS mental health services, less than a third (30%) rated their overall experience of community mental healthcare as nine out of 10 or above in this year's survey - down from 34% in 2017.

Websites [CQC](#)

### 55. Mental Health Bulletin 2017-18 Annual Report

Author: NHS DIGITAL

Date: 29 November 2018

Abstract: This publication provides the most detailed picture available of people who used NHS funded secondary mental health, learning disabilities and autism services in England during the financial year 2017-18. Key Facts include:

- 2,510,745 people were known to be in contact with secondary mental health, learning disabilities and autism services at some point in the year. 525,326 of these were under 18 years of age.
- This means that 4.5% of people in England were known to be in contact with secondary mental health, learning disabilities and autism services during this year.
- 4.1% (103,952) of people known to be in contact with secondary mental health, learning disabilities and autism services spent time in hospital as part of being in contact with these services during 2017-18.

Websites [NHS Digital](#)

### 56. Managing success in dementia care

Author: HEALTH EDUCATION ENGLAND

Date: November 2018

Abstract: "Managing success in dementia care" is a new support resource for those responsible for training to identify resources they can use to deliver education and training activities at tier 2 (core skills and knowledge for people who regularly work directly with people living with dementia).

Websites [HEE](#)

### 57. Modernising the Mental Health Act – final report from the independent review

Author: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Date: 06 December 2018

Abstract: The Independent Review of the Mental Health Act 1983 has set out recommendations for government on how the Act and associated practice needs to change. The final report sets out recommendations covering 4 principles that the review believes should underpin the reformed Act:

- choice and autonomy – ensuring service users' views and choices are respected
- least restriction – ensuring the Act's powers are used in the least restrictive way
- therapeutic benefit – ensuring patients are supported to get better, so they can be discharged from the Act
- people as individuals – ensuring patients are viewed and treated as rounded individuals

The review looked at: rising rates of detention under the Act: the disproportionate number of people from black and minority ethnic groups detained under the Act and the processes that are out of step with a modern mental health care system

Websites [DHSC](#)



## WIDER DETERMINANTS

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### 58. UN report on poverty in Britain

Author: ALSTON, P

Date: 16 November 2018

Abstract: The UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, Philip Alston, has presented the preliminary findings of his investigation into poverty in the UK. In the same week the House of Commons Work and Pensions Committee launched a new inquiry to consider how effectively the welfare system works to protect against hardship and chronic deprivation. The UK's welfare system is currently undergoing fundamental reform, in the transition to Universal Credit alongside other major and largely untested reforms like Benefit sanctions and the Benefit cap. The Committee's latest work on Universal Credit looks at how Government will safeguard some of the most vulnerable members of society as it implements this huge programme of change

Websites [United Nations Preliminary Report](#); [Commons Select Committee Inquiry](#)

### 59. Domestic abuse in England and Wales: year ending March 2018

Author: OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS

Date: 22 November 2018

Abstract: Prevalence, long-term trends and attitudes towards domestic abuse experienced by women and men aged between 16 and 59 years and 60 to 74 years, based upon annual findings from the Crime Survey for England and Wales. Main points

- According to the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) year ending March 2018, an estimated 7.9% of women (1.3 million) and 4.2% of men (695,000) experienced domestic abuse in the last year.
- There has been no significant change in the prevalence of domestic abuse experienced in the last year, compared with year ending March 2017.
- Women were four times as likely as men to have experienced sexual assault by a partner (including attempts) in the last year.
- Female victims of partner abuse were more likely than male victims to experience non-physical abuse (emotional, financial) and sexual assault by rape or penetration (including attempts); male victims of partner abuse reported a higher level of force than female victims.
- There was a significant decrease in the proportion of female victims of partner abuse reporting to the police in year ending March 2018 compared with the year ending March 2015, the last time this was asked about in the survey.

Websites [ONS](#)

### 60. Making Sure People Seeking And Refused Asylum Can Access Healthcare: What Needs To Change?

Author: EQUALITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Date: 29 November 2018

Abstract: This research explores [the experiences of people who are or have been in the asylum process in Britain](#), as well as engaging with healthcare professionals and [analysing existing research](#). The project found that cost and fears about how they will be treated, or consequences for their immigration status, are preventing people seeking or refused asylum from using health services. It also found some positive practices, such as medical staff showing empathy and compassion, individuals being referred to counselling services and charities acting as a lifeline for those trying to navigate the asylum and healthcare systems. However, it also identified a number of problems with the current system, many of which particularly affected people who need regular access to healthcare services, such as pregnant women and disabled people. It calls for greater separation of the immigration and healthcare systems.

