Economies for Healthier Lives

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Problem

Liverpool City Region (LCR) has some of the highest rates of economic inactivity in England, due in large part to poor health.

Solution

Build a coordinated approach between employment support and public health across LCR to improve health and employment outcomes.

Improve access to employment opportunities and job retention for citizens dealing with disabilities or health conditions.

Research

Context mapping

Meet with stakeholder groups to identify opportunities and insights at the intersection of public health and employment support. Seek to identify the benefits of (and barriers to) employment-related support services delivered across LCR.

Focus groups:

1. Residents
2. Employers
3. Services (includes policymakers, commissioners, funders, managers, and practitioners of relevant organisations)

Stakeholder engagement

Collaborate with residents, employers, and services to work better in partnership and make workplaces more inclusive.

Benchmarking

Identify what is available locally and how this compares to existing evidence.

Systematic review: study effective initiatives for improved employment outcomes for people with disabilities or health conditions in the UK.

Local review: identify the existing programmes and policies in place in LCR to create an up-to-date picture of the current landscape.

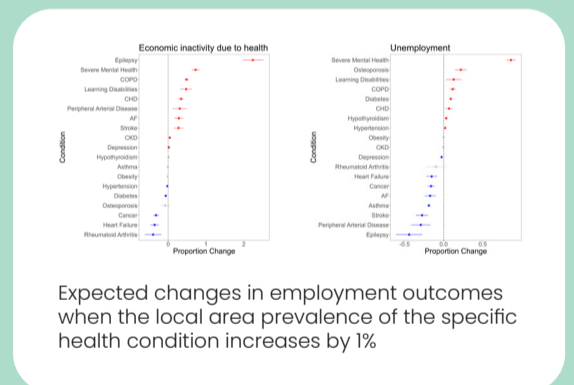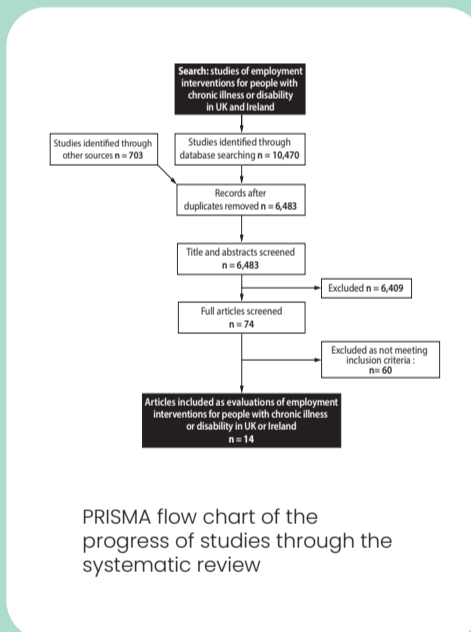PRISMA flow chart of the progress of studies through the systematic review

Data analysis

Data can be used to inform how we better meet the needs of the local population.

Equity audit: review data from local employment support services and compare the demographic breakdown of clients with census.

Linkage: link local employment support data with wider Civic Data Cooperative infrastructure to better understand population needs and the effects of such programmes.

Area profiles: assess the relationship between health metrics and employment outcomes using the 2021 census.

Expected changes in employment outcomes when the local area prevalence of the specific health condition increases by 1%

Service redesign and improvements

1 Identify recommendations to improve the service offering and better meet local population needs.

2 Design an options appraisal to assess feasibility and cost of interventions that meet local population needs.

3 Test the health effects of the redesigned services through further stakeholder engagement and data analysis.

Toolkit

Economy and health integration toolkit: the customised toolkit will collate our findings and offer a blueprint for other regions to follow.