



## Local Knowledge and Intelligence Service London

# Intelligence Update – October 2020

## Welcome

Welcome to the Intelligence Update for October 2020 for the London Knowledge and Intelligence Network. This document provides you with updates about Public Health England (PHE) tools and resources, together with key points for London, and news of publications and events. We welcome your feedback and suggestions about the content of this Intelligence Update, our work, or suggestions for any other support that you would like. Please email us on [LKISLondon@phe.gov.uk](mailto:LKISLondon@phe.gov.uk).

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## A message from us

You will have heard through the media and other avenues that Public Health England is to be disbanded. A new Institute for Health Protection (NIHP), headed up by Baroness Dido Harding is currently being established to support the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The home of the other parts of PHE, including Health Improvement, of which Health Intelligence is a part, is currently under review.

However, during these uncertain times we remain committed to supporting you. Amongst other areas of support our enquiries service remains open and we look forward to supporting you in the coming months.

We will of course keep you up to speed with any developments pertaining to the future of our service.

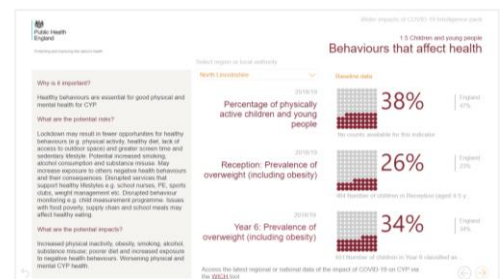
## In focus this month: Wider impacts of COVID-19

COVID-19 continues to have a significant impact. While many people continue to be directly affected by the disease itself, the effects of the necessary responses taken to manage the epidemic and the wider socioeconomic consequences impact everyone. To support local areas PHE have released Wider impacts of COVID-19 [Fingertips profile](#) and [Health needs assessment intelligence pack for local areas](#) with baseline data.

### How can these resources be used?

[The Health needs assessment intelligence pack](#) provides a narrative to the latest baseline data available. It aims to illustrate the potential impacts that local areas may need to mitigate for, by:

- articulating important known or anticipated impacts of COVID-19
- demonstrating the breadth of potential impacts
- providing baseline data at local authority and regional level relating to those impacts, sourced from [the Wider Impacts of Covid-19 on Health](#) profile



This interactive pack builds on the [Wider Impacts of COVID-19 on Health fingertips profile](#) with narrative to the baseline indicators. It is organised by life course stages with potential impacts ranging from immediate health care to longer term socio-economic factors. Each section provides the latest available prevalence and scale of local populations potentially affected. Local authority comparisons and benchmarking against England values are given at the end of each life course chapter, as well as available metrics on respective health inequalities by deprivation at England level. Visit the [Fingertips profile](#) for more information about the indicators, trends, maps, further benchmarking options with other geographies, and much more.

### Further resources

The [Wider Impacts of COVID-19 on Health \(WICH\) monitoring tool](#), updated weekly, monitors the wider impact of COVID-19 currently at national and regional level. You can find recent surveillance data on mental health and wellbeing via the [COVID-19: mental health and wellbeing surveillance report](#) which compiles routinely updated indicators from multiple sources, along with summaries from ongoing surveys.

For a quick introduction to the pack please see [this short video](#). The intelligence pack is a beta version, built in Power Bi using FingertipsR package to facilitate data feed from PHE's Fingertips platform. For best results please view it in Google Chrome. We welcome any feedback and suggestions for improvement via [LKISnortheastandyorkshire@phe.gov.uk](mailto:LKISnortheastandyorkshire@phe.gov.uk).

## Updates from PHE's Population Health Analysis team

- **Open consultation: Proposed changes to how smoking-attributable risk is calculated**

The current relative risks calculation of smoking-attributable fractions is based on data from 'The Health Consequences of Smoking: A Report of the Surgeon General' using data from 1982 to 1988. We propose to update the list of relative risks to a subset of those in the report published by the Royal College of Physicians in 2018. The [consultation document](#) outlines our proposal, why we propose the changes and the methodology we propose to use. This will affect the smoking attributable mortality and smoking attributable hospital admissions indicators in the Local Tobacco Control Profiles. The consultation closes on 02 November – you may respond [online](#) or by emailing [tobacco.profiles@phe.gov.uk](mailto:tobacco.profiles@phe.gov.uk).

