

ScotPHN Team Bulletin – March 2021

Welcome to the fifteenth ‘ScotPHN team’ bulletin.

Please read, cascade and respond [via reply email](#) as appropriate and as time allows. We also welcome notification of potential content/information for future bulletins.

Key coronavirus updates

Scottish COVID-19 Contact Tracing Programme

Our Public Health Scotland website hosts information and links for the public test and trace programme, it also shares links for to [guidance and support for professionals](#), who may wish to also receive weekly contact tracing updates, by contacting PHS.COVID-19ContactTracingProgramme@phs.scot

Public Health Scotland Coronavirus dashboard

Public Health Scotland have daily updates on coronavirus figures and cases available on their [dashboard](#).

COVID-19 Vaccine linked to a reduction in transmission

A study undertaken by Glasgow University and Public Health Scotland indicates that vaccination of Scotland’s healthcare workers offer some protection against transmission of Covid-19 to their household contacts. This study of all healthcare workers employed by the NHS in Scotland and their households (which has not yet been peer reviewed), shows that the rate of infection with Covid-19 for people that live with healthcare workers is at least 30% lower when the worker has been vaccinated with a single dose.

Dr Diane Stockton, PHS Lead for COVID-19 Vaccination Surveillance Programme, notes:

“The results from this study as part of our vaccine effectiveness work, are very encouraging because it suggests that the vaccine helps prevent people from passing on the virus to others – something that has been suspected but hasn’t previously been shown.

“Despite this good news, it is important to remember that infection prevention and control practices in healthcare settings remain of paramount importance, as do the mitigations to prevent spread in our daily lives. The risk of transmission did not go down to zero after the healthcare worker was vaccinated.

“As Scotland continues to deliver its national Covid-19 vaccination programme, this study does give one more reason why everyone invited to have a vaccine should take up the offer, as not only will it help protect them from COVID-19, but it will help protect people close to them.”

- [Find out more about the study from Dr David McAllister, Institute of Health and Wellbeing at University of Glasgow and Public Health Scotland colleagues](#)

Sharing a household with young children appears to put adults at no greater risk

Another new study from a University of Glasgow and Public Health Scotland partnership suggests adults living with children are at no greater risk of testing positive for COVID-19 – even during periods when schools are open and there is active transmission of SARS-COV2 in the community.

- [Read more about the study and the publication paper](#)

Shielding Evaluation Report – Public Health Scotland

The shielding evaluation report was published by Public Health Scotland in late January and includes the following key findings:

- [Access the evaluation report](#)
- [Access the report animation via YouTube version](#) or [Vimeo version](#).

Further enquiries via email to: joke.delvaux@phs.scot

Coronavirus (COVID-19) – testing strategy update: Public Health Minister’s statement – 17 March 2021

An update on Scotland's testing strategy provided by Mairi Gougeon, the Minister for Public Health and Sport to the Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh on Wednesday 17 March 2021.

- [Read the full statement](#)
- [Access the testing strategy update](#)

Coronavirus (COVID-19): timetable for easing restrictions

This timetable from Scottish Government as at 16 March 2021, sets out how and when we plan to lift the current coronavirus restrictions over the coming weeks and months.

- [View the detail of the proposed timetable](#)

Vaccine Information Fund – BEMIS Scotland

Scottish Government aims to ensure equal access to information regarding the vaccines, BEMIS Scotland are commencing a Vaccine Information Fund programme

to empower communities to have engagement sessions about the vaccine programme and develop information assets that can be used for different communities. Grants of up to £1,000 are available to eligible organisations to create appropriate resources and activities running between March and August 2021.

Examples include:

- Raise awareness of the vaccine and the vaccination programme
- Run online engagement sessions to discuss the vaccine
- Create written or visual information resources in members' mother tongues
- Overcome and dispel misinformation about Covid-19 and the vaccine

➤ [Find out more and apply for a grant](#) via BEMIS

ScotPHN National Leadership Groups

Public Health Scotland Chair Vacancy

Would you like to make a difference to the public's health and wellbeing in Scotland? Scottish Ministers want to appoint a Chair to Public Health Scotland. Public Health Scotland is Scotland's lead national agency for improving and protecting the health and wellbeing of all Scotland's people, using the best data, intelligence and research.

