

BACAPH Bulletin
Edition: August 2026

This month's theme is Giving Children & Young People the Best Start in Life



**British Association for
Child & Adolescent
Public Health**

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Consultations

Growing up in an Online World BACAPH and the FPH contributed to the consultation on [Growing Up in an Online World](#). Following the consultation, the UK government has announced proposals to introduce a ban on social media access for under-16s. The consultation response highlights some potential unintended consequences. Given the potential implications, BACAPH would welcome members' views on the following:

1. Implementation of a social media ban for under-16s

What public health and child health measures should be put in place to:

- Monitor unintended consequences of the ban, including impacts on wellbeing, social connectedness, access to information, inequalities, and potential migration to less regulated online spaces?
- Identify and develop alternative opportunities for engagement and communication with young people, particularly on issues where many currently seek information through social media, such as sexual health, mental health, relationships, substance use, and healthy lifestyles?

2. Digital determinants of health

We are also interested in understanding what work is taking place in this area. In particular:

- Are you involved in, or aware of, any work relating to the digital determinants of health?
- Do you know of any local, regional, national, or international groups, networks, or cross-organisational collaborations working in this field?
- Are there opportunities for BACAPH to contribute expertise, influence policy, or collaborate with partners?

Please respond to Rosie McNee (rosie.mcnee3@phs.scot) who is collating BACAPH responses.

Closes mid-September.

Consultation seeking views on proposals for vapes and nicotine products This consultation sets out proposals to create the UK's first smoke-free generation, protecting children from nicotine addiction, while ensuring adult smokers can still access vaping products to help them quit. This consultation closes at **11:59pm on 2 October 2026**. [Read More](#)

Petition: Require every primary school to have a published plan for outdoor free play

Closes on **5 December 2026**. [Read More](#)

Child Health

- **Centre For Young Lives: State of the Nation – Identifying Vulnerable Children and Young People and Supporting Them to Thrive** 'We need to move away from a 'crisis state' that intervenes in fragmented ways when it is obligated to do so; to an 'investment state' that works holistically from the outset to ensure children, young people and families are supported to thrive – addressing disadvantage before it translates into vulnerability, harm or adverse outcomes.' [Read More](#) | Tech report here: [Read More](#)
- **PSPD: Supporting autistic children's oral health** The British Society of Paediatric Dentistry (BSPD) has launched two new videos to support the oral health of autistic children and young people. [Read More](#)
- **NHSE: Updated Clinical standard: oral health and dental care for children and young people** Details the clinical standards for dental treatment for children and young people in primary, community and specialist care settings. [Read More](#)
- **BLISS: Equity for Every Baby – Tackling inequalities in neonatal care linked to ethnicity and socioeconomic deprivation** This report provides stark insight into how a system under pressure can perpetuate existing health inequalities and lead to poor care and harm for babies and families. [Read More](#)
- **Centre for Mental Health: Unequal Benefits, Unequal Harms** AI mental health chatbots, inequality and the risks of self-guided care. An insightful discussion paper on issues to consider. [Read More](#)
- **NHSA: Building a Preventative Mental Health System for Children and Young People** This report argues that current approaches remain too heavily focused on responding to crisis after difficulties have already become severe. [Read More](#)
- **Youth Endowment Fund: Beyond the Headlines** Considers 11 indicators representing serious violence affecting children and young people is falling across England and Wales. [Read More](#)
- **Protecting all Vulnerable Babies Better: A Government Response** This document sets out the government's response to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel's national review: 'Protecting all vulnerable babies better'. [Read More](#)
- **Youth Endowment Fund. Youth Work and Violence Prevention** Practice guidance for youth work commissioners on how to reduce children and young people's involvement in violence. [Read More](#)

- **NHSE: Supporting autistic people and people with a learning disability to live well in their communities** A collection of resources. [Read More](#)
- **PHG Foundation: Polygenic scores and public health services. Moving the debate forward** Understand the benefits and harms, clinical consequences, alternatives, social and ethical implications, evidence, and interpretive frameworks for the different use contexts. [Read More](#)

Public Health

- **Physical activity guidelines: UK Chief Medical Officers' report** An updated report from the Chief Medical Officers in the UK on the amount and type of physical activity people should be doing to improve their health with specific advice for groups including disabled children and disabled young people. [Read More](#)
- **NHS guidance: Care continuity between midwifery and health visiting services** This guidance sets out practical, practice-focused principles to strengthen continuity between midwifery and health visiting services across pregnancy, birth and the postnatal period. [Read More](#)
- **GOV.UK Guidance: Supporting Public Health – Maternity and Babies** Documents to help local authorities and providers commission and deliver maternity and neonatal services. [Read More](#)
- **DHSC Collection: Healthy Child Programme** Resources to help keep children in England healthy, safe and well from preconception to adulthood. [Read More](#)
- **Scottish Government: Scotland's Population Health Framework 2025-2035** Developing a prevention focused health and social care system. [Read More](#)
- **Scottish Government: Prevention Toolkit** The Prevention toolkit curates some of the latest tools in active use across the Scottish public sector to analyse prevention. It provides practical guidance on how to use these tools and links to further resources. 10 tools well worth a read and further resources. [Read More](#)
- **FPH/ADPH: Healthcare Public Health in England** A critical assessment of how the accredited public health workforce is recognised, valued and deployed across the NHS in England. [Read More](#)