- **NCVIN Update**

NCVIN have recently released the updated [Hypertension Prevalence and Management information](#) to reflect changes in the 2019/20 Quality and Outcomes Framework, by CCG, STP and England. Preparatory work continues on CVDPREVENT, the new cardiovascular disease primary care audit. Further information is available in their CVD feature online [here](#).

The latest data for the [NHS Health Check](#) for Quarter 1 2020/21 has been published on fingertips. A special NHS Health Check e-Bulletin also focuses on the national CVD ambitions and includes articles from charities on atrial fibrillation, blood pressure and cholesterol as well as updates on national projects such as CVDPREVENT and the Accelerating Disease Detection (ADD) project. The e-Bulletin can be found [here](#).

## Health Intelligence Network updates

- **Child and maternal health**

- **Restart of the interim children's public health 0 to 5 years national reporting system**

The data collection window has been open since Monday 21 September and will close on Friday 30 October for quarter 4, and for updated data for quarters 1 to 3 2019 to 2020. This will be the final opportunity to submit and update data for 2019 to 2020. Virtual contacts will be counted as valid, mandated service delivery during the period of the pandemic response and so should be included in submissions for quarter 4.

We recognise that local authorities may encounter difficulties submitting data as they continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. We will seek to ensure that no local authority is disadvantaged because of current pressures where they wish to submit data. Please email [interimreporting@phe.gov.uk](mailto:interimreporting@phe.gov.uk) with any issues.

Publication is expected in early 2021 and will be confirmed in the Statistics Release calendar. We will provide full details of the process for data collection for 2020 to 2021 in due course.

- **Metrics for pregnancy outcomes now included in the Wider Impact of COVID-19 on Health (WICH) tool**  
Initial metrics for different life course stages have now been included in the [WICH tool](#). The first metrics to be released cover monthly figures for stillbirths, low birthweight, very low birthweight and premature deliveries for in April and May 2020. It compares these to the baseline, nationally and for regions, and offers information about different ethnic groups, age and deprivation quintile.
- **Mental Health and Wellbeing**
  - **COVID-19: mental health and wellbeing surveillance report published**  
On 08 September, the first [Mental health and wellbeing surveillance report](#) was published. The report looks at population mental health and wellbeing in England during the COVID-19 pandemic by compiling routinely updated indicators from multiple sources and summarises important findings from ongoing surveys. It is designed to assist stakeholders at national and local level, in both government and non-government sectors. The report will be published regularly moving forwards. You can read more about the report in our [blog](#).

## Methodological updates

- **Fingertips R**  
The R package that provides access to the data underpinning Fingertips, `fingertipsR`, will not be on CRAN for the foreseeable future. To install the released and stable version in the future, please use `install.packages("fingertipsR", repos = "https://dev.ropensci.org")`. The [README file on GitHub](#) is updated to reflect this.
- **National life tables**  
ONS has released quality and methodology information for the national life tables. You can read about the quality characteristics of the data (including the [five European Statistical System dimensions of quality](#)) as well as the methods used to create it [here](#).
- **Covid-19 Infection Survey (Pilot)**  
ONS have released a [methodology guide](#) intended to provide information on the methods used to collect the data, process it, and calculate the statistics produced from the COVID-19 Infection Survey (pilot).

## Knowledge and Library Services updates

- **Finding the evidence: Coronavirus**  
PHE Knowledge and Library Services team (KLS) has updated [this page](#) to help those working on the current coronavirus outbreak to identify and access emerging evidence as it is published. The page is produced by Public Health England as a resource for professionals working in public health, librarians and information professionals.