Expertise in health and/or social care are not an essential criteria and applications are invited from a wide range of people who have an interest in public service. Full information can be found [here](#) and the closing date for applications is Wednesday 7th April 2021.

If you experience any difficulties accessing our website, please contact the Public Appointments Team on 0300 244 1898, by email at PA_Applications_Mailbox@gov.scot, or by writing to the Public Appointments Team, Scottish Government, Area 3F North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ.

Chief Medical Officer Annual Report 2020-21: *Recover, Restore, Renew*

The report provides the opportunity to reflect on our shared experience of the pandemic and highlight areas of good practice and innovation over the last year. It also provides the opportunity for us to identify areas that require more attention.

➤ [Read and share the 2020-21 CMO Annual Report](#)

Health Anchors Learning Network (HALN)

The UK wide HALN is now open. The UK-wide network will support people interested in anchor approaches to share ideas, knowledge and skills, helping them to implement anchor strategies in practice. It is supported by the Health Foundation and NHS England and NHS Improvement, and delivered by the Innovation Unit.

The network was co-designed with a range of stakeholders and partners, and informed by our 'Anchor and COVID conversations' with over 150 participants. The network will continue to evolve and respond to the needs of participants. By signing up, and joining us, together we will develop an action-oriented and inclusive learning network.

They have also published a new long read summarising insights from our series of conversations (below).

- [Sign up to hear more from the HALN](#)

HALN - Anchors in a storm: lessons from anchor action during COVID-19

HALN have published a long read *Anchors in a storm: lessons from anchor action during COVID-19* summarising insights from local leaders who are using anchor action to respond to the impact of COVID-19. By sharing insights, lessons and practical examples we aim to guide and inspire existing and emerging local anchor leaders.

- Read the summarised piece via their [short twitter thread here](#).

UK Parliament Training for Researchers

Knowledge Exchange session recordings from UK Parliament are available online. Follow the links below to watch a 30 minute recorded session, access the training slides and accompanying resources:

- [Parliament for Researchers - how to engage with the UK Parliament](#)
 - [Parliament for Early Career Researchers - how to engage with the UK Parliament](#)
 - [Parliament for PhD students - how to engage with the UK Parliament](#)
 - [Parliament for Knowledge Mobilisers - how to support your institution's engagement with the UK Parliament](#)
 - [Parliament for Researchers - how to work with select committees](#)
 - [Parliament for Researchers - how to write for a parliamentary audience](#)
- [Find out more about the knowledge exchange sessions](#)

Local Governance review: joint statement – 18 March 2021

Scottish Government and COSLA have published their joint statement on progress with the local governance review which has shown there is a clear appetite for a reinvented modern democracy across Scotland which addresses inequalities, including in how power and resources are shared.

- [Read the joint progress statement](#)

Scottish Health Survey: 2021 update

An update from Scottish Government on arrangements for the Scottish Health Survey (SHeS) which provides information on the health, and factors relating to health, of adults and children in Scotland.

- [Read the full Scottish Health Survey update](#)

Scottish Directors of Public Health Special Interest Groups

Poverty a key priority for people in Scotland

This report from JRF presents the findings of polling carried out on our behalf by YouGov of 2,016 Scottish adults (aged 16+) between 16 February and 22 February 2021. Findings include that nearly three-quarters of adults in Scotland see poverty as a high priority for the next Scottish Government. And in all groups, regardless of age or politics, a majority of adults in Scotland believe poverty could be significantly reduced, suggesting a nationwide consensus that with the right action, we can ensure no-one in Scotland suffers the injustice of poverty.

