

Population Health Management: What's it all about and why does it matter?

An Introduction to the Dorset Systematic Population Health Management Approach

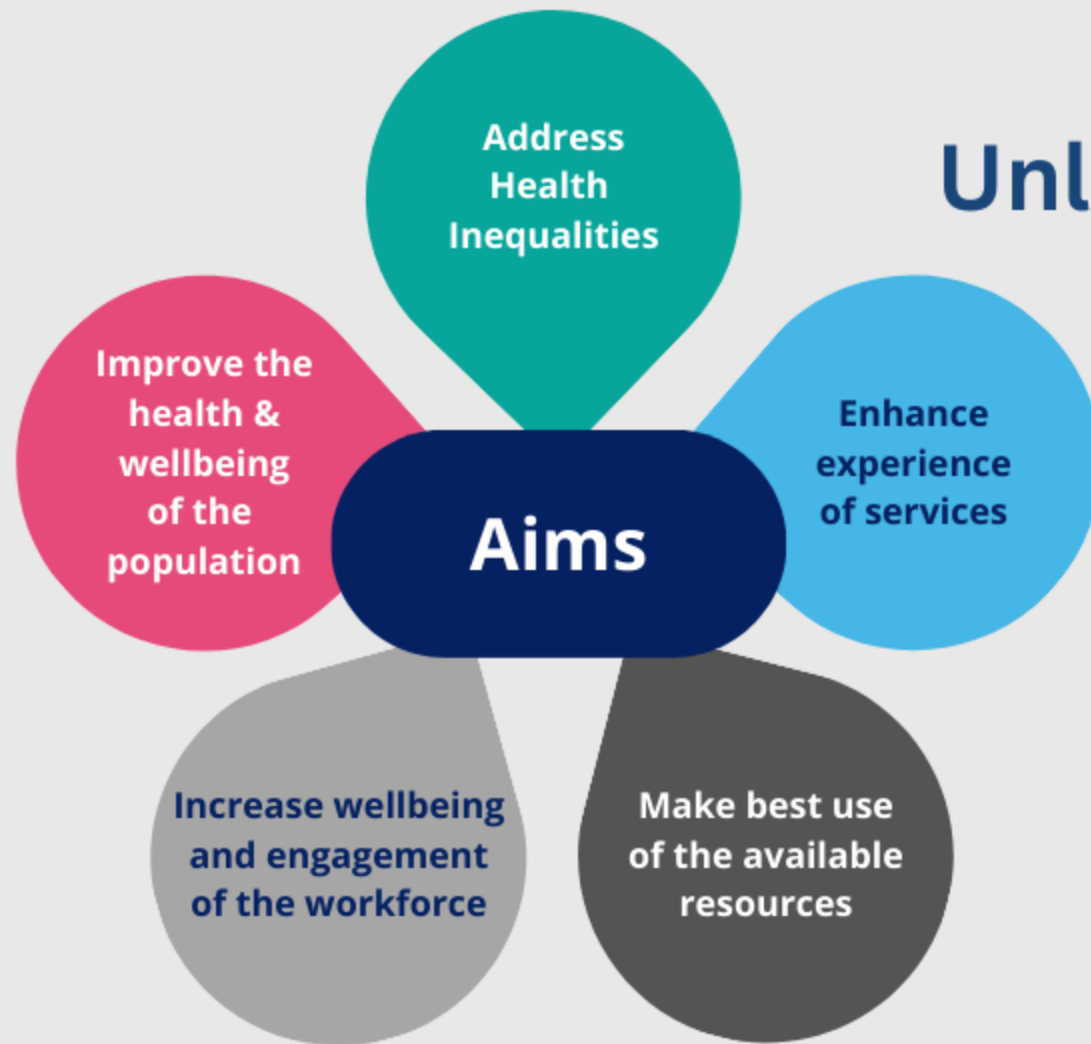
19th August 2025



Population Health Management (PHM)

Driving meaningful change through PHM

Unlock the power of the Dorset Systematic Approach



Explore a proven, practical approach to improving health services for Dorset communities.

Using a real-world case study, we'll demonstrate how our **replicable PHM method** can deliver real impact, turning:

Insight into Action

Your Presenters Today are:

Janine Ord – Head of Population Health

Karen Stratford– Population Health Strategic Lead (PHM)

Jo Wilson - Population Health Strategic Lead (Prevention)

Nayab Nasir - Population Health Strategic Lead (Health Inequalities)

