

Public Health Bulletin. 09 August 2016

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Please find below a list of news items from the past fortnight that may be of interest to those involved in public health. This Bulletin provides topical news and reports of relevance to public health teams, community health practitioners and anyone with an interest in health promotion. All content and links are provided for information only and we do not sponsor, endorse or otherwise approve of any mentioned website or the contents of the news items. Please refer to the terms and conditions of the relevant website should you wish to reproduce any of the information.

Details of alternative current awareness services which cover more academic/specialist sources of information can be found in the section *Other Bulletins*. Your local NHS library service can assist you in accessing other current awareness services/tailored alerts, locating peer reviewed journal articles and answer any other queries you may have regarding finding information.

The information about each news item only gives a brief overview so we recommend you view the original source by clicking on the title (or Ctrl+Click in the word document).

Please contact your local NHS library service if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, or if you know of anyone else who would like to join the mailing list. The Bulletins are also available on the Thames Valley Public Health Network at: <http://www.oxsph.org/bulletins.html> and the Wessex Public Health Network at: <http://www.wessexphnetwork.org.uk/resources/public-health-updates.aspx>

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Alcohol misuse

[Alcohol consumption and harm among under 18 year olds](#)

2 August 2016

Source: Public Health England www.gov.uk

Evidence from multiple sources shows that risk taking behaviour among young people is declining at a population level. However, levels of alcohol consumption among United Kingdom (UK) youth are higher than the European average and there are groups of young people who are taking risks and experiencing harm. This report looks at alcohol use and harm among those aged under 18 in order to highlight where problems may still exist.

[Local Alcohol Profiles for England: hospital admissions indicators, 2016 annual data update](#)

Jul 26, 2016

Source: UK Health Forum

Public Health England (PHE) has published the Local Alcohol Profiles for England (LAPE) data update for May 2016. The LAPE interactive tool presents data for 25 alcohol-related indicators and allows users to view and analyse data in a user-friendly format. The LAPE website also provides links to further supporting and relevant information to aid understanding of alcohol-related harm in a local population.

[The Effects of Substance Abuse on Pregnant Women and Unborn Children](#)

Aug 03, 2016

Source: UK Health Forum

MentalHelp.net provides informational resources for a variety of mental health issues, behavioral addictions and substance use disorders, and creates unique and exclusive research to explore topics relating to these topics in novel ways. Find out how various substances endanger pregnant women and their babies.

[Alcohol Concern response to call for new alcohol consumption guidelines consultation](#)

9.08.16

Source: Alcohol Concern www.alcoholconcern.org.uk

Joanna Simons, Chief Executive of Alcohol Concern, said: "The findings from CAMRA show just how much we need the Government to take action to ensure the public better understand units and the risks associated with alcohol. The guidelines which were published in January 2016, are evidence based and were put together based on recommendations from... [Read more](#)

Chronic conditions

[New drug for severe asthma 'shows massive promise'](#)

Aug 8 2016

Source: NHS Choices www.nhs.uk

"Asthma drug 'gamechanger' could revolutionise treatment," The Guardian reports after a new drug called fevipiprant showed promising results in a small study of 61 people with moderate to severe asthma...

Communicable diseases

Measles vaccination advice for young adults

5 August 2016

Source: Public Health England www.gov.uk

PHE latest updates on advice to young people to get their MMR vaccination after a rise in measles cases linked to festivals.

Zika outbreak: 'Small number' of cases found in Scotland

04 August 2016

Source: BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

A number of people in Scotland have been diagnosed as having the Zika virus, the Scottish government confirms

Florida Zika cases prompt UK advice for pregnant travellers

30 July 2016

Source: BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

Pregnant women are being advised by Public Health England to consider postponing non-essential trips to the US state of Florida, amid concerns over the Zika virus.

Zika virus (ZIKV): clinical and travel guidance

5 August 2016

Source: Public Health England www.gov.uk

- [Advice for women returning from areas with active Zika virus transmission](#)
- [Interim algorithm for assessing pregnant women with a history of travel](#)
- [Guidance for primary care](#)

Zika virus: preventing infection by sexual transmission

1 August 2016

Source: Public Health England www.gov.uk

Updated: Clarification of modes of sexual transmission

Diet & nutrition

Swapping animal protein for plant protein 'may improve health'

Aug 2 2016

Source: NHS Choices www.nhs.uk

"Ditch sausages for a longer life," The Telegraph advises after a new study found swapping animal sources of protein in favour of plant sources was linked to a longer lifespan...

