A Collection of Recent NGO, Think Tank, and International Government Reports

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Welcome to Grey Matter, the Ministry of Health Library's Grey Literature Bulletin. In each issue, we provide access to a selection of the most recent NGO, Think Tank, and International Government reports that are relevant to the health context. The goal of this newsletter is to facilitate access to material that may be more difficult to locate (in contrast to journal articles and the news media). Information is arranged by topic, allowing readers to quickly identify their key areas of interest. Email library@moh.govt.nz to subscribe.

Click on any of the bulleted points below to go to a section of interest.

Equity

Youth19 – Housing deprivation brief
"For the first time in a large-scale New Zealand youth survey, Youth19 asked detailed questions about housing deprivation. In this brief [the authors] give an overview of key findings." *Source: Youth19 (New Zealand)*

My role in tackling health inequalities: a framework for allied health professionals

"The King's Fund has worked with AHPs from across the UK to develop a framework to support any AHP to think through and understand their contribution to tackling health inequalities, whatever their role. The framework details how AHPs can raise awareness, take action and optimise advocacy through six lenses: self; patients; clinical teams, pathway and service groups; communities and networks; systems; and nurturing the future." *Source: King's Fund*

Locked out: digitally excluded people's experiences of remote GP appointments
"The move to more digitally-led healthcare has worked well for some but excluded others over the past year. [This] report explores how people have been excluded and what needs to happen to get the care they need." *Source: Healthwatch (UK)*

Mind the gap: a policy report on how people are disadvantaged by digital exclusion
"The Covid-19 pandemic has revealed a devastating overlap between digital exclusion and social exclusion, social exclusion and poverty, and then in turn, poverty and health inequalities. This report acknowledges digitalisation brings both huge benefits for many but also great disadvantage for some and looks at the experiences of local people based on evidence brought to the attention of Chesterfield Citizens Advice workers. The report sets out measures to ensure that services are 'fair by design', that they are accessible for vulnerable people who cannot use digital and that suitable alternative provisions are always in place to meet their needs." *Source: Chesterfield Citizens Advice (UK)*

Closing the digital divide for good: An end to the digital exclusion of children and young people in the UK
"The challenge of digital exclusion is not a new one. However, the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic – and subsequent school closures – shone a spotlight on the importance of digital inclusion for children and young people across the United Kingdom. This joint report, from Carnegie UK Trust and the UK Committee for UNICEF sets out why and how the UK government should continue its work to close the digital divide. Through exploring the pre-COVID-19 context, analysing and assessing the emergency response during the pandemic, proposing a definition and measurement for digital inclusion, and setting out a 10-point action plan for ending digital exclusion, this report comprehensively sets out how to close the digital divide for all, and for good." *Source: Carnegie UK Trust*

How To Identify And Advance Equitable Social Norms
"This brief introduces the definition of social norms, including gender norms, and how they relate to GBV, as well as various tools to identify and address social norms." *Source: USAID*

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Mental Health & Wellbeing

Putting science to work: Understanding what works for workplace mental health
"This report summarises…promising approaches for addressing workplace mental health. It also sets out why businesses and researchers need to work together to take a more scientific approach to supporting mental health at work." *Source: Wellcome*

[**World Happiness Report: living long and living well**](#)
"The 2021 World Happiness Report comes as the Covid-19 pandemic continues to claim lives and lay waste to livelihoods around the world. Richard Layard and Ekaterina Oparina introduce the WELLBY Approach and look at how wellbeing measures can be used to compare countries progress in improving social welfare and shape policies to increase wellbeing." *Source: London School of Economics*

[**Trying something new: Improving boys' and young men's mental health through sports and creative activities**](#)
"The report finds that embedding mental health support in sporting and creative activities can engage boys and young men who might find traditional services less welcoming or relevant. It also finds that partnership working can usefully bring complementary skill sets together, for example with skilled youth workers acting alongside counsellors or psychologists to deliver both engagement and support." *Source: Centre for Mental Health (UK)*

[**Guidance on community mental health services: Promoting person-centred and rights-based approaches**](#)
"The WHO Guidance on community mental health services: Promoting person-centred and rights-based approaches document is part of the WHO Guidance and technical packages on community mental health services set of publications. It provides a detailed description of person-centred and human rights-based approaches in mental health, and summary examples of good practice services around the world. It describes the linkages needed with housing, education, employment and social protection sectors, and presents examples of integrated regional and national networks of community-based mental health services." *Source: World Health Organization*

