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| **February 2025** | |
| RSPH | **Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) - A place for health: building health & wellbeing in places we spend time** For many people, the places they inhabit can actively make them unhealthier – pushing them away from the healthy choices that we all want to make. The end result of this is that health has very little to do with conscious decisions, but is instead a reflection of the environments in which people spend their time. |
| In this report, the RSPH calls for a step change in how we consider health – embedding it across every area of society, rather than leaving it as an issue solely to be considered by medical professionals in the NHS. It argues that only by doing this can we turn the tide on the ill health that is holding back too many people in the UK today.<https://www.rsph.org.uk/our-work/policy/healthy-places/a-place-for-health-report.html?utm_source=The%20King%27s%20Fund%20newsletters%20%28main%20account%29&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=14847800_NEWSL_HWB_2025-02-03&dm_i=21A8,8U8MW,2NYYES,10SKXM,1> | |
|  | **Designing inclusive and trusted digital health services with people and communities**  **The shift towards digital**  Technology plays an increasingly important role in our health and care system. It allows us to consult specialists and receive care from home, order medications using our phones, and receive new digital treatments – and this is just the start. |
| With Lord Darzi’s recent independent review of the NHS in England emphasising the importance of a ‘tilt towards technology’, the government’s intention to shift from analogue to digital, and exciting developments in technologies (such as artificial intelligence, virtual reality, and miniaturisation of diagnostics), the use of data and digital technology in our health care system is only going to grow. Increased use of digital tools provides an unprecedented opportunity to apply modern approaches to understanding patient needs and behaviour to the NHS. In future, digital tools could be used to gather sophisticated insights to better tailor services around specific groups.  <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/insight-and-analysis/long-reads/inclusive-digital-services-people-communities?utm_source=The%20King%27s%20Fund%20newsletters%20%28main%20account%29&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=14862494_NEWSL_HMP_Library%202025-02-04&dm_i=21A8,8UJZ2,2NYYES,10U468,1> | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Identifying SEND**  **A new report by the Education Policy Institute**, funded by the**Nuffield Foundation,** highlights the inequalities and the blind spots that exist in SEND support across schools in England. The report identifies the structural challenges within the system where factors such as the fragmentation of the school system, prolonged school absences, language barriers and living in disadvantaged areas make it difficult for pupils’ needs to be assessed consistently. Read here: <https://epi.org.uk/> | | |

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|  | **The 10 Year Health Plan: what do we know about public perceptions of the three shifts?**  The government will focus on 'three shifts' for the health service in its upcoming 10 Year Health Plan. But what do the public think of these three shifts? In our new long read with Ipsos, we explore public perceptions of moving more care into the community, digital innovation and prevention. Read more here: |
| <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/insight-and-analysis/long-reads/10-year-health-plan-public-perceptions-three-shifts?utm_source=The%20King%27s%20Fund%20newsletters%20%28main%20account%29&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=14882041_NEWSL_WeeklyUpdate_170225%5BMondaySend%5D&utm_content=Button_3shifts&dm_i=21A8,8UZ21,2NYYES,10W77T,1> | |
|  | **"Just a Period": Calling time on heavy and painful periods**  Our report exposes the widespread experience of women and girls enduring painful, heavy periods without access to the information and care they need. Read more here:  [**https://www.wellbeingofwomen.org.uk/**](https://www.wellbeingofwomen.org.uk/) |

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| **Infection Prevention guidance and updates** | | |
| 5 February | UK Health Security Agency Guidance  **Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV): vaccination for older adults**  Information on respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and the benefits of vaccination for adults and resources to promote the vaccination to older adults.  Leaflet has been updated to include details of the rare side effect Guillain-Barré syndrome. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv-vaccination-for-older-adults?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=aaa26877-885e-427c-9172-32eb0f372af5&utm_content=daily#:~:text=Guidance,to%20older%20adults>. |
| 5 February | UK Health Security Agency Guidance  **Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV): maternal vaccination**  Information on respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and the benefits of vaccination for pregnant women and their babies and a poster and stickers to promote the vaccination to pregnant women.  Leaflet updated to include details of a very rare side effect, Guillain-Barré syndrome. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv-maternal-vaccination?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=f4952f54-9675-42f8-a287-6a7e7a7f8e13&utm_content=daily#full-publication-update-history> |