Call for supermarket price offers on healthy food

04 August 2016

Source: BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

Supermarkets should concentrate their price promotions on healthy food to assist in the battle against obesity, according to consumer group Which?

Sugary Advocacy Toolkit

Aug 03, 2016

Source: UK Health Forum

A new released Toolkit on Sugary Advocacy from Healthy Food America helps explain the need to reduce sugar in our diets, why it's important to know amounts of sugar in foods and drinks and the latest on sugar reduction policies.

Disability

[Progress towards building the right support for people with a learning disability or autism](#)

4 August 2016

Source: NHS England www.england.nhs.uk

Local plans to [transform care for people with a learning disability and/or autism](#) have been published today, backed by millions of pounds of dedicated funding announced by health and care leaders.

Environmental health

[Lethal and illegal: London's air pollution crisis](#)

Jul 26, 2016

Source: UK Health Forum

Air pollution has significant impacts on public health. Across the UK as many as 40,000 deaths a year are attributed to outdoor air pollution, mainly from nitrogen oxides (NOX), including nitrogen dioxide (NO2), and particulates (PM10 and PM2.5).

Health promotion

[Meningitis and septicaemia: poster for new university entrants](#)

4 August 2016

Source: Public Health England www.gov.uk

This poster promotes the meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) vaccine available to university entrants.

Health protection

[Meningococcal: the green book, chapter 22](#)

27 July 2016 [update]

Source: Public Health England www.gov.uk

Meningococcal immunisation information for public health professionals.

Health services administration

[Public Health Outcomes Framework: indicator updates, August 2016](#)

Jul 27, 2016

Source: UK Health Forum

The Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF) examines indicators that helps to understand trends in public health.

[The district council contribution to public health: a time of challenge and opportunity](#)

Jul 26, 2016

Source: UK Health Forum <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

This report was commissioned by the District Councils' Network (DCN) in 2015. Its intention is to contribute to the understanding, assessment and development of the role of district councils in improving the health of their citizens and communities. It focuses on district councils' role in promoting public health through some of their key functions and enabling roles. This report is entirely editorially independent and all views are those of the authors.

[Impact of funding reduction on Public Health](#)

Jul 26, 2016

Source: UK Health Forum <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

Following the 2015 Comprehensive Spending Review announcement of further reductions in the Public Health (PH) ring-fenced grant for English local authorities it was agreed that ADPH should survey members to discover the potential impact of the cuts. The survey was sent to all 132 directors of public health in England and 87 validated responses were received (66 per cent). The main messages are: there will be a detrimental impact on health (78 per cent) and health inequalities (75 per cent); and many services will be reduced and some decommissioned this year (2015-2016) and many more in 2016-2017.

[All Our Health: about the framework](#)

Aug 03, 2016

Source: UK Health Forum <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

Public Health England (PHE) have published, "All Our Health" a call to action to healthcare professionals working with patients and the population to prevent illness, protect health and promote wellbeing.

[NHS Health Checks: increasing uptake](#)

4 August 2016

PHE

Highlighting evidence and approaches for increasing NHS Health Check uptake.

[Accessible Information Standard comes into force](#)

01 August 2016

Source: NHS England www.england.nhs.uk

The Accessible Information Standard aims to ensure that people who have a disability, impairment or sensory loss are provided with information that they can easily read or understand with support so they can communicate effectively with services. Examples of the types of support that might be required include large print, braille or using a British Sign Language (BSL) interpreter.

HIV & AIDS

['Confidence to trust'](#)

02 August 2016

Source: BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

An HIV-preventative drug is the subject of a legal battle over which organisation should pay for it. As campaigners win their High Court case against the NHS, one man tells how taking the medication changed his life.

[BASHH and BHIVA welcome judicial review ruling confirming NHS England's responsibility for the commissioning of PrEP](#)

2 Aug 2016

Source: BASHH www.bashh.org

The British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) and the British HIV Association (BHIVA) strongly welcome the outcome of today's High Court judicial review, which has ruled that NHS England does in fact hold responsibility for the commissioning of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP).

