



## March 2010

### 1. Stop Press

#### 1.1 PHOs 10th anniversary: celebrating a decade of public health intelligence

The Public Health Observatories will be celebrating their 10th anniversary with the Chief Medical Officer, Sir Liam Donaldson, at a special event at Westminster Central Hall on 9 March 2010. For your **last chance to register** go to <http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/view.aspx?RID=49285>

The LHO will be producing a series of ten key facts through the remainder of 2010 looking at aspects of London's health over the last decade. These will be on the website at: <http://www.lho.org.uk/AboutUs/APHOAnniversary.aspx>

### 2. New from the LHO

#### 2.1 Physical activity tool

This new national tool will take indicators relating to physical activity and display them in interactive maps at small area level. This will help in planning leisure services and with targeting sections of the population who either wish to participate in activities but don't have accessible facilities, or who have health conditions and would benefit from access to physical activity services.

This will be published on 5 March and will be available at the Make Sport Fun website at: <http://www.makesportfun.com/> and on the LHO website at: <http://www.lho.org.uk/>

#### 2.2 Local basket of health inequalities indicators

A number of indicators in the LBOI have been updated and are now available on the website. Updated indicators include those for the directly standardised mortality rate for those aged under 75 for all causes, circulatory disease, cancers, and lung cancer. Updated indicators for the directly standardised mortality rate for accidents, suicide and undetermined injury, infant mortality rate, and proportion of total birth with a birth weight less than 2500g are also available. View updated indicators at: [http://www.lho.org.uk/LHO\\_Topics/National\\_Lead\\_Areas/Basket\\_Of\\_Indicators/BasketData.aspx](http://www.lho.org.uk/LHO_Topics/National_Lead_Areas/Basket_Of_Indicators/BasketData.aspx).

### In the pipeline

#### 2.3 New health inequalities intervention tools

Two new inequalities intervention tools are shortly to be added to the suite. These will provide the latest update on life expectancy data as well as including an additional intervention to monitor the effect of controlling high blood sugar. The infant mortality tool will bring together information on factors which may influence infant mortality, such as deprivation, teenage pregnancy and ethnicity. Users will also be able to assess the impact of contributors such as smoking in pregnancy, poverty, maternal obesity and failure to initiate breastfeeding.

#### 2.4 Modelling the impact of smokefree legislation on heart attacks

LHO will be publishing estimates of admissions for heart attacks and hospital costs avoided that are attributable to the smokefree legislation. This information will be available for each PCT in England.

#### 2.5 Health needs assessment (HNA) toolkit: version 2

LHO's PCT intelligence team will be publishing the latest version of the HNA toolkit at the end of the month. Building on the work already completed to support PCTs and local authorities in developing their JSNAs, version 2 will include more small area data, more projection and historical data, and mapping functionality.

Version 2 will be available at: <http://hna.csl.nhs.uk/>

#### 2.6 Child health profiles

LHO, working with the Government Office for London and the directors of children's services, will be releasing a London set of child health profiles. These are based on nationally available data from the Child and Maternal Health Observatory (ChiMat) and will include a factsheet explaining the findings for each London borough.

#### 2.5 End of life good practice guide

An online interactive guide to improve end of life care services in London will be launched by Commissioning Support for London on 4 March. The *End of life care good practice guide* aims to advise commissioners and clinicians on how to implement a new

What's new at the LHO  
[Diet and nutrition web page](#)

Top three downloads for January  
[Health Inequalities Intervention Tool](#)

[Local Basket of Indicators Webtool](#)

[Practice Profiles Tool](#)

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model of care. The model should allow that by March 2013 at least half of patients nearing the end of their life to die at home.

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### 3. London news & events

#### 3.1 London skills and employment observatory

A new website from the Centre for Economic & Social Inclusion aims to bring together the many data sources about the London employment market. The London Skills and Employment Observatory includes data, policy and research at: <http://lseo.org.uk/>

#### 3.2 London housing strategy

The Mayor of London published his housing strategy for the capital on 27 February. The strategy plans to restore 3000 buildings that are currently derelict, abandoned or unused to provide additional housing, deliver 50 000 affordable homes before the Olympics and halve severe overcrowding by 2016.

Further details at: [http://www.london.gov.uk/media/press\\_releases\\_mayoral/](http://www.london.gov.uk/media/press_releases_mayoral/)

#### 3.3 NHS dentistry in London

An additional 13 343 children have seen an NHS dentist in London since 2006, according to the latest figures from the NHS Information Centre. The number of adults seeing an NHS dentist in London over the same period fell by 46 000. NHS London is creating 31 new dental practices and extending another 480 to provide care for a further 400 000 patients.