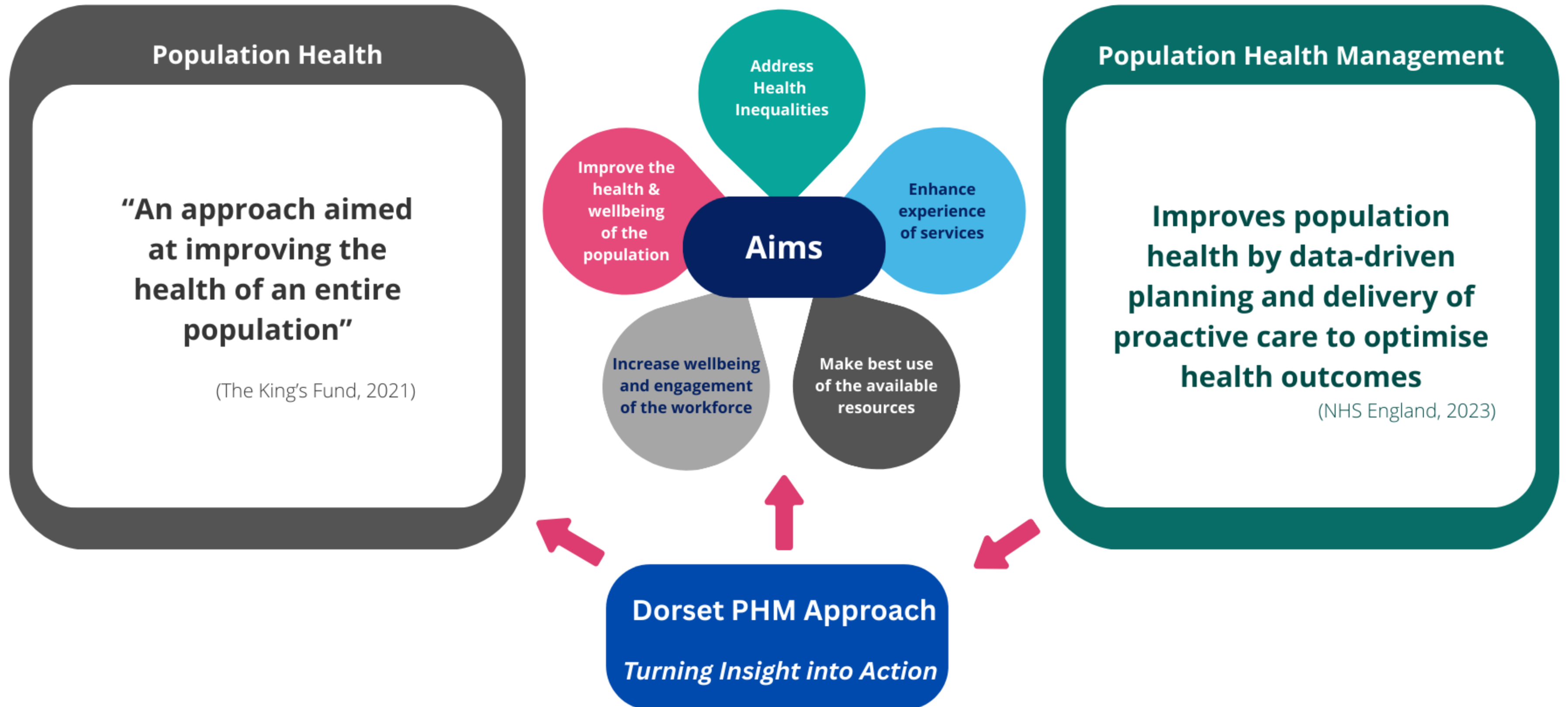


What are Population Health & PHM?

Why does PHM matter?

Dorset Systematic Approach to PHM

What are Population Health and Population Health Management?



Why does PHM Matter?



Health needs are changing



Inequalities in access, experience and outcomes



Demand for health services is not sustainable

Benefits

For People:

Improved access, experience and outcomes from health services - keep people well for longer, targeting support where it will have greatest impact

For Communities:

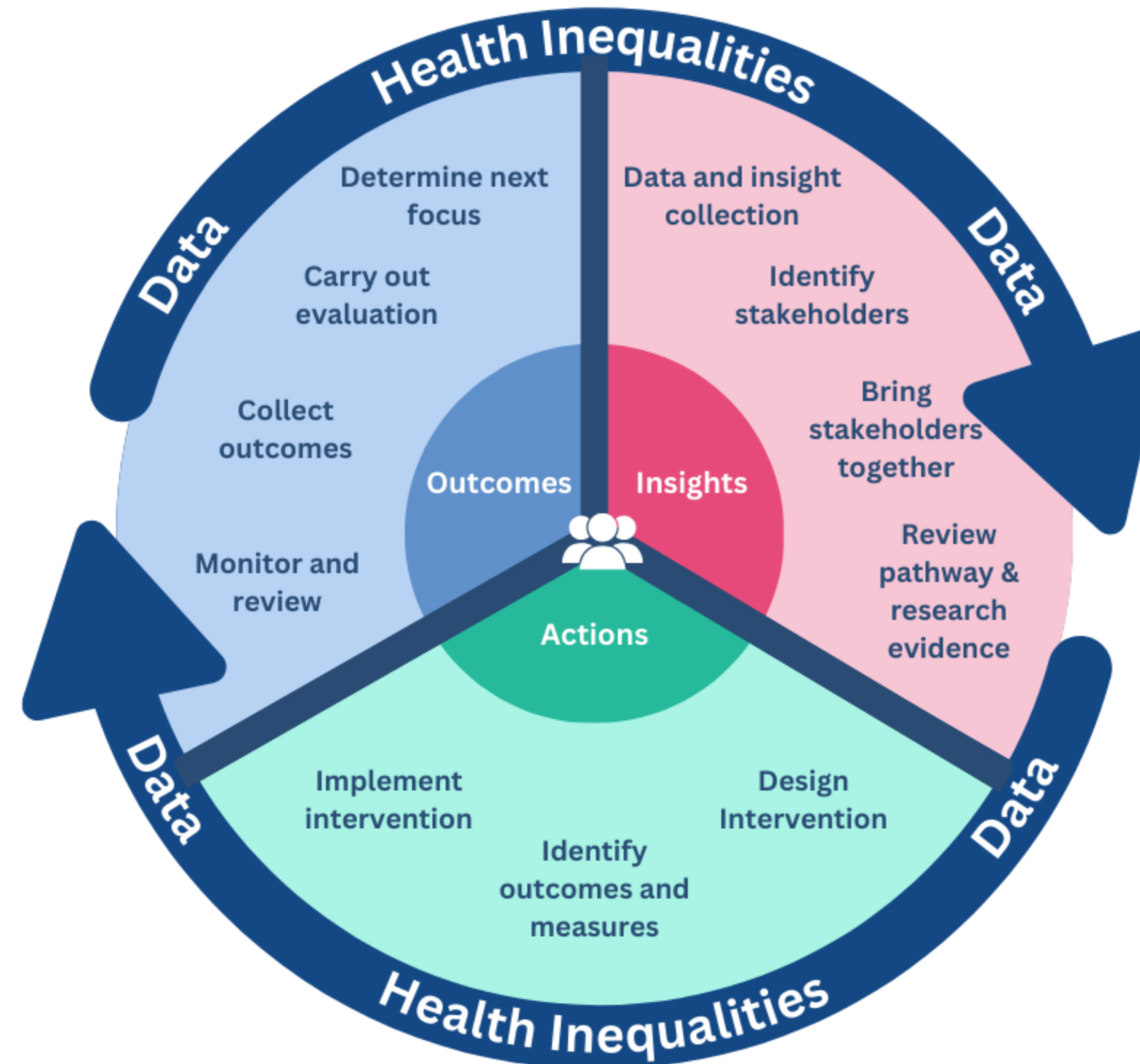
Builds stronger communities

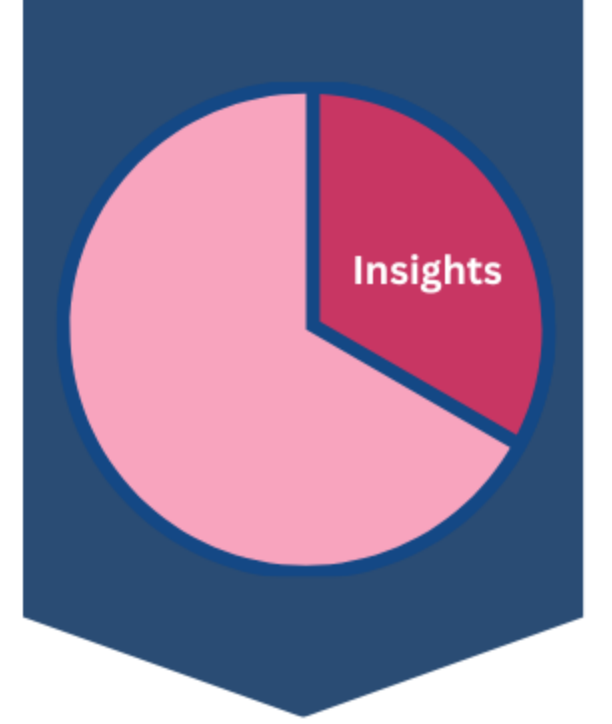
For Systems:

More sustainable services – Effective, Efficient and Equitable



Dorset Systematic Approach to PHM





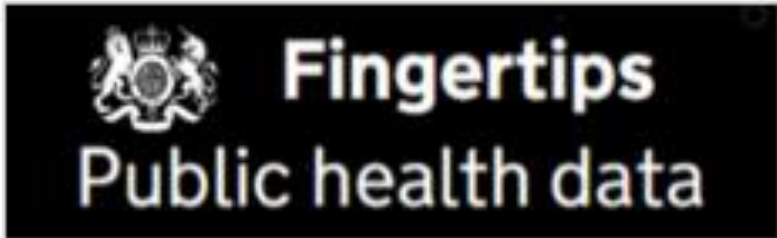
Insights

- Quantitative Data: The *What?*
- Qualitative Insight: The *Why?*
- Evidence-Based Insight: What Works?
- Dorset PHM Approach: The How?

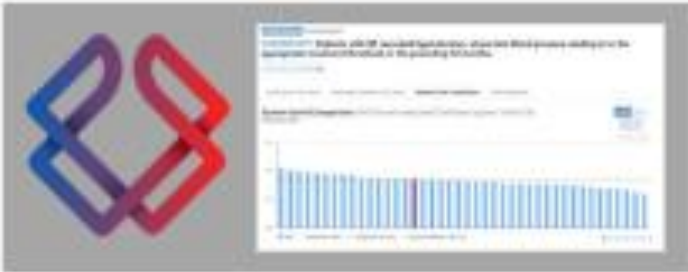




Quantitative Data - *The What?*



Dorset Intelligence & Insight Service



JSNA



Supporting Information: Secondary Uses Service
The NHS Data Model and Dictionary provides a reference point for assured information standards to support health care activities within the NHS in England.
data.dictionary.nhs.uk

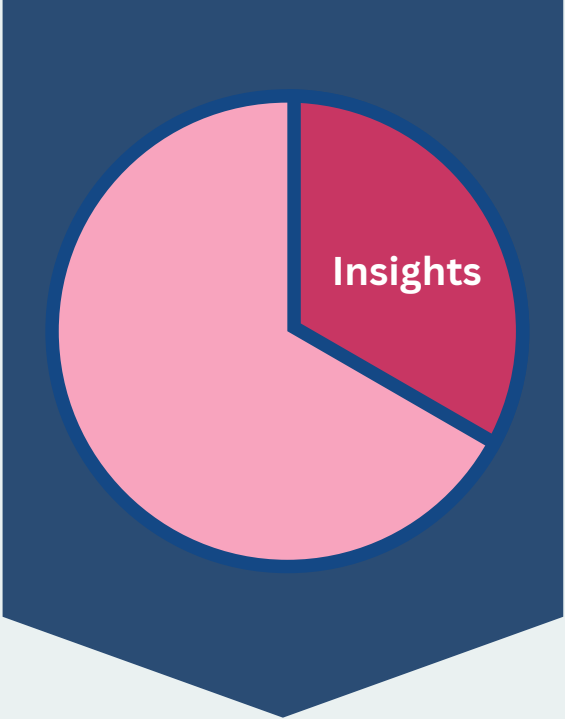
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) - Public Health Dorset - Dorset Council
Public Health Dorset is no longer a shared service for Dorset and BCP councils. For health and wellbeing information, please visit
[Public Health Dorset](https://publichealthdorset.org)



Shape
SHAPE is an online, interactive, data mapping, analysis and insight tool that supports service planning and estates strategy development.
[Shape](https://shape.nhs.uk) / 11 Jan 2023