- [Access the full report findings from JRF](#)

The poverty related attainment gap – evidence review

On behalf of the Robertson Trust, the Poverty Alliance has published a review of with evidence that the poverty-attainment gap – already identified by the Scottish Government as a key priority – shows signs of increasing and risks being further compounded by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The review reveals that as of 2018-19:

- Infants living in deprived areas, aged 27-30 months, are 16% more likely to display development concerns
- Just over 2 in 5 young people living in the most deprived areas achieve one or more Higher when leaving school (43.5%) compared to almost 4 in 5 young people living in the least deprived areas (79.3%)
- Inequalities continue into post-16 education and work pathways with one in ten school leavers living in the most deprived areas in Scotland unemployed nine months after the end of the school year, compared to 2.6% of young people in the least deprived areas.

Emerging evidence has also shown the negative impacts of the pandemic on the educational outcomes for children and young people from deprived areas due to the digital divide and lack of access to educational related resources.

- [Read and share the full report](#)

Alcohol sales and consumption – early stages of COVID-19 pandemic

Public Health Scotland recently published findings from two studies commissioned to investigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic – and related restrictions – on alcohol consumption in Scotland during its first few months. Taken together, these two studies suggest that at a population level people were drinking at reduced levels in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, when restrictions included the closure of licensed alcohol premises, compared to the same months in previous years. Key findings are as follows:

- Changes in alcohol consumption in Scotland during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic: descriptive analysis of repeat cross-sectional survey data
 - The impact of COVID-19 and related restrictions on population-level alcohol sales in Scotland and England & Wales, March-July 2020
 - Alcohol sales and consumption in Scotland during the early stages of COVID-19 pandemic - briefing paper
- [Access the publications and their updated estimates of population alcohol consumption - News - Public Health Scotland](#)

Alcohol-free childhood

Alcohol Focus Scotland (AFS) is working to prevent and reduce alcohol harm. The charity works to reduce the impact of alcohol on individuals, families, communities, and Scotland as a whole, through the implementation of effective alcohol control policies and legislation. AFS believes that an alcohol-free childhood should be one that allows children and young people to be:

- Free from the physical and emotional impact of other drinking.
- Free from the commercial, environmental, and social pressure to drink.
- Free from health and social harms caused by consuming alcohol themselves.

- Supported and encouraged to make positive, health lifestyle choices as they enter adulthood.

In developing this work, they are keen to engage with children, young people and the organisations who support them to ensure their voices are heard on alcohol topics related to them and policies that may impact their lives (including the upcoming Scottish Government consultation on Alcohol Marketing).

- Find out more and share opportunities for potential joint work, via their [Youth Engagement Officer](#)

Children in Scotland 2021-26 Manifesto – Children and Young people version

Ahead of the Scottish Parliament elections in May, Children in Scotland has launched a Children and Young People's version of its Manifesto for 2021-26. Since the calls in the Manifesto are intended to make a positive difference to the lives of children and young people, this accessible version of the Manifesto will make it easier for children and young people to read them, understand them and form their views about the different issues raised.

The Manifesto contains 33 calls across 10 themes and outlines key changes in policy and legislation the charity believes the next Scottish Government must make to improve outcomes for children and young people living in Scotland, and their families.

- [Read the accessible version of the Manifesto](#)

Perinatal mental health - peer support: action plan – 2020 to 2023

The Peer Support in Perinatal Mental Health Action Plan is a follow up to review of the evidence for Peer Support in Perinatal Mental Health report as published in October 2020.

- [Read the action plan as derived from the 2020 report](#)

Housing to 2040

This week, the Scottish Government published Housing to 2040, Scotland's first ever long-term national housing strategy. This strategy sets out a route map for how, by 2040, everyone will have a safe, high-quality home that is affordable and meets their needs in the place they want to be.

- [Read more from Public Scotland on the publication and long term national strategy.](#)

Making connections between health, housing and homelessness- new learning resource

Public Health Scotland (PHS) has launched a new learning resource '**Making connections between health, housing and homelessness.**' It's aimed at primary care staff and others in frontline roles who may come in to contact with people who are in unsuitable housing, who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The most marginalised and excluded people in our communities are most at risk of the unintended, non-viral health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and as such PHS want to promote this resource to primary care. It has several benefits & learning outcomes; including supporting primary care recognise the impact of unsuitable housing or homelessness on health & provide person-centred responsive equitable services that uphold the right to health for these groups.

