Health Inequalities in East Lothian

Philip Conaglen

Consultant in Public Health Medicine Department of Public Health and Health Policy NHS Lothian Local Government in Scotland Act 2003

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015



Speaker notes

NOTES

- Community Empowerment Act:
- Aims of Community Planning Partnerships
 Improvement in the achievement of outcomes from or contributed to by the provision of services.
 Resource, plan and deliver services to improve local outcomes and engage and involve communities at all stages.
 All with a view to reducing increasities of outcomes up

All with a view to **reducing inequalities of outcome** which result from socioeconomic disadvantage.

 Fairer Scotland Duty: strengthened legal responsibility on public bodies. to actively consider how they can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socioeconomic disadvantage, when making strategic decisions.

Health inequalities

<u>Unfair</u> and <u>avoidable</u> differences in people's health and wellbeing across social groups and between different population groups

NHS Health Scotland



The evidence shows us:

Inequalities are unfair

- They do not occur randomly or by chance,
- are socially determined by circumstances
- largely beyond an individual's control.

Inequalities are avoidable

- They are rooted in political and social decisions.
- There was a <u>substantial narrowing of health</u> <u>inequalities</u> in the UK (and USA) between 1920s &1970s, when welfare states were constructed

Health Scotland health inequalities policy review here: http://www.healthscotland.com/documents/23047.aspx

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Socio-economic disadvantage

Broadly means living on a low income compared to others in Scotland, with little or no accumulated wealth, leading to greater material deprivation, restricting the ability to access basic goods and services. Can be experienced in places and communities of interest, leading to further negative outcomes such as social exclusion.

Over a million Scots are living in poverty, including one in four children; and health inequalities and educational attainment gaps are far too wide. – FSD guidance

Material deprivation refers to the inability to afford basic resources and services such as sufficient food and heating.

Life expectancy		
	Male life expectancy	Female life expectancy
East Lothian (2015)	78.5	82.1
Scotland (2015)	77.1	81.1
East Lothian most deprived 15% (2009-2013)	74.7	78.8
East Lothian least deprived 85% (2009-2013)	78.6	81.9

Speaker notes

East Lothian demographics

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- Population = 104,840
- Population density = 154 people per km²
- Births = 971
- Deaths = 1,141





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- SIMD shows where Scotland's **most deprived areas are** so we know where work can have the biggest impact
- A **relative** measure of deprivation across small areas which looks at **multiple** deprivation.
- 'Deprived' does not just mean 'poor' it can also mean people with fewer resources or opportunities





Speaker notes









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Speaker notes









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Fundamental causes of inequalities: result from social circumstances, reflect unfair distribution of power, money and resources.

Affect distribution of **Environmental influences**: jobs, good quality housing, education and learning opportunities, access to services, & social status.

Which in turn affect individuals.

What works (& what doesn't) to reduce inequalities

- X Information based campaigns & written materials
- X Campaigns reliant on 'opt in'
- X Approaches with price or other barriers



- ✓ Support for low and lower incomes
- ✓ Reducing price barriers
- ✓ Improve access
- ✓ Structural changes in
- the environment
- ✓ Services proportionate to need
- ✓ Intensive support
- ✓ Starting young



Speaker notes

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Health inequalities are unfair and avoidable.

Need to act across range of public policy areas, to tackle economic and social inequalities alongside actions with a specific focus on disadvantaged groups and deprived areas.

We need to shift the focus from meeting the cost of dealing with health or social problems after they have developed to prevention and early intervention.

Key actions NOTES

- Drive a fairer share of income, power and wealth through policy, legislation, regulation and taxation.
- Ensure fair and equitable access to good quality housing, education, health and other public services.
- Ensure all public services are planned and delivered in proportion to need.



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New Health Scotland Tool

- Triple I: Informing Interventions to Reduce Health Inequalities
- <u>http://www.healthscotland.scot/reducing-health-inequalities/take-cost-effective-action/informing-interventions-to-reduce-health-inequalities-triple-i/overview-of-triple-i
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