Websites [Report](#); [News](#)

### **61. Homelessness in Great Britain - The numbers behind the story**

Author: REYNOLDS, L

Date: November 2018

Abstract: This analysis from Shelter reveals that 320,000 people are recorded as homeless. This total consists of four elements: Homeless and living in temporary accommodation; rough sleeping; single hostel spaces; and homeless and in temporary accommodation that has been arranged by Children's Services under the Children Act

Websites [Shelter](#)

### **62. Nursing care for people experiencing homelessness: A Survey of the QNI Homeless Health Network**

Author: QUEENS NURSING INSTITUTE

Date: 30 November 2018

Abstract: This report gives a thematic analysis based on the views of 206 homeless health nurses (HHNs) working across the UK about issues facing their area of practice. Using this evidence, it explores the structural, contextual, environmental and practical changes needed to reduce, prevent and eliminate homelessness, and tackle the associated burden of disease.

Websites [Report](#); [Press Release](#)

### **63. Global Study on Homicide: Gender-related killing of women and girls**

Author: UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME

Date: 25 November 2018

Abstract: Around 87,000 women were killed around the world last year, some 50,000 - or 58 per cent - at the hands of intimate partners or family members. This amounts to some six women being killed every hour by people they know, according to new research published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) today. The study, released for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, examines available homicide data to analyse the gender-related killing of women and girls, with a specific focus on intimate partner and family-related homicide and how this relates to the status and roles of women in society and the domestic sphere.

Websites [Report](#); [Press Release](#)

### **64. National Measurement of Loneliness: 2018**

Author: OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS

Date: 05 December 2018

Abstract: This compendium provides comprehensive information on the loneliness measurement landscape, the recommended national indicators of loneliness and the question testing underpinning the ONS recommendations.

Websites [ONS](#)



## OTHER

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### 65. Shared responsibility for health: the cultural change we need

Author: HAM, C.

Date: 23 November 2018

Abstract: In this long read, Professor Sir Chris Ham of the King's Fund, argues that one of the biggest challenges facing the NHS is cultural. Specifically, the relationship between the public and the NHS, and between patients and the staff who care for them, needs to be transformed. As well as ensuring that the resources (funding and workforce) needed to deliver care are available, national and local leaders must work to fully engage patients and the public in improving health and care.

Websites [King's Fund](#)

### 66. Voluntary reporting on disability, mental health and wellbeing

Author: DEPARTMENT FOR WORK AND PENSIONS; DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Date: 22 November 2018

Abstract: The government believes that transparency and reporting can support the cultural change required to build a more inclusive society. The voluntary reporting framework has been developed by the government in partnership with leading businesses and third sector organisations to support employers to voluntarily report information on disability, mental health and wellbeing in the workplace. It is aimed at organisations with over 250 employees, but can be used by employers of any size. The framework also sets out:

- the benefits of increased transparency in the workplace
- guidance on how data can be collected, and where it can be reported
- links to further support

Websites [DWP](#); [DHSC](#)

### 67. New standard to improve information sharing between community pharmacies and GP practices

Author: NHS DIGITAL

Date: 21 November 2018

Abstract: A new standard that will improve sharing clinical information between community pharmacies and GP practices has been published. This will allow information that community pharmacists gather from patients when providing services such as vaccinations, medications and guidance with minor ailments and share that information digitally with patients' GPs. Improving data sharing between community pharmacies and GP practices is expected to cut medication errors, improve patient safety and reduce administrative work for staff.

The first part of the standard, which has been developed by NHS Digital, the Professional Record Standards Body and other partners, details what information should be recorded about vaccinations administered and emergency medicines supplied by community pharmacies. Not only will the standard support better care in the community, it will provide high-quality data for service planning, commissioning organisations and public health programmes by standardising vaccination information.

Websites [NHS Digital](#)

#### **68. Care and Health Improvement Programme: Integration support offer for health and care system leaders**

Author: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Date: 23 November 2018

Abstract: In November 2018 the Local Government Association (LGA) with sector partners the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS), the Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH), NHS Confederation, NHS Clinical Commissioners and NHS Providers published '[Shifting the Centre of Gravity: making place-based, person-centred health and care a reality](#)'. Through the Care and Health Improvement Programme (CHIP), the LGA and a wide range of national partners are supporting councils and their partners to progress their integration ambitions, including sharing learning through good practice guides, case studies, tools, guidance and development programmes. This document summarises what is being done in the programme.