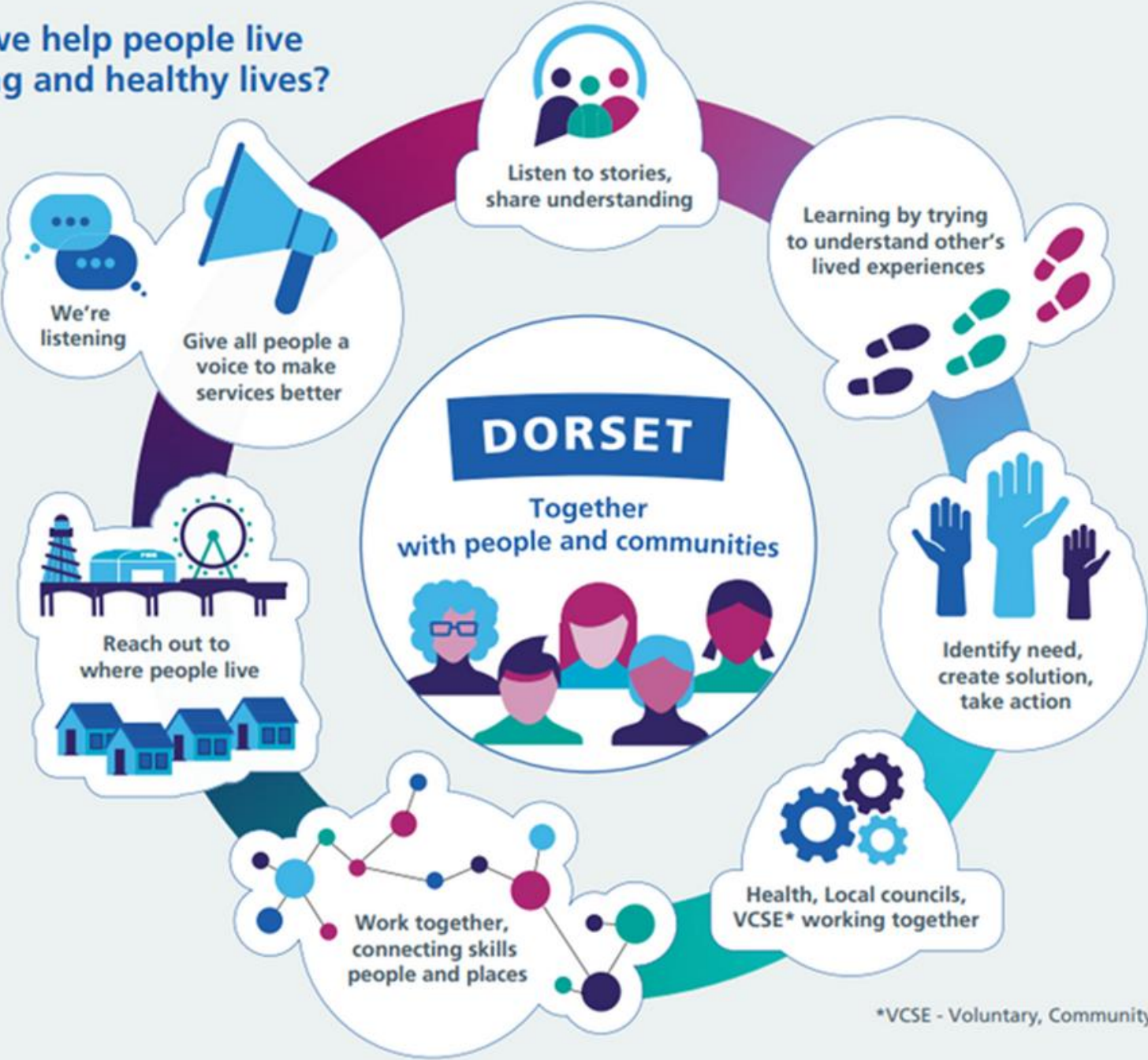


Qualitative Insight: *The Why?*

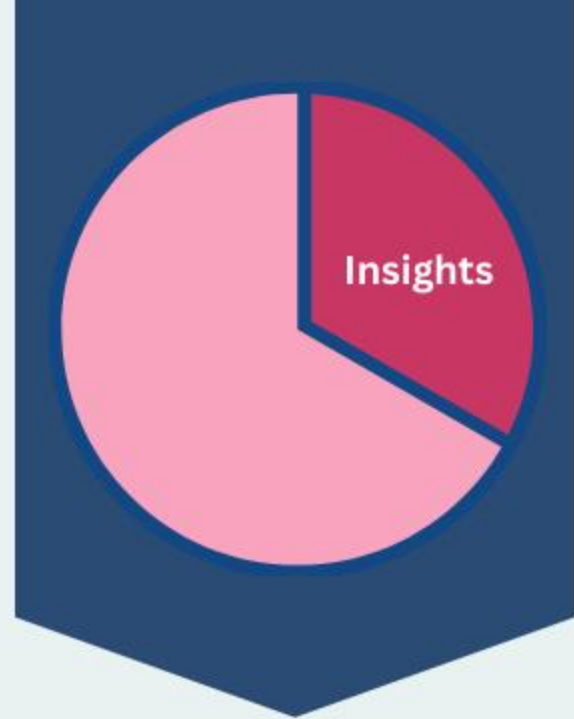


- Community Conversations
- Neighbourhood Conversations - Listening better
- Ongoing conversations
- Listening better
- Care Opinion
- Healthwatch Dorset
- NHS Dorset equity, equality, diversity and inclusion pages
- Coming soon - Insights bank

How can we help people live happy, long and healthy lives?



*VCSE - Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise



The Evidence: What Works?



elfh All OUR Health

Access trusted All Our Health resources to embed prevention within your daily work

www.e-elfh.org.uk/programmes/all-our-health



Tackling health inequalities: seven priorities for the NHS

Health inequalities Equality and diversity

The Strategy Unit

Patient-centred intelligence: A guide to patient activation

The Strategy Unit and Ipsos MORi

Population Health Management Flatpack

A guide to starting Population Health Management

NHS England Public Health England

REDUCING HEALTH INEQUALITIES THROUGH NEW MODELS OF CARE: A RESOURCE FOR NEW CARE MODELS

Local Government Association

Population Intervention Triangle toolkit

Place based approaches for addressing health inequalities, material developed by the LGA and Public Health England.