Most of the resources are freely accessible but some may ask for an [OpenAthens sign-in](#). It is therefore important that your OpenAthens details are up-to-date. PHE staff unable to access an article or a resource, can email [libraries@phe.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@phe.gov.uk) for assistance. Non-PHE staff are advised to contact their local [health librarian](#) for support if necessary.

A new [COVID-19 Rapid Reviews](#) page is available on the [Knowledge and Library Services](#) website, which shows a table of publications. The table lists review questions, the current stage of reviews, and completed publications that are available to download.

- **Discovery Service**

The [LAPH Discovery Service](#) allows a single search across a range of content from multiple information resources. It is designed to save time when looking for information and to allow resources to be “discovered” which might not have been found otherwise. Local authority public health teams can search and access the journal titles currently provided by PHE, along with the nationally procured content journals. There are new additions for 2020, details available [here](#).

- **Evidence briefings**

Evidence briefings are a summary of the best available evidence that has been identified and selected from research using systematic and transparent search methods in order to answer a specific question. Please note, the findings are not quality assessed or critically appraised. The evidence briefings are available [here](#).

- **Practice examples**

[Practice examples](#) aim to share the learning from public health practitioners’ experience of developing and implementing public health programmes and projects. They embed local, regional and national descriptions of service practice or service case studies, bringing together public health practitioners’ rich sources of knowledge on evidence and intelligence.

## Data releases

- **Upcoming releases**

You can keep up to date with the upcoming public health data releases on the PHE National Health Intelligence [Khub](#) where we publish our Public Health Intelligence Calendar. The calendar provides a list of the data and statistics of public health interest due to be published in the following two weeks. The calendar is published weekly on a Friday. If you need assistance registering or using Knowledge Hub, please email us on [LKISLondon@phe.gov.uk](mailto:LKISLondon@phe.gov.uk).

## Local events and training

- **PHE National Health Intelligence Knowledge hub group**

National content (such as the Public Health Intelligence Calendar and updates on PHE tools and products) is now being posted on the [PHE National Health Intelligence](#) group.

Reference material includes:

- A series of guides to support access to key datasets
- Technical guidance on using Fingertips and the Fingertips R package
- A 'Signposting guide' with links to online health data tools and resources
- Our population health intelligence training prospectus
- Contact details for webinars, regional networks and other events.

This beta version has been made available at an early stage so that we can take on board your views as we develop it further. Please email us on [LKISLondon@phe.gov.uk](mailto:LKISLondon@phe.gov.uk) with your comments and suggestions on how the group can be improved.

Local updates will continue to be posted on the [PHE London group](#).

National and local PHE groups can also be accessed by visiting the [PHE network home page](#), where you will find instructions on how to set PHE as your home network and locate PHE groups, along with hints, tips and other resources to maximise the benefits of being part of the network.

- **All Our Health: e-learning sessions**

Public Health England has launched new free bite-sized [e-learning sessions](#), developed in partnership with Health Education England, to improve the knowledge, confidence and skills of all health and care professionals in preventing illness, protecting health and promoting wellbeing. The sessions cover some of the biggest issues in public health and they contain signposting to trusted sources of helpful evidence, guidance and support to help professionals embed prevention in their everyday practice.

## Useful information

- Links to key tools and sources of information:
  - The [PHE data and analysis tools site](#) is a single point of access for data and analysis tools from across PHE
  - The [Public Health Profiles](#) page covers a range of health and wellbeing themes to support Joint Strategic Needs Assessments and commissioning
  - Information about local knowledge and intelligence products and services are shared on the PHE London Knowledge hub site.

- **Release dates for public health statistics are included in the calendars below:**
  - [gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements)
  - [content.digital.nhs.uk/pubs/calendar](https://content.digital.nhs.uk/pubs/calendar)
  - [ons.gov.uk/ons/release-calendar/index.html](https://ons.gov.uk/ons/release-calendar/index.html).

## **Enquiry service**

The PHE Local Knowledge and Intelligence Service London operate an enquiry service. Please send your questions and information requests to: [LKISLondon@phe.gov.uk](mailto:LKISLondon@phe.gov.uk)