NHS dental statistics for England is at: <http://www.ic.nhs.uk/statistics-and-data-collections/primary-care/dentistry/>

Read the statement from NHS London at: <http://www.london.nhs.uk/news-and-health-issues/press-releases/>

#### 3.4 Ethnicity and cancer workshop

The Public Health Forum for Cancer Networks and PCTs is holding a workshop on ethnicity and cancer on 25 March 2010 at Guys campus. For further details and a booking form see: <http://www.lho.org.uk/viewResource.aspx?id=15722>

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### 4. National and international news

#### 4.1 Fair society, healthy lives

The Marmot review on health inequalities in England post-2010 concludes that the lower a person's social position, the worse is his or her health. People dying prematurely as a result of health inequalities would otherwise have enjoyed a total of between 1.3 – 2.5 million extra years of life. The panel recommends action on six policy objectives:

- Give every child the best start in life
- Enable all children young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
- Create fair employment and good work for all
- Ensure healthy standard of living for all
- Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities
- Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention

*Fair society, healthy lives* is at: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/gheg/marmotreview>

The LHO has contributed to the review on behalf of APHO in our paper on implementing the Review's proposed monitoring framework.

*Framework of indicators to assess performance improvement in delivering review recommendations* is at: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/gheg/marmotreview/Documents/wc2>

#### 4.2 Vital signs monitoring

The latest set of results from the vital signs monitoring framework is now available for stroke, diabetes, child and adolescent mental health services, delayed transfers of care, rapid access chest pain clinics and maternity services.

Full details at: <http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Statistics/>

#### 4.3 State of healthcare

The Care Quality Commission's report on the state of health and social care finds that the overall number of NHS trusts scoring 'good' or 'excellent' for quality of services rose from 61% in 2008 to 63% in 2009. Five per cent of NHS trusts rated 'weak.'

Full report is at: <http://www.cqc.org.uk/stateofcare/downloadthereport.cfm>

#### 4.4 Diabetes care six years on

The sixth review of progress in delivering the diabetes framework has been published at:

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_112509](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_112509)

#### 4.5 Stroke audit 2009

Rapid transfer of stroke patients to hospital by paramedics has increased from 4% to 66% over the last five years. Although less than a quarter of patients are admitted directly to an acute stroke unit, 83% of stroke patients were in a stroke bed on the day of the audit. Among the 2009 stroke audit's top ten recommendations are admitting patients directly to a stroke unit without going through a Medical Assessment Unit and that all patients are admitted to sites capable of emergency out of hours imaging in compliance with NICE guidelines.

National sentinel stroke audit 2009 is at: <http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/media/Press-releases/Documents/>

#### 4.6 National diet nutrition survey

Headline results from the first year of the national diet and nutrition survey show that a third of men and women are eating "five a day" of fruit and vegetables. People are also eating less trans fat, saturated fat and added sugar than ten years ago. However, sugar consumption is still above recommended levels at 12.5% of food energy intake and below the recommended levels of 18g of fibre per day at an average of 14g per day.

Further details at: <http://www.food.gov.uk/science/dietarysurveys/ndnsdocuments/ndns0809year1>

#### 4.7 Adult obesity trends

Cumulative data from the Health Survey for England has produced only a marginal fall in the projected rate of obesity in adults by 2020. Although rates are slowing, the authors project that 31% of females and 32% of males will be overweight by 2020. The report concludes that these rates will result in significant rises in the level of vascular diseases.

Full details at: [http://www.heartforum.org.uk/Publications\\_NHFreports\\_ObesityTrends.aspx](http://www.heartforum.org.uk/Publications_NHFreports_ObesityTrends.aspx)

#### 4.8 Pilot quality accounts

NHS North East and NHS East Midlands have published a framework in preparation for their primary care pilot quality accounts. The framework provides a proposed structure for the accounts with headings to be populated with local data.

The framework is at: <http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/>

### 5. New from APHO and the PHO network

#### 5.1 Sexual health scorecard

South West PHO published a sexual health balanced scorecard for England on 3 March. The scorecard provides a suite of nationally agreed indicators at primary care trust level, presented in chart, table and map formats, together with documentation to support interpretation and use. A wide range of indicators is used covering teenage pregnancy, abortions, contraception, sexually transmitted infections and other relevant issues.

View the scorecard at: <http://www.sexualhealthscorecard.org.uk>

#### 5.2 Dementia profiles

East Midlands PHO has produced a set of profiles examining dementia across the region at <http://www.empho.org.uk>

#### 5.3 Diabetes spend and outcome tool

Following its launch in December, your help is now needed to evaluate this tool. The tool and factsheets use programme budgeting data and overall indicators of health outcome by programme (where available) to present PCTs with an analysis of the impact of their expenditure.

Please let Yorkshire and Humber PHO know your experience of using this tool via the survey at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/spot>

#### 5.4 Prioritisation tools and methods

Yorkshire and Humber PHO have published a review of a number of tools currently available to PCTs to help with systematic prioritisation at: <http://www.yhpho.org.uk/resource/item.aspx?RID=69847>.

