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## Bwletin Ymwybyddiaeth Gyfredol Chwefror 2024

Cynhyrchir y bwletin ymwybyddiaeth cyfredol hwn gan dîm Gwasanaeth Tystiolaeth Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru. Mae'r ffocws ar lenyddiaeth lwyd\* a dewisir eitemau o chwilio gwefannau amrywiaeth o sefydliadau yn y DU, detholiad o ffynonellau Ewropeaidd a Sefydliad Iechyd y Byd. Y nod yw tynnu sylw at ddogfennau a gwybodaeth allweddol sydd newydd eu cyhoeddi sy'n berthnasol i iechyd y cyhoedd. Dylid anfon ymholiadau am y bwletin hwn at: [evidence.service@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:evidence.service@wales.nhs.uk)

Nid yw cynnwys eitemau yn y bwletin hwn yn gymeradwyaeth.

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\* Mae llenyddiaeth lwyd yn cyfeirio at ddeunydd ymchwil cyhoeddedig a heb ei gyhoeddi nad yw ar gael yn fasnachol, h.y. heb ei gyhoeddi mewn cyfnodolion neu wedi'i fynegeo gan gronfeydd data llyfryddol.

**Action plan for refugee and migrant health in the WHO European Region 2023–2030.** Country Implementation Support for Impact. Geneva: WHO; 2024.

URL: <https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/375061/WHO-EURO-2023-8966-48738-72475-eng.pdf?sequence=1>

This action plan for refugee and migrant health in the WHO European Region 2023–2030 intends to support countries to make health for all, including refugees and migrants, a reality. The purpose of the action plan is to articulate a common vision for health and migration in the Region and outline the strategic actions needed to realize the potential of migration to contribute to resourceful and resilient populations, and an economy of well-being for all.

**Affordable homes for health and well-being.** Roberts, M; Petchey, L. Cardiff: Public Health Wales NHS Trust; 2024.

URL: <https://phwwhocc.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Affordable-homes-for-health-and-well-being-Eng.pdf>;

This briefing follows our summary briefing 'Homes for health and well-being' on what a future of healthy homes in Wales should look like. It focuses on the importance of affordable homes for health and well-being.

**Clinical management of diphtheria: guideline, 2 February 2024.** World Health Organization. Geneva: WHO; 2024.

URL: <https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/375887/WHO-DIPH-Clinical-2024.1-eng.pdf?sequence=1>

The WHO Clinical management of diphtheria contains the most up-to-date recommendations for the clinical management of people with diphtheria.

**Clostridioides difficile ribotyping network (CDRN) for England and Northern Ireland.** UK Health Security Agency. London: UKHSA 2024.

URL: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6596bdaac23a1000d8d0b96/UKHSA\\_CDRN\\_2018-23\\_Report.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6596bdaac23a1000d8d0b96/UKHSA_CDRN_2018-23_Report.pdf)

This report tells you:

- the aims of the Clostridioides difficile ribotyping network (CDRN)
- what analysis CDRN and its laboratories carry out
- how to use the service
- what samples to submit
- trends in C. difficile ribotypes for each region

**Eliminating measles and rubella in the WHO European Region: integrated guidance for surveillance, outbreak response and verification of elimination.** World Health Organization. Geneva: WHO ; 2024.

URL: <https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/375923/9789289060783-eng.pdf?sequence=1>

This document provides guidance on conducting elimination -standard surveillance and how to implement a rapid and appropriate response to outbreaks of measles and rubella. The reader will gain an understanding of the necessary epidemiological and laboratory evidence that is critical for documenting the interruption of transmission and eventual elimination of these viruses through the established regional verification process.

**From harm to hope: a 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives.** HM Government. London: HM Government; 2024.

URL: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/from-harm-to-hope-a-10-year-drugs-plan-to-cut-crime-and-save-lives>

This series brings together all documents relating to the UK government's 10-year drugs strategy.

**Poverty in the UK: Government policy.** Haves, E. London: UK Parliament; 2024.

URL: <https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/poverty-in-the-uk-government-policy/>

There were approximately 11 million people in the UK in relative poverty (before housing costs) in 2021/22. Many people on low incomes receive cash benefits, such as universal credit, and other benefits such as free school meals. In its levelling up strategy the government set out measures to address poverty; these include increasing the number of high-paying jobs and improving access to good quality education and skills training.

**Prevention in health and social care: healthy places. First Report of Session 2023–24.** House of Commons. London: House of Commons; 2024.

URL: <https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/42948/documents/213571/default/>

This House of Commons Committee report makes a number of recommendations to government on preventative measures that can contribute to healthy placemaking, including in relation to housing conditions, developing healthier homes, health promotion and integrated care, town planning and tackling wider health inequalities in the built environment.

**Prioritising early childhood to promote the nation's health, wellbeing and prosperity.** Academy of Medical Sciences. London: Academy of Medical Sciences; 2024.

URL: <https://acmedsci.ac.uk/file-download/16927511>

The health of the UK population is deteriorating, with increasing inequalities and deprivation, leading to detrimental impacts on the economy and society. Health in the early years (encompassing preconception and pregnancy, to the first five years of childhood) forms the basis for mental and physical health and wellbeing through the rest of the life course with consequent benefits to population health, national productivity, innovation and the prosperity of the nation.

