



Public Health
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

Knowledge and Library Services (KLS)

Impact stories

Title: Evidence from the Knowledge and Library Service Evidence Review supported a CPD session for local authority stakeholders focussed on prioritising public health and improving health in times of austerity, held in June 2017.

User testimonial: “*Your literature search contained some very useful material [for our austerity event], so thanks again*” **Peter Cornish, Principal Knowledge Transfer Facilitator (South East)**

Challenge: There is a dearth of evidence around the impact of spending cuts on public health outcomes because of the long lag time between spend and intervention and outcomes. This is often at odds with the perception of the situation.

Solution: The findings of the literature search provided the framework for discussing the impact of spending cuts on public health outcomes and also confirmed some of the limited local data findings. Providing this limited evidence helped to lend some authority to the sometimes contentious narrative.

Impact: The session generated a lot of discussion of the issues and focussed stakeholders on prioritisation.

Success factors: The CPD session has since been repeated in other areas in the South East.

Lessons: Evidence based messages are not always welcome.

Contact: peter.cornish@phe.gov.uk

29th November 2017