Please promote this resource to anyone in primary care

- [Sign up to access the resource](#)

Send module access enquiries to: p hs.wdteam@p hs.scot

Food Standards Scotland (FSS) - Vitamin D supplementation in Scotland

FSS have launched a digital marketing campaign encouraging vitamin D supplement this winter. Scotland isn't the sunniest place and we only get enough of the right kind of sunlight for our bodies to make vitamin D between April and September. So for roughly half the year, between October and March, it is not possible for our bodies to make vitamin D from sunlight.

A recent consumer poll found that more than half of respondents in Scotland **never** take a vitamin D supplement. The most common reason for not taking was being unaware of the advice - this campaign aims to address that, and ultimately help people to stay healthy this winter.

Vitamin D is really important for keeping our bones and muscles healthy, so a daily 10 microgram supplement is recommended for most adults and children over 1 years old.

- [Find out more about the campaign](#) and why we should take vitamin D, how much, and who in particular should take it

Contact: Senior Public Health Nutrition Advisor, Alana McDonald [via FSS General Enquiry's mailbox](#)

ScotPHN Networks

Scottish Managed Network for Sustainability in Health (SMaSH)

UK climate projections summary

The summary of UK Climate Projections Scotland was published in January from [Adaption Scotland](#).

- [Access the projections summary](#)

Energy strategy: position statement – Scottish Government, March 2021

The Energy Strategy position statement provides an overview of our key priorities for the short to medium-term in ensuring a green economic recovery, whilst remaining aligned to our net zero ambitions, in the lead up to COP26.

- [Read the full position statement](#)

Cambridge Climate Lecture Series

‘Human Wellbeing, Justice, Climate Action and the Road to COP26’ was chaired by Sally Davies. It brought together leading international speakers to talk about their experience of the impacts of environmental change and discuss how recognising climate change as an issue of human wellbeing and justice has informed their own work and advocacy for change. They shared lessons of relevance to people throughout the world, considered how a health and justice-based perspective on climate action could reshape our progress in the coming years and how this can form our road to COP26 and beyond.

- [Watch the online lecture recording](#)

NatureScot and Sustrans new report

[Nature Scot](#) and [Sustrans](#) have recently published a new report which evaluates the impacts of the National Walking and Cycling Network in Scotland. Fieldwork was undertaken pre-Covid but the findings will of interest to the S&SR Environment and Spaces Evidence Group.

- Read the evaluation report: <https://www.nature.scot/scotlands-national-walking-and-cycling-network-2019-evaluation-report>

Contact: [Aileen Armstrong | Recreation, Access and Participation Adviser \(Research\), Nature Scot](#)

Sustrans Scotland – Wheels in Motion campaign

[Sustrans Scotland](#) 'Wheels in Motion' campaign launched on at the start of February with our Active Travel Delivery Partners, funded by Transport Scotland aimed at encouraging people to stay active over lockdown and beyond. The key messages are:

- A group of active travel organisations comprising [Sustrans Scotland](#), [Public Health Scotland](#), [Paths for All](#), [Cycling Scotland](#), [Cycling UK](#) and [Scottish Cycling](#) are launching a campaign funded by [Transport Scotland](#) encouraging people to keep active over lockdown and beyond.
 - Over the last year, and especially during lockdown restrictions, more of us have started walking, cycling, and exploring what's on our doorsteps.
 - This increase in movement has a variety of benefits from mental health and wellbeing, to family bonding, to supporting local businesses and connecting with your community.
 - Walking, wheeling and cycling can be an everyday part of our lives for good. We've set the #WheelsinMotion, so let's keep up the momentum to create a truly #ActiveNation.
- [Access campaign tips, resources and guidance about exercising safely during government restrictions](#)

Contact: Kirsty Rankin, Head of Strategic Partnerships | Sustrans Scotland,
07825021732

Hands Up Scotland Survey 2020 Provisional Release

The annual Hands Up Scotland Survey of school pupils and nursery children in Scotland is funded by Transport Scotland and is a joint project between Sustrans and all 32 Scottish local authorities since 2008. It is an official statistic for Scotland and is the largest national dataset on school travel in Scotland. The survey was carried out in September 2020 with 70.4% of all state schools in Scotland (excluding nurseries) taking part. Transport Scotland requested this provisional release to allow earlier access to the Hands Up Scotland Survey 2020 dataset to support an understanding of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on travel to school at a national and local authority level.