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| **Infection Prevention guidance and updates continued** | | |
| 11 February | Department of Health & Social Care, NHS England Press release  **Government ramps up efforts to end HIV transmissions in England**  Over 20,000 self-testing and self-sampling kits will be made available to help end HIV transmissions by the end of the decade. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-ramps-up-efforts-to-end-hiv-transmissions-in-england?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=561de95b-0f35-46b4-8ae5-f196ba1804d7&utm_content=daily> |
| 26 February | Department of Health & Social Care Guidance  **Adult social care (ASC) workforce and work-related quality of life**  Survey results on how working conditions, capacity, learning and development, and working relationships affect work-related quality of life in adult social care. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adult-social-care-asc-workforce-and-work-related-quality-of-life?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=45adfe6a-5c52-40f3-900e-0a1310a4a673&utm_content=daily> |
| 27 February | UK Health Security Agency News story  **UKHSA warns of potential second norovirus wave**  People who have already had the virus this winter could be at risk again, as new data shows shift in circulating strains. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-warns-of-potential-second-norovirus-wave?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=aeb01468-fd6f-443c-8b0b-afd7f847c11c&utm_content=daily> |

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| **Other Topics - updates** |

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| 1 February | Department of Health and Social Care Policy paper  **Road to recovery: the government's 2025 mandate to NHS England**  The government’s mandate to NHS England sets out the objectives they should seek to achieve. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/road-to-recovery-the-governments-2025-mandate-to-nhs-england?utm_source=The%20King%27s%20Fund%20newsletters%20%28main%20account%29&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=14862494_NEWSL_HMP_Library%202025-02-04&dm_i=21A8,8UJZ2,2NYYES,10U4MQ,1> |
| 11 February | Department for Health and Social Care Policy paper  **Telecare National Action Plan: protecting telecare users through the digital phone switchover**  The telecommunications industry is leading a programme of work to switch telephone networks from analogue to digital. The switchover will be complete for all providers by January 2027. As the digital phone switchover takes place, there is a risk that some analogue telecare devices will not perform reliably on digital networks. This has increased risks for telecare users. This publication, published jointly with the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT), sets out the actions that stakeholders must take to safeguard telecare users during the digital phone switchover. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/telecare-national-action-plan-protecting-telecare-users-throughout-the-digital-phone-switchover/telecare-national-action-plan-protecting-telecare-users-through-the-digital-phone-switchover?utm_source=The%20King%27s%20Fund%20newsletters%20%28main%20account%29&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=14896531_NEWSL_DHD%202025-02-26&dm_i=21A8,8VA8J,2NYYES,10XX3P,1> |

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| **Other Topics – updates continued** |

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| 12 February | UK Visas and Immigration Guidance  **Right to work checks: an employer's guide**  How to carry out right to work checks, why you need to do them, and which documents you can use.  Updated the employers' guide to right to work checks. A full list of changes can be found in the guidance. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/right-to-work-checks-employers-guide?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=492d9675-12e6-4b57-a849-95ffbf6f846e&utm_content=daily#full-publication-update-history> |
| 18 February | UK Health Security Agency Guidance new publication  **Heat-Health Alert action card for health and social care providers**  This Heat-Health Alert action card summarises the suggested actions that providers of health or social care should consider at each Heat-Health Alert level. | <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/heat-health-alert-action-card-for-health-and-social-care-providers?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=c1611c92-a57b-45ee-b98d-29bd98bc16f9&utm_content=daily> |
| 19 February | UK Health Security Agency Guidance  **Wi-Fi radio waves and health**  Content updated, including up-to-date information regarding Wi-Fi and mobile phones. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wireless-networks-wi-fi-radio-waves-and-health/wi-fi-radio-waves-and-health> |
| 21 February | Disclosure and Barring Service Guidance  **DBS guidance leaflets**  Guidance leaflets relating to eligibility and other DBS services and products.  Update: New leaflet added, Regulated activity with adults in England and Wales, which is an amalgamation of the leaflets Regulated activity with adults in England and Regulated activity with adults in Wales. These leaflets have been removed as they are replaced by the new leaflet.  Updated HTML version of DBS checks for adult social care roles created, with section about befrienders added. Original PDF version deleted as it is now outdated.  English and Welsh version of a guide to school governor and elected councillor roles in Wales leaflet removed | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-guidance-leaflets?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=20e8a79d-aa01-4d00-a92b-7e9fd4681d49&utm_content=daily#full-publication-update-history> |