GOV.UK

Office for Health Improvement & Disparities

Guidance

Addressing health inequalities across allied health professional (AHP) services: a guide for AHP system leaders

Published 9 May 2024

Multiple long-term conditions (multimorbidity) and inequality: addressing the challenge: insights from research

Public Health England Local Government Association

Place Based Approaches for Reducing Health Inequalities:

Summary and examples of how to use a place-based approach to reduce health inequalities

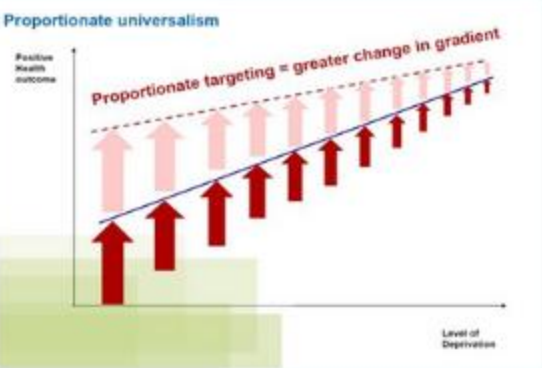
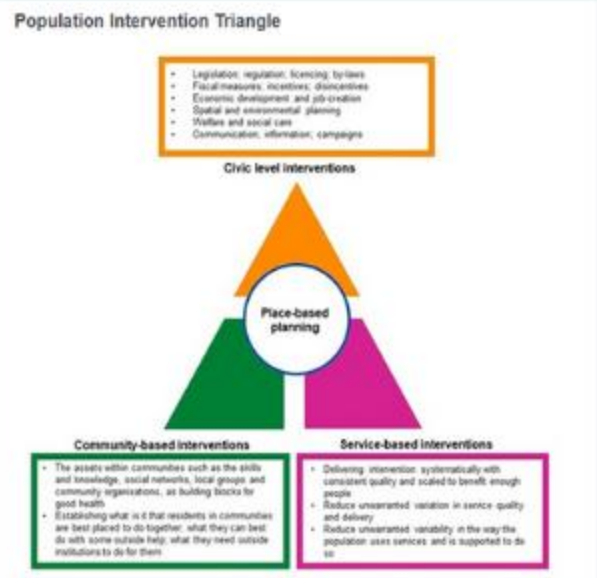
Fair Society, Healthy Lives

The Marmot Review

TheKing'sFund Ideas that change health care

Supporting people to manage their health

An introduction to patient activation



The Health Foundation

Insights, analysis & data Events

Home

Towards a new model of evidence for population health improvement

The King's Fund

Bold thinking for better health

Prevention before cure

Prioritising population health

What is a population health approach?