Some of the key national findings from the 2020 survey, for all schools (exc. nursery children), are:

- 51.2% of school pupils said they normally travel to school in an active way. This represents a 3.4 percentage point (pp) increase from 2019 (47.8%) and the highest level of active travel to school in the past ten years.
- Walking to school has increased by 3.8pp from 41.0% in 2019 to 44.8% in 2020.
- Being driven to school in a car has decreased by 1.0pp from 23.8% in 2019 to 22.8% in 2020.

- The proportion of school pupils normally travelling to school by bus decreased by 1.9pp from 16.0% in 2019 to 14.1% in 2020, the lowest level of the past ten years.
- [Read and share publication materials](#)

Further information is available from the RMU Hands Up Scotland Survey team via HandsUpScotland@sustrans.org.uk

NESTA – This Must be the Place

‘This Must be the Place’ is a campaign proposing that we need a bold response to the climate emergency. Can we help shape that response and make the right choices today by imagining the way we want to live in a sustainable Scotland of tomorrow?

[Nesta](#) in Scotland has worked with a range of people from across industry, environment and community groups, to try and answer that question. Together, we've created shared visions of what life might look like in our towns, cities and greenspaces in a fictional future Scotland where we've responded effectively to the climate emergency. They have called these shared visions of a sustainable Scotland *This Must be the Place* because we believe here and now is the time and place where we must act.

Their invitation is for everyone to help imagine the place we want Scotland to be and how we want to live when we get there.

- Find out more about [This Must Be The Place - This Must Be The Place \(nesta.org.uk\)](#)

UNFCCC Report

[United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#) (UNFCCC) have published a report indicating that current levels of climate ambition are far from putting nations on a pathway that will meet the goals of the Paris Agreement to limit global temperatures to 2C — ideally 1.5C — by the end of the century. While the majority of nations represented increased their *individual* levels of ambition to reduce emissions, their *combined* impact puts them on a path to achieve only a 1% reduction by 2030 compared to 2010 levels.

- Access and share the report: <https://unfccc.int/news/greater-climate-ambition-urged-as-initial-ndc-synthesis-report-is-published>

BMJ Paper publication

Change in time spent visiting and experiences of green space following restrictions on movement during the COVID-19 pandemic: a nationally representative cross-sectional study of UK adults.

Conclusions include - Inequalities in green space use were sustained, and possibly exacerbated, during movement restrictions. Our findings emphasise the importance of green spaces remaining open globally in any future 'lockdowns'/pandemics. Further investigation is required to determine how visit patterns and experiences change through the different stages of the COVID-19 pandemic in the UK.

- [Access the published paper](#)

Contact: [Dr Jon Olsen](#), Research Fellow, Places and Health Programme, MRC/CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit

How transport offers a route to better health

[The Health Foundation](#) have published a new report with some useful points about transport trends and potential health benefits of more active travel

- [Access the report on Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and Population Health, Switching to Sustainable Transport - a rapid evidence assessment](#)

Department for Transport: Switching to sustainable transport - a rapid evidence assessment

This review presents evidence from interventions designed to encourage a switch from using cars to more sustainable forms of transport.

- [Access the review](#)

BMJ article: Low traffic neighbourhoods and population health

- Evidence shows powerful local improvements

- [Read the article](#)

Correspondence to: A A Lavery a.lavery@imperial.ac.uk

Nurses climate challenge Europe

[Health Care Without Harm Europe](#) have recently launched [Nurses Climate Challenge \(NCC\) Europe](#). The Challenge is a campaign that aims to leverage the unique and trusted voice of nurses to motivate those working in the healthcare sector to take climate action.