Websites [LGA](#)

#### **69. NHS Dental Statistics for England, 2018-19, First Quarterly Report**

Author: NHS DIGITAL

Date: 22 November 2018

Abstract: This quarterly publication brings together information on NHS dental activity in England up to quarter 1 2018-19 and information on the number of patients seen by an NHS dentist up to quarter 2 of 2018-19. Key facts:

- 22 million adult patients were seen by an NHS dentist in the 24-months prior to 1 October 2018, 50.6% of the adult population
- 6.9 million child patients were seen by an NHS dentist in the 12-months prior to 1 October 2018, 58.7% of the child population
- 9.6 million course of treatments (CoT) in quarter 1 of 2018-19, an increase of 171,859 on the same quarter in 2017-18

Websites [NHS Digital](#)

#### **70. Sustainability in Public Health England: 2018**

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 28 November 2018

Abstract: This report outlines the sustainable development activities in PHE, regarding its carbon footprint and its impact on the environment.

Websites [PHE](#)

#### **71. Excess winter mortality in England and Wales: 2017 to 2018 (provisional) and 2016 to 2017 (final)**

Author: OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS

Date: 30 November 2018

Abstract: More people die in the winter than the summer. The Office for National Statistics presents data by sex, age, region and cause of death. The main points include:-

- In the 2017 to 2018 winter period, there were an estimated 50,100 excess winter deaths in England and Wales.
- The number of excess winter deaths in 2017 to 2018 was the highest recorded since winter 1975 to 1976.
- During the winter months of 2017 to 2018, the number of daily deaths exceeded the daily five-year average for all days except 25 March.
- Excess winter mortality in 2017 to 2018 significantly increased from 2016 to 2017 in all English regions and Wales, with Wales having the highest regional index.
- Excess winter mortality continued to be highest in females and people aged 85 and over.
- Excess winter mortality doubled among males aged 0 to 64 years between 2016 to 2017 and 2017 to 2018.
- Over one-third (34.7%) of all excess winter deaths were caused by respiratory diseases.

Websites [ONS](#)

### 72. Health at a Glance: Europe 2018

Author: ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
Date: 22 November 2018

Abstract: This report presents comparative analyses of the health status of EU citizens and the performance of the health systems of the 28 EU Member States, 5 candidate countries and 3 EFTA countries. It is the first step in the *State of Health in the EU* cycle of knowledge brokering. This publication has two parts. Part I comprises two thematic chapters, the first focusing on the need for concerted efforts to promote better mental health, the second outlining possible strategies for reducing wasteful spending in health. In Part II, the most recent trends in key indicators of health status, risk factors and health spending are presented, together with a discussion of progress in improving the effectiveness, accessibility and resilience of European health systems.

Websites [OECD](#)

### 73. Under Pressure – the impact of the changing environment on local government complaints

Author: LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN  
Date: December 2018

Abstract: In this report, the Ombudsman reveals how the stark reality of the huge changes councils have made in the last decade, often in response to unprecedented financial pressures, is now playing out in the complaints it investigates. The report is based on nearly 40 case studies in which the Ombudsman has identified systemic problems stemming from councils changing the way they provided services. The report also recognises that although the Ombudsman receives relatively few complaints compared to the scale of local government services, sharing the learning from these cases can help councils avoid unforeseen negative consequences when undergoing change programmes.

Websites [Report](#); [News](#)

### 74. Health Survey for England 2017

Author: NHS ENGLAND  
Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: The Health Survey for England (HSE) monitors trends in the nation's health and care. It provides information about adults aged 16 and over, and children aged 0 to 15, living in private households in England. The survey is used to monitor overweight and obesity and to estimate the proportion of people in England

who have certain health conditions and the prevalence of risk factors and health related behaviours, such as smoking and drinking alcohol. Key findings include

- 64% of adults were overweight or obese
- 18% of children had the recommended 5+ portions of fruit and vegetables a day
- 17% of adults were current cigarette smokers
- 19% of adults had 3 or more out of 5 risk factors to their health
- 14% of adults reported having had a diagnosed cardiovascular disease
- 16% of adults were providing unpaid support to at least one person with long-term mental or physical health problems, a disability or problems related to old age

Websites [NHS England](#)

### **75. The Carers' Covenant**

Author: GLOVER, B

Date: 06 December 2018

Abstract: This report calls for a new settlement between the state and informal carers. It is estimated that there are now almost eight million informal carers in the UK. This makes the informal care economy equivalent to £139 billion – more than seven times the UK's total annual spend on adult social care. This research finds that government policy has failed to keep pace with these changes, leaving too many carers without the support they need. The report sets out an overhaul of current policy, including the introduction of a new Universal Carer's Income for all carers providing more than 35 hours a week, paid at the same rate as Jobseeker's Allowance.

Websites [Report](#)