

Reports

[Childhood Matters](#)

Childhood Matters acts as an update to the Association's 2017 policy paper, A country that works for all children. It seeks to capture the issues and challenges facing children, young people and families, such as poverty and poor mental health, as well as the public services they rely on. This paper has been developed in consultation with leaders of local authority children's services across the country. They expressed a shared concern about the lack of prominence and prioritisation of children within government policy and spending priorities as well as the difficulties in navigating the diffuse accountability arrangements across the multiple different departments and agencies each with responsibility for aspects of child and family policy.

Case Studies

[Case study: How partnership working in Sefton is creating a person-centred approach to hospital discharge](#)

Urgent care services in Sefton are working with the local voluntary, community, faith, and social enterprise sector to reduce hospital admissions, enable safe, effective discharge and support unpaid carers through a wrap-around, holistic service that puts the patient and their carer at the centre of their support.

Surveys

[Accessing and using health information: Share your experience](#)

The Reading Agency is a UK-wide charity working to empower people of all ages to transform their lives through reading. We are carrying out research into people's experiences of accessing, reading and using health information.

Blogs

[Mental health 360](#)

Mental health 360 aims to provide a '360-degree' review of mental health care in England. It focuses on nine core areas, bringing together data available at the time of publication with expert insights to help you understand what is happening in relation to mental health and the wider context.

[How to make timely, effective mental health support a reality](#)

When someone is in need of mental health support, this should be available locally and accessible when their needs first surface. Too often, people aren't able to get help until they reach crisis point. The significant overrepresentation of people from racialised communities in detentions under the Mental Health Act is a clear indication of the urgent need for reform. Modernising the Act, which is almost 40 years old in its current form, lays the groundwork for dismantling outdated, discriminatory systems, and building improved and more diverse infrastructure.

[Why reversing the rise in mental health inequalities should be in every party manifesto](#)

The need to improve mental health is an ever more common talking point. But tackling inequality is too often left out of this conversation. Mental health inequalities mean that while it is true that anyone can experience mental ill health, the risks are much higher for certain groups who experience structural discrimination and disadvantage, with significant intersections of disadvantage compounding mental health risks.

[Putting prevention of mental ill health on the political agenda](#)

Despite a huge body of scientific evidence, and countless practical examples, it has long been a challenge to make the case for investment in the prevention of mental ill health. Public health grants in England have been cut by as much as 26% since 2015, with the most deprived areas subjected to even bigger cuts.



[Blog on experience of accessing healthcare as an LGBTQ+ person for LGBT+ History Month](#)

LGBT+ History Month 2024 runs through February and the theme for this year is Medicine – #UnderTheScope which celebrates LGBT+ peoples' contribution to the field of Medicine and Healthcare both historically and today. The organisers also wanted people to shine a light on the history of the LGBT+ community's experience of receiving healthcare which for some, can be extremely complicated, leaving LGBT+ people still facing health inequalities today.

[Accessibility: how do we make sure our information meets patient-safety standards?](#)

We all have a right to receive information about our own health in a way we can understand. There is no excuse for poor-quality, inaccessible, information that excludes people. In this blog I will consider how these needs can be met and the implications for patient safety if they are not.

[Waiting for too long: the urgent need for health and justice reform](#)

The first few weeks of 2024 has seen the publication of numerous reports about the wellbeing of prisoners in England and Wales. They present a picture of a system that is struggling to cope, putting the wellbeing of both prisoners and staff members at considerable risk.

News

['Urgent action' needed on failing child health](#)

The Academy of Medical Sciences has released a stark report highlighting wide-ranging evidence of declining health among children under five in the UK and calls on policymakers to take urgent action to address the situation. It warns Government that major health issues like infant mortality, obesity and tooth decay are not only damaging the nation's youngest citizens and their future, but also its economic prosperity, with the cost of inaction estimated to be at least £16 billion a year.

[Mind responds to ambulance service concerns over Right Care Right Person](#)

The Association of Ambulance Chief Executives (AACE) has today warned that patients and paramedics are both coming to harm, following the roll out of a new scheme to reduce police involvement in mental health calls.

[Care and support for long term conditions](#)

In England, more than 15 million people (over a quarter of the population) have a long-term health condition, or a health problem that cannot be cured but can be controlled with medication or other therapies. Over the next ten years this figure is expected to increase, especially among those living with multiple conditions. Care of people with long-term conditions accounts for about 70% of the money we spend on health and social care in England.

[Baby loss certificate launched to recognise parents' grief](#)

Parents who have experienced the devastation of losing a baby before 24 weeks of pregnancy can apply for a certificate to have their grief recognised from today. The government is launching a voluntary scheme to allow parents to record and receive a certificate to provide recognition of their loss. Parents can access this free service from 9am today (22 February 2024).

[Funding for game-changing tech which could destroy cancers and predict disease](#)

Millions invested in eight innovative companies behind lifesaving new medical technology which could destroy liver cancer tumours, detect Alzheimer's and quickly spot those at risk of stroke.

[Preparing for a successful spring 2024 COVID-19 vaccination campaign](#)

Letter from Steve Russell, Chief Delivery Officer and National Director for COVID-19 and flu vaccinations programmes about the plan for a seasonal dose of COVID-19 vaccine in spring 2024.



[Researchers identify a core outcome measurement set for Long COVID in children and young people](#)

Measurement set for identifying Long COVID in children has been created in a new King's study in partnership with the World Health Organisation, contributing to a greater understanding of this complex condition.

[Strong Foundations: Why everyone needs good emotional health – and how to achieve it](#)

The UK is facing a serious mental health crisis – every week one in six people in England will experience a common mental health problem, such as depression or anxiety. The knock-on impact of this costs our economy at least £118 billion a year due to factors like lost productivity and economic inactivity.

[Research finds link between digital skills, isolation and loneliness](#)

The study suggests that lower digital skills are indirectly related to wellbeing and loneliness through an association with isolation.

[Alcohol dependence: telephone support plus financial incentives helped people take acamprosate](#)

This study included 739 people with alcohol dependence. Researchers compared strategies to help people take the medication acamprosate as prescribed, to prevent relapse. All participants received standard support (monthly check-ins with addiction services or a GP).

[One million people in England may have undiagnosed type 2 diabetes – what you need to know](#)

Around 5 million people in England (about one in nine adults) are on the cusp of developing type 2 diabetes, according to new data from the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Experts also warn that 1 million people unknowingly already have the condition, most likely older adults. Type 2 diabetes can lead to long-term damage to your body, so an early diagnosis is crucial. Here's what you need to know.