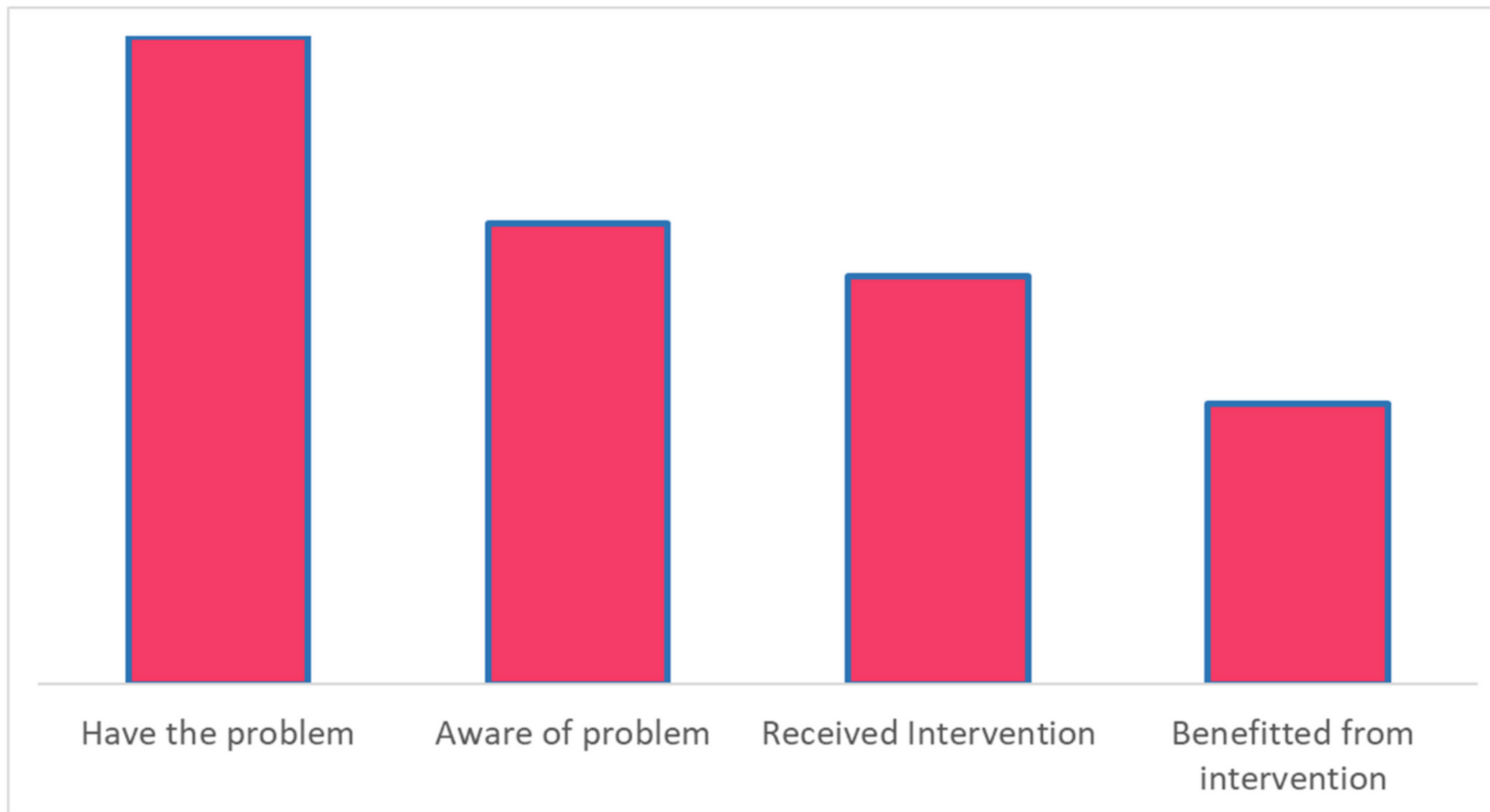
Integrated care Population health



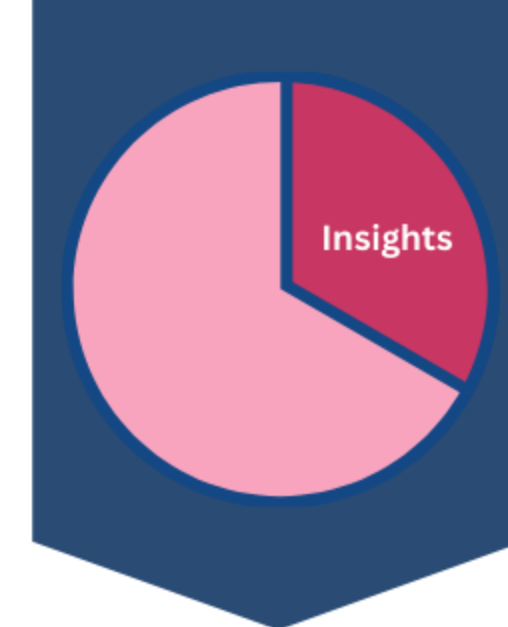
Dorset PHM Approach - *The How?*



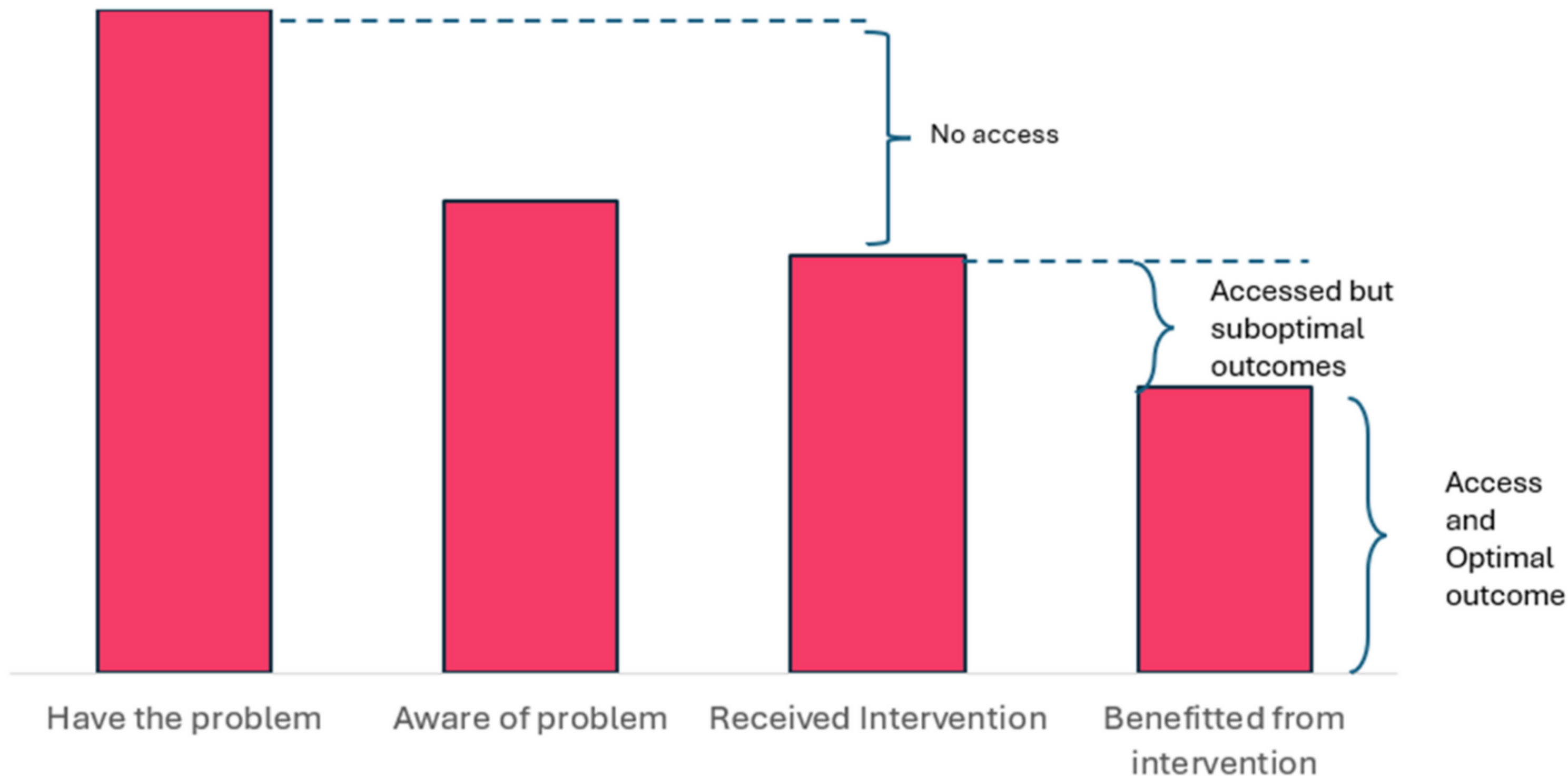
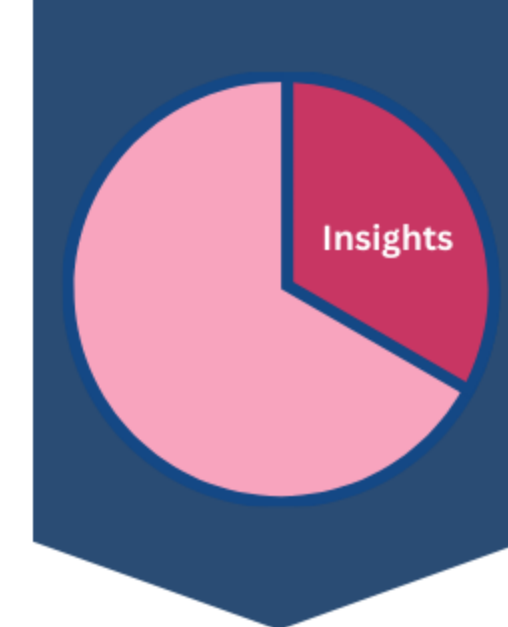
Systematic approaches that can help