They are **calling for nurses** to sign up as 'Nurse Climate Champions.' In doing so, nurses get access to a free, comprehensive resources to educate themselves and their colleagues about the impact of climate on health. They can use these materials to host educational events and report back on progress.

- Nurses can [sign up for the challenge](#)

They are also **calling for nursing schools** to partner with a small number from across Europe to establish a [Nursing School Commitment](#) - a commitment from nursing schools to include environmental health in their curricula. As a first step, one nursing school per European country can sign up for the Working Group, which will collaborate in three to four webinars to draft the text for the Commitment.

- Nursing schools can request official invitation via ncceurope@hcwh.org

Scottish Health Inequalities Impact Assessment Network (SHIAN)

Training needs on health impact assessments in spatial planning – PHE Survey

The Public Health England (PHE) Healthy Places team is exploring practitioners' training needs on Health Impact Assessments (HIA) in the planning system in order to help increase its coverage and improve its use across the planning and development process. Your support in completing and disseminating the survey will support the aims of identifying training needs of key professional groups who you work with across England (**but also those across the UK nations**). It is hoped to build on PHE's [HIA in Planning guide](#) published in October 2020 and University of Liverpool's research.

- [Access and share the survey](#)

Associations between population density or neighbourhood design and transmission of Covid-19 or other respiratory viruses

A systematic review has been undertaken to assess 'How might 20 minute neighbourhood designs affect transmission of Covid-19? Could higher densities inhibit physical distancing and increase transmission? Or could accessible local facilities reduce population mixing and reduce transmission?'

Dr. Margaret Douglas, Programme Co-Director, Masters of Public Health, University of Edinburgh, and SHIAN Chair has been involved in the work and summaries follows:

The evidence overall was of low quality and conflicting. The conclusion is:

'This review found no convincing evidence of a link between population density and transmission of Covid-19 and other respiratory infections. Although the possibility of an association cannot be ruled out, the current evidence does not suggest a need to change the current Scottish Government policy of support for the '20-minute neighbourhood' concept. Similarly, no clear conclusion can be drawn about any association between other characteristics of neighbourhood design and transmission

of respiratory infection, including Covid-19. Further multi-disciplinary research using appropriate, sophisticated designs, is needed to allow a better understanding of links between neighbourhood characteristics and transmission of respiratory infections.'

The discussion section, particularly the comparison with other literature and policy implications sections on p34-36, try to put the findings in context and draw out suggestions for policy.

- [Read the review](#)

Contact Margaret via: p hs.scotphn@p hs.scot

WHO Study on waste management and the Circular Economy Health Impact Assessment

A commission to Edinburgh University has been undertaken by the WHO to catalogue examples of waste management HIA, to provide a brief update to the available health evidence base pertinent to waste management and the Circular Economy, and then present 4-6 waste management HIA case studies. The WHO will select the case studies, but they seek a selection of waste management types, for different decision making levels (EIA and SEA), and ideally in different countries.

If you have examples to demonstrate practice, for potential selection by the WHO as a more detailed case study, please contact Andrew Buroni: BuroniA@rpsgroup.com (SHIAN Network member)

Impact Assessment Literature Review – Scottish Government

This report reviews literature regarding five types of policy level impact assessments (environment, equity, health, regulatory, rural) in five countries (Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden & Wales). It was commissioned by the Scottish Government to inform their approach to impact assessment.

- [Read and share findings from the literature review](#)

Miscellaneous Public Health Updates

Coronavirus (COVID-19) – disabled people: health, social and economic harms – research report

This Scottish Government research report looks at how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted disabled people in Scotland by considering health, social and economic harms.

- [Read the report](#)

ME-CFS Healthcare Needs Assessment

ScotPHN have published an ME-CFS Healthcare Needs Assessment Briefing.