**Stride and ride: England's path from laggard to leader in walking, wheeling, and cycling.** Singer Hobbs, M; Frost, S. London: IPPR; 2024.

URL: [https://ippr-org.files.svdcdn.com/production/Downloads/Stride\\_and\\_ride\\_Feb24\\_2024-02-05-162030\\_godi.pdf](https://ippr-org.files.svdcdn.com/production/Downloads/Stride_and_ride_Feb24_2024-02-05-162030_godi.pdf)

There is overwhelming evidence that investment in active travel infrastructure brings significant benefits. These include large returns on investment, addressing emissions from road transport, reducing regional inequalities, and improving health. Despite this, investment has remained low, and walking, wheeling, and cycling rates in the UK lag behind much of Europe. To deliver truly world class active travel infrastructure, government must learn from previous successes in the UK and further afield to ramp up its spending on active travel and provide longer-term certainty to local authorities.

**Suicide by people in contact with drug and alcohol services: a national study 2021 to 2022. 2024.** The National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health. Manchester: NCISH ; 2024.

URL: [https://www.hqip.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Ref\\_-410\\_NCISH\\_2024\\_-Suicide-by-people-in-contact-with-drug-and-alcohol-services\\_FINAL\\_-V2.pdf](https://www.hqip.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Ref_-410_NCISH_2024_-Suicide-by-people-in-contact-with-drug-and-alcohol-services_FINAL_-V2.pdf)

This study aimed to examine factors associated with suicide by people under the care of drug and alcohol services. This was

achieved by linking existing databases and collecting supplementary incident report data, with the objectives of:

- Establishing the number of people who died by suicide within recent (12 month) contact with drug and alcohol services,
- Comparing people who died by suicide with other people in contact with drug and alcohol services to establish clinical and psychosocial risk factors that may inform suicide prevention,
- Making recommendations for practice to improve safety for people under the care of drug and alcohol services.

**Tackling disadvantage through childcare in Wales.** Bevan Foundation. Merthyr Tydfil: Bevan Foundation; 2024.

URL: <https://www.bevanfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Tackling-disadvantage-through-childcare-in-Wales-Final-Formatted-2.pdf>

New report from the Bevan Foundation and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation calls for a radical new childcare offer.

**The missing link: restoring the bond between schools and families.** Centre for Social Justice. London: The Centre for Social Justice; 2024.

URL: <https://www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/CSJ-Persistent-and-Severe-Absence.pdf>

This report was followed by 'Lost but Not Forgotten', which examined the characteristics of pupils who were most likely to be absent from school. In March 2023 we published 'Lost and Not Found', setting out the conclusions of our inquiry into the drivers behind school absence, which include anxiety and poor mental health, unmet special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), poverty/ disadvantage, and changing parental attitudes towards education following the pandemic.

**The WHO AWaRe (Access, Watch, Reserve) antibiotic book - Infographics.** World Health Organization. Geneva: WHO; 2024.

URL: <https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/365135/WHO-MHP-HPS-EML-2022.02-eng.pdf?sequence=1>

The WHO AWaRe antibiotic book is accompanied by summary infographics for each infection for both adults and children that provide a quick-reference guide for health care workers at the point of care.

**Understanding differences in infant mortality rates across local areas.** Fisher, E; et al. London: Nuffield Trust; 2024.

URL: <https://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/sites/default/files/2024-02/Nuffield%20Trust%20-%20Understanding%20infant%20mortality%20rates.pdf>

This report provides a new methodology for local authorities to better monitor and interrogate data that might not be available nationally. Focusing specifically on influences at this level will also help local authorities to build area-specific evidence to support better local decision-making and the development of targeted policies to tackle infant mortality.

**Using financial incentives to tackle health inequalities.** Healthcare Financial Management Association. HFMA; 2024.

URL: <https://www.hfma.org.uk/system/files/2024-01/Using%20financial%20incentives%20to%20tackle%20health%20inequalities.pdf>

This briefing explores how the NHS can use financial incentives to reduce health inequalities. Its focus is on organisational incentives that tackle health inequalities. It summarises the financial incentives that currently exist at national level and examines the role of finance in reducing health inequalities, establishing the case for change, the funding available, business cases and examples of good practice within finance teams.

**Vaccination of children to protect against measles (WHC/2024/008). Letter to health staff stating the need for urgent action to vaccinate children against measles.** Welsh Government. Cardiff: WG ; 2024.

URL: [https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/pdf\\_-\\_versions/2024/2/5/1706890742/vaccination\\_-\\_children\\_protect\\_against\\_measles\\_whc2024008.pdf](https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/pdf_-_versions/2024/2/5/1706890742/vaccination_-_children_protect_against_measles_whc2024008.pdf)

This report informs healthboards, doctors, healthcare workers of how important it is to vaccinate children as early as possible.

**We must act on AI literacy to protect public power.** Duarte, T; Kherroubi Garcia, I. York: JRF; 2024.

URL: <https://www.jrf.org.uk/ai-for-public-good/we-must-act-on-ai-literacy-to-protect-public-power>

The authors argue that current artificial intelligence (AI) narrative concentrates elite power, restricts policy debates, and limits public engagement. And it's developing fast, so it's vital the UK develops a public education strategy quickly with civic society and in collaboration with, but not dictated by, technology companies.