Bentley (2016), Reducing Health Inequalities: System, Scale and Sustainability



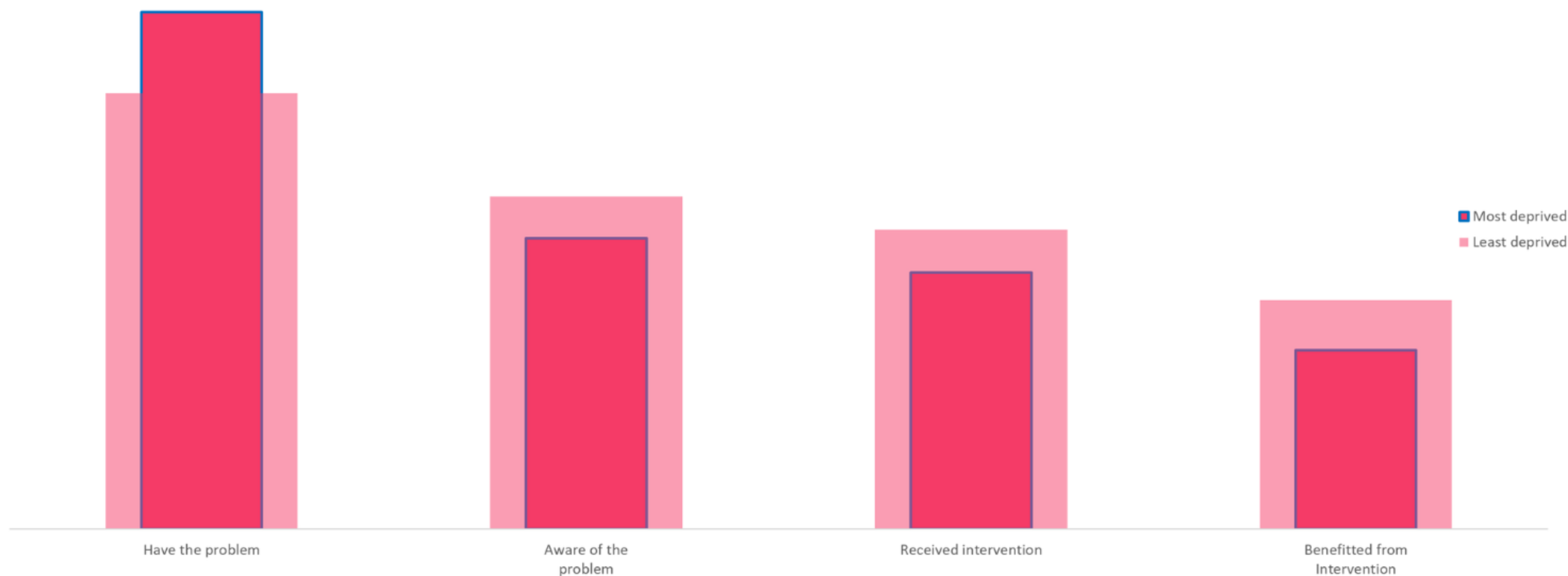
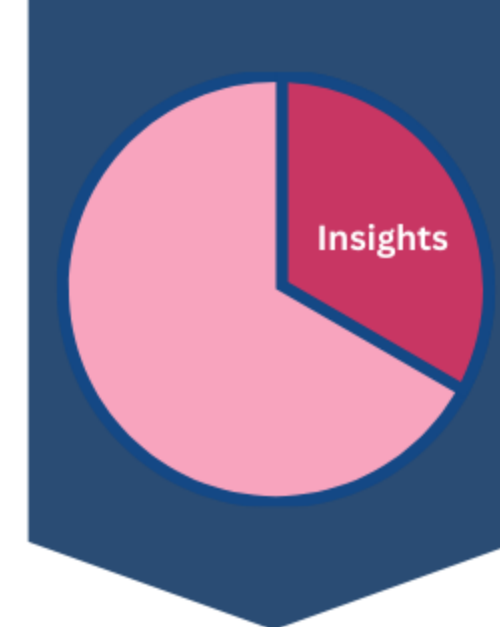
Systematic approaches that can help



Components of Unmet Need for Hypertension in Dorset Access and outcomes from care