[**Happy to help: The welfare effects of a nationwide micro-volunteering programme**](#)
"There is a strong suggestion from the existing literature that volunteering improves the wellbeing of those who give up their time to help others, but much of it is correlational and not causal. In this paper, [the authors] estimate the wellbeing benefits from volunteering for England's National Health Service (NHS) Volunteer Responders programme, which was set up in response to the Covid-19 pandemic." *Source: Institute of Labour Economics*

[**School closures and parents' mental health**](#)
"Mothers and fathers with children aged 4-12 (in year groups Reception to Year 7) reported worse mental health in all months of 2020 than a comparable sample of parents interviewed in the same months before the pandemic. Differences were larger for mothers than fathers." *Source: Institute for Social & Economic Research (UK)*

[**Pillars Of Community: Why Communities Matter And What Matters To Them**](#)
"The report shows how people feel thriving communities offer security, connection, and belonging. It offers suggestions for policy areas for strengthening community life across the UK including rolling out Family Hubs, transforming high streets into social 'Hub Streets', and encouraging mentorship schemes. The report also shows how local charities can play an invaluable role in local communities to tackle poverty by developing trusting relationships embedded in local areas." *Source: Centre for Social Justice (UK)*

[A New Benchmark for Mental Health Systems: Tackling the Social and Economic Costs of Mental Ill-Health](#)

"The report highlights recent reforms countries have taken to strengthen mental health performance, including by increasing access to mental health care, ensuring that service users take the lead in planning and even delivering services, and prioritising integration and mental health promotion. The report also identifies promising approaches countries should pursue to better meet their populations' mental health needs. This report sets up a framework for understanding mental health performance through internationally comparable indicators, an approach set to grow stronger still in the coming years as more data become available." *Source: OECD*

[LIVE LIFE: An implementation guide for suicide prevention in countries](#)

"More than 700 000 people lose their life to suicide every year. The world is not on track to reach the 2030 suicide reduction targets. WHO advocates for countries to take action to prevent suicide, ideally through a comprehensive national suicide prevention strategy. Governments and communities can contribute to suicide prevention by implementing LIVE LIFE – WHO's approach to starting suicide prevention so that countries can build on it further to develop a comprehensive national suicide prevention strategy. The guide is for all countries, with or without a national suicide prevention strategy; national or local focal points for suicide prevention, mental health, alcohol or NCDs; and community stakeholders with a vested interest or who may already be engaged in implementing suicide prevention activities." *Source: World Health Organization*

[Telehealth for the Treatment of Serious Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorders](#)

"This guide reviews ways that telehealth modalities can be used to provide treatment for serious mental illness and substance use disorders among adults, distills the research into recommendations for practice, and provides examples of how these recommendations can be implemented." *Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration*

[Factors influencing therapy use following a disclosure of child sexual abuse](#)

"Identifying consistent factors that influence engagement or completion of therapy across studies allows services and policy-makers in criminal justice, child protection, community support and mental health systems to make informed decisions about approaches to therapy referral and how to support families through challenges they have that could affect their capacity to engage with services. This paper presents findings from a review of the literature aimed at identifying factors that may influence either engagement with therapy or the completion of therapy following a disclosure of child sexual abuse to authorities." *Source: Child Family Community Australia*

[New Zealanders and the Arts - Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi](#)

"New Zealanders and the Arts — Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi provides a benchmark for New Zealanders' engagement with the arts over time. This research has been done every three years since 2005 – the only longitudinal survey of its kind in Aotearoa. The research provides a rich picture of the powerful impact the arts have on our lives, for both adults and young people alike." *Source: Creative NZ*

Nutrition, Physical Activity, & Obesity

[Assessing the existing evidence base on school food and nutrition policies: a scoping review](#)
"This report presents the outcomes of a scoping review conducted to identify and map existing evidence on the effects of school food and nutrition policies on health-related outcomes in children of school age as part of the initial preparation for undertaking the guideline development process by the WHO Nutrition Guidance Expert Advisory Group (NUGAG) Subgroup on Policy Actions." *Source: World Health Organization*

[Using Systems Applications to Inform Obesity Solutions : Proceedings of a Workshop](#)
"The Roundtable on Obesity Solutions of The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine held a virtual workshop on September 16, 2020 titled Using Systems Applications to Inform Obesity Solutions. It explored various systems science approaches (i.e., methodologies and tools) and support structures that could guide future obesity research and action, and featured examples of how these approaches can inform decision making within policy and program areas." *Source: National Academies Press*