- Access the [Scottish Public Health Network briefing](#)

ME-CFS – Free training for health professionals in Scotland

This project is a partnership between [Action for M.E.](#), The [M.E. Association](#), [#MEAction Scotland](#), The [25% Group](#) and Dr. Nina Muirhead. Dr Muirhead, who developed this online Continuing Professional Development ([CPD](#)) module in partnership with the UK CFS/M.E. Research Collaborative (CMRC) became ill with M.E./CFS in 2016.

A free 1-hour training session on the diagnosis and management of M.E./CFS. for all health professionals in Scotland including those based in the community. It is suitable and accredited for all Allied Health professionals. This module, based on 10 case studies, also supports the management of Long Covid symptoms.

A complementary [podcast](#) explores the themes within the module from the perspectives of people with lived experience of the illness and health professionals on the difference that good care and support can make from both of these perspectives.

There is more information and resources for health professionals on [Action for ME website](#).

Contact: Avril McLean, Scotland Support and Development, Action for ME (avril@actionforme.org.uk)

Gender, health, and inequalities before and after the pandemic: Where we go from here

While the COVID-19 pandemic has threatened everyone's health, its impact has been different for men and women, reflecting underlying gender inequalities. A new [EuroHealthNet Policy Précis](#) examines the links between gender, health, and inequalities during the pandemic and before. It also looks at practices from Austria, Italy, Finland and Ireland that address those inequalities.

- [Explore the Gender Policy Precis further](#)

COSLA Monthly Elected Members briefings

Access the Elected Members briefings as published monthly on the COSLA website.

- [Read the March COSLA Elected Members Briefings](#)

Virtual Events and Campaigns

Health Anchors Learning Network (HALN) – online launch

Hear from Dr Jennifer Dixon (Chief Executive, Health Foundation) and Dr Bola Owolabi (Director – Health Inequalities, NHS England and NHS Improvement) and connect with network participants.

Bola and Jennifer will set out the crucial role the NHS can play as an anchor institution in improving the health and wellbeing of communities and how developing the anchor role aligns with the strategic priorities of the NHS.

Date: Thursday 25 March

Time: 15.30 – 17.00

Location: online

- [Register to attend/sign up to virtual link](#)

The Smart Future of Healthcare in Scotland

Smart Energy GB and 2020health invite you to ‘The Smart Future of Healthcare in Scotland’. With an ageing population placing greater demand on our healthcare services, affordable and scalable healthcare solutions are needed. This event will explore how smart energy data and technology can be used in remote health and care monitoring, and possibly assist with clinical diagnosis and decision making.

2020health will provide an overview of the findings from their **‘Smart Future of Healthcare’ report** which highlights how smart energy data can be used to monitor vulnerable individuals at home by linking energy use patterns to changes in health and wellbeing, and alerting carers to any significant changes in behaviour.

We will also consider how smart energy data could be used for self-monitoring and for population-level screening, allowing public health services to identify individuals and families at risk of fuel poverty.

Date: Thursday 01 April

Time: 10:30

Location: Online

- Email to attend: Elaine.Benzies@smartenergygb.org.

Young people's (aged 11-25) Climate Hot Seat hustings event

The 'Climate Hot Seat' has been organised by young climate activists from across Scotland and will see party leaders in Scotland quizzed on environmental issues in a live, online event format. The event is being hosted in a collaboration between YouthLink Scotland, Children in Scotland, Scottish Youth Parliament, 2050 Climate Group, Teach the Future and Youth Climate Strikers.

Date: Friday 9 April

Location: Online

- [Sign up to attend](#)
- [Children and Young People can also submit a question](#)

Keep in touch with ScotPHN:

- ScotPHN correspondence and general enquiries: p hs.scotphn@p hs.scot
- Scottish Health Promotion Manager inbox: p hs.shpm@p hs.scot
- Scottish Directors of Public Health inbox: p hs.sdph@p hs.scot
- National Special Interest Groups inbox: p hs.sig@p hs.scot
- [ScotPHN website](#)

Take Care

Public Health Scotland- ScotPHN Team