Infant & child health

[Improving school transitions for health equity](#)

Jul 26, 2016

Source: UK Health Forum <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

This paper summarises the latest evidence on school transitions to determine the nature of and extent of their impact on health outcomes. It also considers whether or not school transition interventions and strategies can help to reduce health inequalities.

[Farmyard cure](#)

04 August 2016

Source: BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

A new study from the US comparing two traditional communities suggests exposure to farm animals may prevent asthma in children.

Men's health

[Body image 'a problem for boys', says advertising think tank](#)

08 August 2016

Source: BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

Eating disorders, dieting and extreme exercising are as much of a problem for secondary school boys as for girls, suggests a survey.

Mental health

[How Pokemon Go helped an autistic teen](#)

01 August 2016

Source: BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

A mobile phone game that has caught the attention of the world also appears to have caused a breakthrough with autism sufferers, as the Victoria Derbyshire programme finds out.

[Dementia toolkit to help patients, carers and healthcare workers](#)

03 August 2016

Source: ESRC www.esrc.ac.uk

A comprehensive online database featuring the latest scientific evidence on what works in dementia care and treatment has been developed by researchers.

Obesity

[Who sets the agenda? Learning lessons from the responsibility deal's failure to tackle junk food marketing and promotion](#)

Jul 22, 2016

Source: UK Health Forum <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

This briefing paper examines the Responsibility Deal's lack of progress on food marketing and promotion measures, to see how the Government's Childhood Obesity Strategy might successfully avoid repeating such mistakes. The Responsibility Deal was the Government's flagship public health policy between 2010-15, encouraging industry to make voluntary pledges on food to support and enable people to adopt a healthier diet.

[Britons under-report calorie intake, study suggests](#)

08 August 2016

Source: BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

Britons are under-reporting their daily calorie consumption - potentially misleading policymakers attempting to curb obesity, a report suggests.

Oral health

[Floss or not?](#)

03 August 2016

Source: BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

An investigation into flossing finds years of dental recommendations are backed up by "unreliable" research, so should you floss or not?

Physical activity

[An hour of exercise a day may compensate for an 'office lifestyle'](#)

Jul 28 2016

Source: NHS Choices www.nhs.uk

"Office workers must exercise for an hour a day to counter death risk," The Daily Telegraph reports. A major new study involving more than a million people, suggests that at least an hour's exercise a day...

[Start active, Stay active. A report on physical activity for health from the four countries' Chief Medical Officers](#)

Jul 26, 2016

Source: UK Health Forum <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

The report from the 4 Chief Medical Officers in the UK is intended for the NHS, local authorities and a range of other organisations designing services to promote physical activity. The report will be of use to professionals, practitioners and policymakers

concerned with formulating and implementing policies and programmes that utilise the promotion of physical activity, sport, exercise and active travel to achieve health gains

Safety & accident prevention

[Maritime and Coastguard Agency: Cold water shock short film](#)

26 Jul 2016

Source: Wired.gov www.wired-gov.net

The Marine & Coastguard Agency have just launched their new film, which targets 18 to 29 year old males with a message about the dangers of cold water shock. The new **40-second film** aims to highlight the dangers of jumping or falling into water, especially after drinking, and reveals some stark dangers.

[ROSPA - Figures reveal 321 people died in accidental drownings in 2015](#)

July 29

Source: ROSPA www.rospa.com

The figures, published by the National Water Safety Forum (NWSF), also show that the majority of those who died did not intend to be in the water, with 82 people having drowned while walking or running, and 29 deaths while taking part in a commercial activity.

[NHS Foundation Trust fined over patient death](#)

29 July 2016

Source: HSE www.hse.gov.uk

Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust has been fined for safety failings after a patient drowned during a canoeing activity event. Mansoor Elahi, 31, from Rochdale was an inpatient at Birch Hill Hospital when the incident occurred at Hollingworth Lake, Rochdale on 5 September 2013

[Better safety information and advice needed for firms employing apprentices](#)

04/08/2016

Source: ROSPA www.rospa.com

A report has found that better advice and information is needed for employers to ensure the health and safety of their apprentices.