### 6. New from the Office for National Statistics

#### 6.1 Healthy life expectancies

In 2005-07, males in the UK could expect to live in "good" or "fairly good" health for 68.4 years at birth. Disability-free life expectancy at birth in England was 62.9 years for males and 64.0 years for females. Research in *Health Statistics Quarterly* finds that males classed as "professional" could be expected to live an average of 12.5 years longer in good health than those in the "manual" class.

More details at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/pdfdir/health0210.pdf>

*Inequalities in healthy life expectancy* is at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/CCI/article.asp?ID=2366>

*Inequalities in disability-free life expectancy*: is at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/CCI/article.asp?ID=2365>

## 6.2 General lifestyle survey 2008

Previously the General Household Survey, the General Lifestyle Survey shows that adults in households classified as "managerial and professional" drank an average of 13.8 units of alcohol per week, against a weekly average of 10.6 units for "routine and manual" households. The situation is reversed for smoking with 29% of adults smoking in "routine and manual" households and 14% in "managerial and professional" households.

More details at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=5756>

## 6.3 Conceptions in England and Wales 2008

The estimated number of conceptions to girls under the age of 16 fell by 7.6% to 7577 conceptions in 2008. There was also a decrease of 6% in conceptions to girls aged 13-15. The overall rate in London for conceptions to women aged under 18 fell from 45.7 to 44.6 per 1000 women aged 15-17 in 2008. Within London, the boroughs of Richmond, Havering and Bexley experienced the largest increases in under-18 conceptions. The boroughs of Haringey, Tower Hamlets and Wandsworth showed the greatest decreases in under-18 conceptions.

Further details at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/pdfdir/cons0210.pdf>

## 7. New from the Information Centre

### 7.1 Obesity, physical activity and diet 2008

According to self-reported measures, 39% of men and 29% of women met the recommended levels of physical activity in 2008, compared with 32% and 21% respectively in 1997. 32% of boys and 24% of girls reported taking part in 60 minutes or more of physical activity on each day of the preceding week. Around one in five children aged 5-15 consumed five portions of fruit and vegetables a day.

Full details at: <http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/opad10>

## 8. New from other organisations

### 8.1 English housing survey

Findings from the 2008-9 survey revealed that 7.4 million homes are in a "non-decent" condition with private sector homes faring worse than the social sector. 22% of the housing stock was identified with a potentially serious, "category 1" hazard under the Housing health and safety rating system. Overcrowding was highest in rented housing with 6.7% of social rented households rating as being overcrowded. No regional analysis is available yet.

Further details at: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/corporate/statistics/>

### 8.2 Challenge of an ageing population

A review of the challenges presented to local authorities by an ageing population warns that if care service costs increase in line with the population, they could nearly double by 2026. The report emphasises the need to use demographics in planning services and that early intervention is likely to be more cost-effective. The Audit Commission warns that councils cannot address the issues by working alone.

*Under pressure* is at: <http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Downloads/20100218>

### 8.3 Obstacles to social mobility

According to the OECD it is easier to climb the social ladder in Australia, Canada and the Nordic countries than it is in Britain, France and the US. The study examined the relationship between parents' socioeconomic status and that of their children. It points out that poor social mobility can indicate a lack of equal opportunities and affects economic growth.

*Intergenerational social mobility* is at: [http://www.oecd.org/document/14/0,3343,en\\_2649](http://www.oecd.org/document/14/0,3343,en_2649)

### 8.4 Active travel strategy

A cross-Governmental travel strategy aims to get more people walking or cycling more often and more safely. Included in the strategy are plans to provide access to cycle training for all children, cycle parking within easy reach of public buildings and 20mph zones in most residential streets. The strategy provides a reminder that the Olympic Delivery Authority aims to have 100% of spectators travelling to the 2012 Games by walking, cycling or using public transport.

The strategy is at: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/sustainable/cycling/activetravelstrategy/pdf/>

**8.5 International benchmarking of healthcare**

A report from RAND reviews the methodological issues involved in benchmarking international standards of healthcare. It investigates the indicators that could be used for an international comparison of healthcare quality, focusing on the effectiveness of care, patient safety and patient experience.

The report is at: [http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical\\_reports/TR738/](http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/TR738/)

**8.6 Monitoring alcohol-harm reduction in Europe**

A report on the European Alcohol and Health Forum examines the voluntary initiatives to reduce alcohol-related harm across Europe. It finds considerable activity taking place to tackle underage drinking and to encourage responsible drinking. However, RAND observes that the variation in the quality of reporting means care is required in interpreting progress.

Further details at: [http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical\\_reports/TR779/](http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/TR779/)

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**Comments**

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