





4 December 2024

Reports

Get Britain Working White Paper

The government's proposals to reform employment, health and skills support to tackle economic inactivity and support people into good work.

New report shows impact of social prescribing on health service use and costs

Our new report, The Impact of Social Prescribing on Health Service Use and Costs: Examples of local evaluations in practice suggests that there is strong and growing evidence that social prescribing services can lead to substantial reductions in avoidable GP appointments, hospital admissions and A&E attendances.

Knowledge is Power report

Adults in the UK are struggling to find health information they can trust and there are clear inequalities in access to information. Knowledge is Power offers new insights into information access, trusted sources, communication with healthcare professionals and the impact of misinformation.

AHA supports the Medical Council on Alcohol's latest calls for urgent action on alcohol-related harms

The Medical Council on Alcohol (MCA) has today published a report, The Need for a Health System Response to Alcohol-Related Harms, at an event attended by clinicians, academics, professionals in the alcohol and health field and policymakers. The report calls attention to the growing public health challenge posed by alcohol-related health harms and urges a coordinated health systems approach to tackle the issue.

Blogs

Research explores why so few men with eating, exercise and body image care problems seek treatment

As International Men's Day today seeks to raise awareness of the health and wellbeing of men and boys, George Mycock reports on the initial findings of his PhD research exploring why men experiencing eating, exercise, and body image psychopathology rarely access help.

Consistent support is a better solution

This year, the Tellmi Annual Impact Survey explored how people seek support for their mental health. More than 1,200 Tellmi users responded to the survey and 95% of them told us that they struggled to find support for their mental health. The shortage of early help for people with mental health issues has serious social consequences.

Investing in our mental health: Priorities for the NHS ten-year plan

The nation's mental health is getting worse, with an especially significant increase in levels of distress among children and young people over recent years. With mental ill health costing society and the economy £300 billion in England every year, the NHS's new ten-year plan is a critical opportunity for the Government to invest in mental health – one it cannot afford to miss.

News

Lords to consider landmark reforms to mental health care

Mental Health Bill will give patients enhanced rights to make decisions regarding their own care, ensuring their voice is heard throughout the treatment process.

RCPsych comments on vote for assisted dying Bill in England and Wales

Today MPs in Westminster debated The Terminally III Adults (End of Life) Bill, brought forward as a Private Members' Bill by Kim Leadbeater MP. A total of 330 MPs voted in favour of moving the Bill to the next stage of the legislative process, while 275 voted against it.

















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Legislation on assisted dying, and the College's position

Earlier this year, we started work to develop a College position on assisted dying/assisted suicide (AD/AS), taking a considered and evidence-based approach to weigh up the complexities of the issues.

Mind responds to private members' bill on assisted dying

The private members' bill on assisted dying (Terminally III Adults (End of Life) Bill) is due to have its second reading on 29 November.

National survey shows better mental health support for pregnant women and new mothers, but more work is needed to ensure a positive maternity experience for all

The findings of a survey by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) of nearly 19,000 people who used NHS maternity services in 2024 shows some areas of improvement over the past year, particularly regarding access to mental health support. However, there remain other aspects of maternity care where people report a poorer experience and where analysis indicates a longer term decline in positive feedback over time.

Community perinatal mental health teams reduced women's risk of mental illness relapse

Community perinatal mental health teams support women before and during pregnancy, and in the 12 months after giving birth.

Children's mental health crisis deepens: severe shortage of psychiatrists to meet growing demand

Analysis from the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCPsych) finds that the number of children and young people accessing treatment for mental health conditions in England has risen by 27% (from 628,454 to 798,479) in just three years from September 2021 to September 2024.

<u>Understanding and improving person centred care for children and young people</u>

Children's health and social care is in demand with the NHS long term plan outlining that 7 million children in England have longstanding illnesses, including asthma, epilepsy and diabetes. In June 2024 there were 283,400 children and young people on community services waiting lists, and there are rapidly growing waiting lists for ADHD and autism assessments. With many children waiting too long to access the support they need, young people and their families are feeling the impact.

Secretary of State commits to first ever men's health strategy

Health and Social Care Secretary Wes Streeting announced plans at a Men's Health Summit with Movember and the Premier League.

Recognising men's mental health on International Men's Day

International Men's Day (IMD) takes place on the 19 November and this year's theme is 'Positive Male Role Models'. While the day is a chance to celebrate the men in our lives who inspire us, IMD is also an opportunity to reflect on specific issues that predominantly affect men.

Four struggles men face during the transition to fatherhood

Becoming a father can be a daunting life transition which, for many men, can be a stressful and isolating experience. Yet, fathers often lack access to support and information to help them cope during this transition. This is significant, as without support, it may increase a father's risk of developing mental health problems – such as postnatal depression, which affects one in ten UK fathers.

Cold homes increase the risk of severe mental health problems – new study

Concerns about fuel poverty and people not being able to heat their homes adequately are not new in the UK, but these worries have been heightened by significant increases in energy costs and the cost-of-living crisis. And as winter approaches, things are about to get a lot worse.

















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The government's vision for adult social care

The Minister of State for Care delivered a keynote speech at the National Children and Adult Services Conference in Liverpool.

Money and Mental Health response to Government employment white paper

The government has today published its white paper on reforming support to help people move into employment, including plans designed to help people with mental health problems and other disabilities to move into and stay in work.

BPS reacts to new study that says internet use can make over-50s happier

A study involving 90,000 older adults suggests that regularly using the internet may help reduce feelings of loneliness and enhance physical health.

COVID lockdowns affected adolescents' brain structures, says research

A recent study reported the somewhat alarming observation that the social disruptions of COVID lockdowns caused significant changes in teenagers' brains.

MPs to vote on landmark smoking ban to stop cycle of addiction

Votes on the world-leading Tobacco and Vapes Bill will move the UK one step closer to becoming smoke-free.

Junk food ad ban legislation progresses to curb childhood obesity

Junk food ads to be banned from October 2025 with final details unveiled today.

New review of physician and anaesthesia associates launched

Government launches independent review of physician and anaesthesia associate professions, chaired by Professor Gillian Leng CBE.

Less than three weeks left to book NHS COVID-19 and flu vaccinations online

With less than three weeks left to book COVID-19 and flu vaccinations online, NHS chiefs are urging everyone still eligible to get protected – as the latest figures show nearly 25 million vaccines have been delivered so far.

<u>UKHSA urges more people to protect themselves against flu</u>

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) is calling on the public to come forward for flu vaccinations. Figures out today show that many eligible people are still yet to get the vaccine. With just 27 days until Christmas, time is running out to get the vaccine ahead of the festive season.

New protections for whistleblowers under NHS manager proposals

NHS managers who silence whistleblowers could be barred from working in the NHS, under proposals being announced this week.