Sexual health

[Around 1 in 10 UK young people report distressing sex problems](#)

Aug 3 2016

Source: NHS Choices www.nhs.uk

"Large number of young people experience sex problems," The Guardian reports. In one of the largest UK surveys of its kind, 1 in 10 young men and 1 in 8 young women reported having persistent distressing sexual problems...

[FPA responds to NICE draft guidance on condoms](#)

05 Aug 2016

Source: FPA www.fpa.org.uk

Sexual health charity FPA has welcomed new [draft guidance from NICE](#) (The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) on increasing the provision of condoms to help

reduce rates of sexually transmitted infections (STIs).
Read more at <http://www.fpa.org.uk/news/fpa-responds-nice-draft-guidance-condoms#OBBTc15Xef7cBWU2.99>

Smoking

[Advisory note: banning menthol in tobacco products](#)

Jul 26, 2016 *Source:* UK Health Forum <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

Menthol is a flavouring agent commonly used in cigarettes and other tobacco products. Menthol cigarettes are used more frequently by younger smokers, women and ethnic minorities, and their use facilitates both initiation and continued smoking, leading to addiction. These issues have raised global concern. To address this public health issue, the WHO Study Group on Tobacco Product Regulation (TobReg) has prepared this advisory note on menthol, which synthesizes recent studies on the prevalence and health effects of menthol in tobacco products.

[Local tobacco control profiles for England: August 2016 data update](#)

2 August 2016 *Source:* Public Health England www.gov.uk

The Local Tobacco Control Profiles for England quarterly data update for August 2016.

Social & economic issues

[Longitudinal study of young people in England: cohort 2, wave 2](#)

25 July 2016 *Source:* Department for Education www.gov.uk

Research into the health and wellbeing of 14-year-olds living in England. Update.

[Poverty costs UK £78bn a year, Joseph Rowntree Foundation says](#)

01 August 2016 *Source:* BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

The effects of poverty in the UK cost the average taxpayer £1,200 a year, and the UK £78bn in total, with the NHS bearing the brunt, a report suggests.

Statistics

[Measles, mumps and rubella: laboratory confirmed cases in England 2016](#)

5 August 2016 *Source:* Public Health England www.gov.uk

Quarterly reports and commentary on cases confirmed by PHE's Virus Reference Department or national routine laboratory testing (mumps only).

Women's health

['We want women to feel safe'](#)

29 July 2016 *Source:* BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

The UK's first maternity service for victims of rape and sexual abuse, which opens today at the Royal London Hospital.

Newport woman 'died from untreated pill side effects'

28 July 2016

Source: BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

A woman died from the untreated side effects of the combined contraceptive pill, a coroner concludes.

Vaginal douching 'linked to increased ovarian cancer risk'

Aug 4 2016

Source: NHS Choices www.nhs.uk

"Women who douche are almost twice as likely to get ovarian cancer," Metro reports after a study of more than 40,000 women from the US and Puerto Rico found a significant link...

Local news: []

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Other Bulletins

Super Six Bulletin

This is a weekly Bulletin that details original articles in the BMJ, JAMA, New England Journal of Medicine and The Lancet, Annals of Internal Medicine and Annals of Emergency Medicine
<http://cash.libraryservices.nhs.uk/cash-service/rss-newsfeed-menu/medicine/big-four-bulletin/>

Daily Health Bulletin

The Daily Health Bulletin is produced by the Knowledge Service of the West and South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Commissioning Support Unit.
<http://cash.libraryservices.nhs.uk/cash-service/daily-health-bulletin/>

Healthcare Public Health

Monthly bulletin containing news and information about key public health issues including health service commissioning, updates from Public Health England, local authorities, Faculty of Public Health and others agencies, resources and good practice.
<http://www.healthcarepublichealth.net/newsletters.php>

PHE Bulletin (Public Health England)

The PHE Bulletin is issued monthly and contains public health news and information.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/phe-bulletin>

Public Health and Social Care Bulletin

This is published weekly and created by Kent & Medway Public Health Observatory. It provides an update on what is new in public health and social care, both nationally and locally.
<http://www.kpho.org.uk/library-services/keeping-up-to-date/e-bulletin-archive>



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