[Pan-European Master Plan for Cycling Promotion](#)
"By promoting cycling, the Master Plan will contribute to the goals identified under the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme." *Source: Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme*

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COVID-19

[COVID-19 futures: implications for policy makers](#)
"In May 2021, the Institute for Government and Wellcome Trust convened two private roundtables on medium- to long-term future scenarios for the COVID-19 pandemic. The discussions were to update scenarios identified in a similar exercise one year ago, and to go further in identifying policy responses. At the first roundtable, a group of scientists from the UK, US, India and Australia discussed best- and worst-case scenarios, exploring different biological assumptions about how the virus would develop. At the second, a group of current and former policy makers discussed the implications of these future scenarios, focusing on key questions facing world leaders as they gather for the G7 conference on 11 June, as well as questions of domestic policy. This document identifies the most important insights from these roundtables." *Source: Institute for Government*

[The long-term implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery measures on environmental pressures](#)
"This paper analyses the long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated government responses on the environment. It uses large-scale modelling to investigate the impact of sectoral and regional shocks to the economy until 2040. These detailed economic impacts are linked to a range of environmental pressures, including greenhouse gas emissions, emissions of air pollutants, the use of raw materials and land use change." *Source: OECD*

[Long COVID: the NHS plan for 2021/22](#)
"The Long COVID Plan 21/22 builds on the five-point plan which outlines 10 key next steps to be taken to support those suffering from long COVID." *Source: NHS England and NHS Improvement*

End of Life Care

The Internet and end of life
"This report finds that online spaces are a crucial cornerstone of support to people grieving and people at the end of their life, providing comfort, connection and community. Researchers have found that online spaces are providing valuable access to peer-to-peer support for people at the end of their life, enabling people to communicate with others who have similar experiences to their own. They enable people to speak relatively anonymously to other users, helping to alleviate loneliness, isolation and judgement." *Source: Demos (UK)*

Better lives, better endings: a collaboration between extra care housing and a hospice
"Following an initial collaboration between Octavia and St Christopher's in 2017, the two organisations developed a shared vision for a project that would facilitate conversations, decision and plans related to how and where people want to live in the last years of life." *Source: Housing LIN*

Workforce

Bridging the Gap: transitional safeguarding and the role of social work with adults – Knowledge Briefing
"This open-access briefing draws on evidence from research and knowledge from local areas to describe Transitional Safeguarding, why it is needed and how adult social work is key to developing and embedding a transitional approach to safeguarding young people into adulthood." *Source: Office of the Chief Social Worker for Adults (UK)*

The use of telepractice in the family and relationship services sector
"The use of telepractice as a service delivery method has increased in Australia since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. This paper reviews the evidence for telepractice as a service delivery method in the family and relationship services sector. It describes the acceptability of telepractice as a service delivery option for both clients and practitioners, the enablers and barriers to uptake and implementation, and the current evidence on client outcomes. Evidence-informed implications of implementing telepractice for practice in this sector are also presented at the end of the paper." *Source: Australian Institute of Family Studies*

Health Research, Information, & Technology

Evaluation design
"This resource gives a quick overview of some of the main evaluation designs used for outcomes evaluations or impact evaluations. These are evaluations that aim to answer questions about whether a program, service or treatment (often called the 'intervention') is working as intended, or

if it is having a positive or negative effect on its intended audience." *Source: Australian Institute of Family Studies*

Switched on: how do we get the best out of automation and AI in health care?
"This report explores the opportunities for automation and AI in health care and the challenges of deploying them in practice. It draws on learning from the Health Foundation's programmes and research – including a recent study by the University of Oxford on the potential of automation in primary care – as well as a range of other literature." *Source: Health Foundation (UK)*

The protection of personal data in health information systems - principles and processes for public health
"In recent years, countries across Europe have implemented either new or considerably stricter data protection and cybersecurity laws. These laws continue to have a substantive impact on health information systems (HISs) and most public health activities in a wider sense. This document aims to explore the conceptual implications and to give some guidance on how specific decisions that are unavoidable to balance the rights and interests at stake should be taken." *Source: World Health Organization*