- **King's Fund Blog: The mistake we don't have to repeat from the 2013 NHS reforms** England lost public health from the NHS in 2013 through misjudgement and poor specification. The next generation of NHS architecture is being designed now. We don't have to make the same mistake again. [Read More](#)
- **House of Lords: Reducing Gambling Harm Among Young People** This briefing summarises current regulatory protections for children and vulnerable people in the way gambling is licensed in Great Britain, statistics on gambling participation and gambling harms. [Read More](#)
- **House of Lords: Home Ownership in England** Home ownership in England has fallen by 6% since 2003. This paper considers the reasons why. [Read More](#)
- **RCOT. Building Health into Homes: Practitioner Toolkit** Housing is a public health issue and a shared responsibility. The practitioner toolkit supports all occupational therapists to bring housing into everyday practice. [Read More](#)
- **King's Fund: What Direction for Obesity Policy?** 14 obesity strategies in England between 1992 and 2020. Over that period adult obesity increased 15% to 30%. The implications of this are huge, this blog discusses the issues and options. [Read More](#)

NHS 10-Year Plan

- **New Local: Putting the Neighbourhood Back Into Neighbourhood Health** Community-led action or institution-led services are presented as interdependent and collaborative: community power supporting health generation, while services work in tandem with and support community power. [Read More](#)
- **House of Commons: Family Hubs: from Sure Start to Best Start** An overview of government policy on children's centres and family hubs since 1997. [Read More](#)
- **Health Foundation: How Efficiency Varies Across NHS Acute Trusts** This analysis examines the extent of variation across trusts and whether reducing it could improve efficiency nationally. [Read More](#)
- **NQB: Quality strategy for NHS-funded care in England** The strategy provides a new structured approach to making quality the organising principle for all NHS activity in England will focus on outcomes, experience and equity. [Read More](#)
- **King's Fund: Neighbourhood Health: an International Exploration** Supporting community-centred approaches to neighbourhood health. [Read More](#)

- **NHSE: Strategic Commissioning Framework** Details the 4 stages of strategic commissioning. [Read More](#)
- **DEMOS: Reform Failure: Lessons from the history of health service reforms – and how not to repeat them** The report identifies practical lessons for implementing the NHS 10-Year Plan and sets out recommendations to help build the system conditions needed for lasting public service reform. [Read More](#)
- **Health Foundation: General Practice Funding in England** This report brings together multiple national data to provide a comprehensive overview of general practice funding in England. [Read More](#)
- **Centre for Health Economics: Productivity of the English National Health Service: 2023/24 update** An in-depth analysis of each NHS setting, highlighting where appropriate, the specific challenges faced in constructing the output growth measure. [Read More](#)
- **Public Policy Projects: Shaping Neighbourhood Health Through a Household Lens** Explain the opportunity to build neighbourhood health around a more relational and contextual understanding of need. A household lens would help teams identify rising risk earlier and target support more effectively. [Read More](#)

Poverty and Inequity

- **HoC Research Briefing: Constituency Data: Deprivation in England** This interactive dashboard shows deprivation data for constituencies and small areas in England. [Read More](#)
- **Health Foundation: Health as an Economic Asset** Unlocking the economic potential of the UK's working-age population moving from treating ill health as a cost to seeing good health as a national economic asset. [Read More](#)

Sustainable Development

- **Global Designing Cities Initiative: How to Implement Cycling Infrastructure** Report outlines the steps from initial site selection, to designing, planning, and implementing cycling infrastructure with a focus on community-driven designs that ensure the safety and comfort of all. [Read More](#)

- **TCPA: Climate Resilient New Towns: A Vision** This vision document applies a climate lens to the possibility of new towns, to advocate for places that provide an aspirational and hopeful way of living in the future. [Read More](#)
- **Impact on Urban Health: The State of Urban Health** The State of Urban Health analyses 120 national indicators across England, combined with lived experience, to highlight urban health inequalities. [Read More](#)

Global Health

- **Our World in Data** Research and data to make progress against the world's largest problems. [Read More](#)
- **HoC Research Briefing: UK Aid and Climate Change** Sets out the potential effects of climate change on global development goals, UK Government aid strategies on climate change, and how UK aid is spent. [Read More](#)

Featured Website

- **Plant Based Health Professionals (PBHP)** [Read More](#)

Useful Resources

- **NHSE: NHS Leadership and Management Framework** [Read More](#)
- **The Nine Basic Requirements for Meaningful and Ethical Children's Participation** [Read More](#)
- **What doctors can – and can't – say on social media** [Read More](#)

BACAPH News

- **Joint BACAPH/FPH Webinar: Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: translating evidence into public health action** 9th September 2026, 13.00-14.00, online [Read More](#)

If you would like to submit content for future e-bulletins, please get in touch via email:
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