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Population & Public Health

Delivering a Smokefree 2030: The All Party Parliamentary Group on Smoking and Health recommendations for the Tobacco Control Plan 2021
"This report was commissioned by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Smoking and Health from Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) which provides the Secretariat for the APPG. It was researched and written with support from SPECTRUM, the consortium of academics from ten UK universities funded by the UK Prevention Research Partnership to research the health and economic impacts of policy interventions, including on the wider economy." *Source: All Party Parliamentary Group on Smoking & Health (UK)*

Brick by Brick: Building Better Housing Policies
"The report brings together evidence, international experience and policy insights for the design of housing policies. Emphasis is placed on three broad aspects: inclusiveness, efficiency and sustainability." *Source: OECD*

Faith–Health Collaboration to Improve Community and Population Health
"On March 22, 2018, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine convened a workshop to examine the collaboration between the faith and health sectors, and to highlight the unique opportunities these collaborations offer to help improve population health outcomes. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

Interventions for perpetrators of domestic, family and sexual violence in Australia
"To support the growing policy focus on perpetrators of domestic, family and sexual violence, ANROWS commissioned and published 20 relevant research reports between 2018 and 2020. This

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paper synthesises their key findings and the recommendations arising from these findings." *Source: Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety*

"I didn't think people would take me seriously" : the help-seeking strategies, experiences, and preferences of LGBTQ survivors of domestic violence
"Prior research on domestic violence survivors' help-seeking behaviors demonstrates the vital importance of affirming and effective formal and informal support on survivors' well-being. The findings from this survey provide a unique understanding of LGBTQ survivors' behaviors and experiences in accessing support." *Source: National LGBTQ Institute on IPV*

Strategies for effective family violence education
"The recent Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence (VRCFV) identified family violence education as a priority focus for workforce development across health, education, community and justice sectors. In response to these recommendations, the Victorian Government announced a $95.4 million-dollar investment in workforce education and launched a 10-year Industry Plan that aims to ensure that workers across health, education, community and justice services are family violence literate and have the requisite skills for their roles in preventing, identifying and responding to family violence" *Source: Monash Gender and Family Violence Prevention Centre*

Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

The most expensive breakfast in history: Revisiting the Wanless review 20 years on
"In this study, Nicholas Timmins looks back on the Wanless review and explores its impact in the short and long term. Drawing on insights from interviews with many of the key people involved at the time, the report highlights lessons from the original review that could be applied today. These historic issues are even more important to understand as we look towards recovery from COVID-19, and as the UK faces a backlog of unmet demand for NHS care, unreformed social care, major workforce issues, and investment sorely needed elsewhere in the public sector." *Source: The Health Foundation (UK)*

Whole system quality: a unified approach to building responsive, resilient health care systems
"This IHI White Paper proposes a more holistic approach to quality management — whole system quality — that enables organizations to close the gap between the quality that customers are currently receiving and the quality that they could be receiving by integrating quality planning, quality control, and quality improvement activities across multiple levels of the system." *Source: Institute for Healthcare Improvement*

Provider collaboratives: opportunities and challenges
"This briefing sets out [the NHS Confederation's] view on provider collaboratives. It explains what they are and spotlights our members' views and experiences." *Source: NHS Confederation*

The role of primary care in integrated care systems
"This report sets out the views of primary care members on the underpinning principles needed for strong primary care involvement at system and place." *Source: NHS Confederation*

Cancer

Diagnosing and Treating Adult Cancers and Associated Impairments
"Diagnosing and Treating Adult Cancers and Associated Impairments provides background information on breast cancer, lung cancer, and selected other cancers…This report addresses several specific topics, including determining the latest standards of care as well as new technologies for understanding disease processes, treatment modalities, and the effect of cancer on a person's health and functioning." *Source: National Academies Press*

Advancing Progress in the Development and Implementation of Effective, High-Quality Cancer Screening: Proceedings of a Workshop
"To examine the challenges and opportunities related to improving current approaches to cancer screening, as well as the evidence base for novel cancer screening methods, the National Cancer Policy Forum held a workshop, Advancing Progress in the Development and Implementation of Effective, High-Quality Cancer Screening, on March 2-3, 2020, in Washington, DC. This workshop convened a broad range of experts, including clinicians, researchers, statisticians, and patient advocates, as well as representatives of health care organizations, academic medical centers, insurers, and federal agencies. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions of the workshop and highlights suggestions from individual participants regarding how to improve cancer screening." *Source: National Academies Press*

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