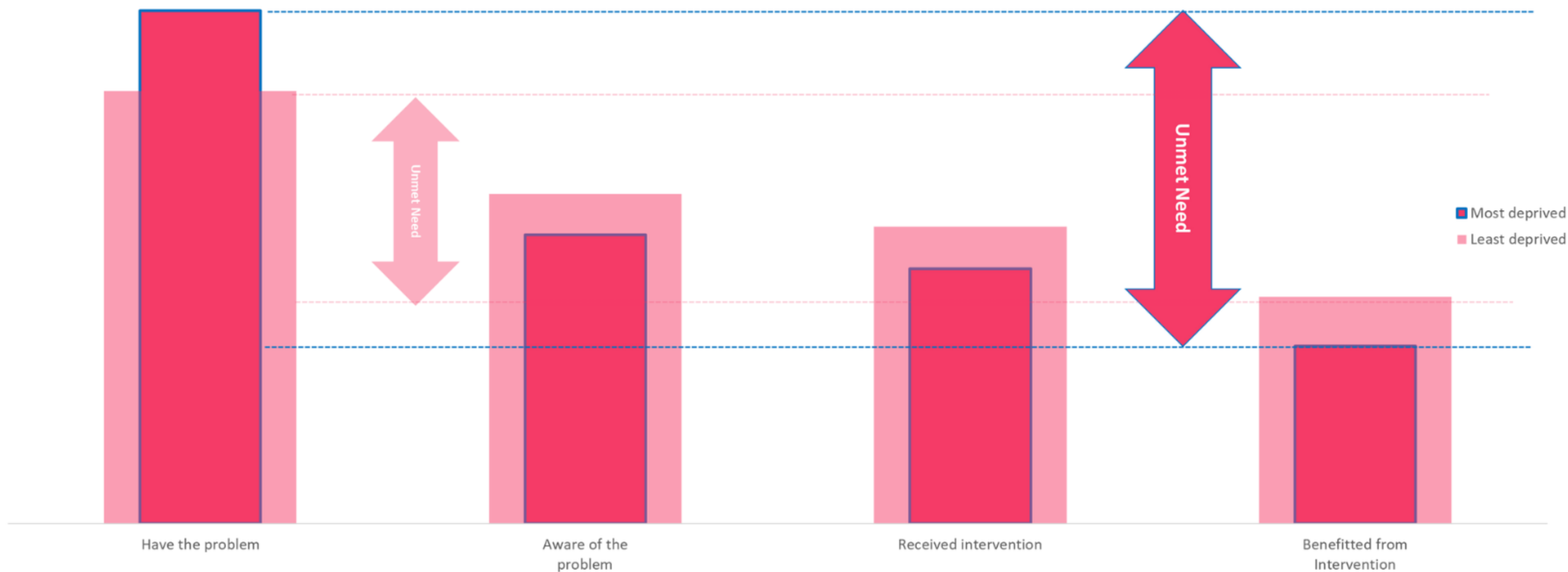
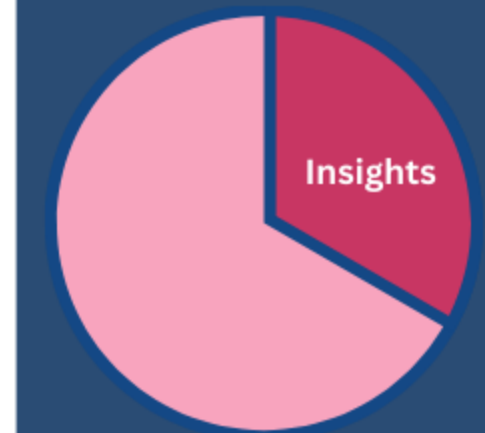
Unwarranted Variation: A Systematic Approach



Hypertension and Deprivation in Dorset August 2025



Unmet Need



Hypertension and Deprivation in Dorset (August 2025)



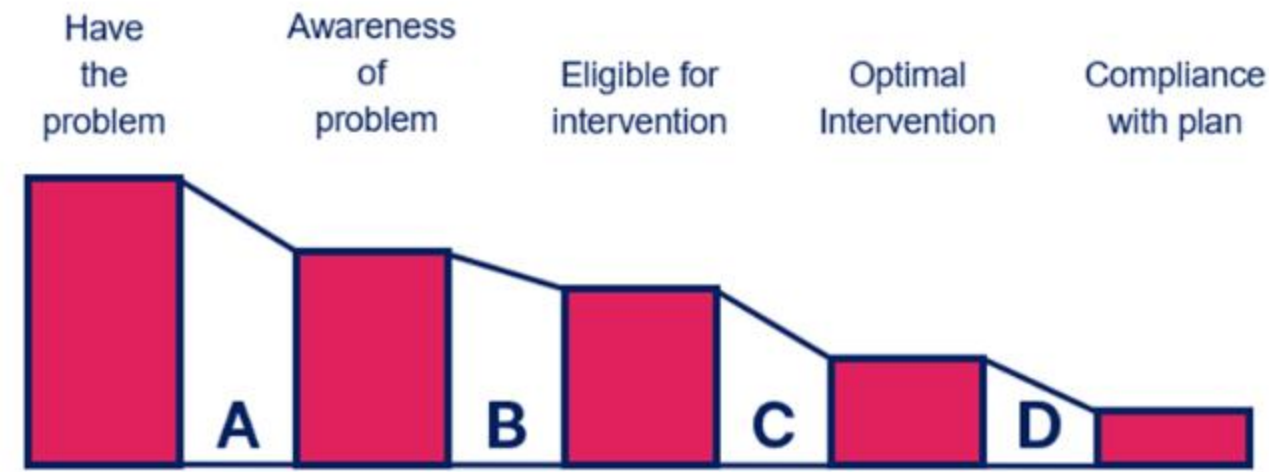


Actions

- Using Population Health and PHM evidence and interventions to optimise clinical outcomes
- Feedback from Primary Care
- Next steps in the PHM approach



Using Population Health and PHM evidence and interventions to optimise clinical outcomes



(Bentley 2016)

Taking a Population Health approach

Have the problem	Population with X	No. / %
Aware of the problem	Diagnosed with X	No. / %
Eligible for intervention	Diagnosed and Eligible	No. / %
Optimal intervention	Invited to the intervention	No. / %
Compliance with the plan	Benefit from the intervention	No. / %

← Increase recognition of risks and sources of help

← Address barriers and access to support, advice, interventions

← Address unwarranted variation in quality and provision

← Support people to maintain change and ongoing self-management

Evidence Based Action to Reduce Health Inequalities in Hypertension Management in Primary Care



Findings from our systematic review:

System Level Actions	Improve Access and Engagement	Improve Outcomes
<div>✓ Prioritise hypertension as part of local CVD prevention strategies, with dedicated leadership and resources [1][3][4]</div> <div>✓ Use data to identify and address unwarranted variations in detection and management [3][4]</div> <div>✓ Incentivise and support primary care networks to deliver enhanced hypertension services [1][4]</div>	<div>✓ Provide flexible appointment options like evening/weekend clinics for working patients [1]</div> <div>✓ Use digital tools like home blood pressure monitoring and virtual consultations to increase engagement [2][5]</div> <div>✓ Utilise community health workers, link workers, and peer supporters from local communities [1][4]</div>	<div>✓ Implement evidence-based clinical and non-clinical treatment protocols and decision support tools in clinical systems [1][5]</div> <div>✓ Offer regular medication reviews and support for adherence, considering cultural beliefs [2][5]</div> <div>✓ Embed lifestyle interventions through social prescribing and health coaching [4]</div>



Feedback From Primary Care

What worked well in your PCN?

Recognition of risks and sources of help

- Centralised approach for overdue readings
- Posters, PCN Social Media posts
- Community events
- Workforce training
- Text message invites which enabled self – onboarding for BP@Home
- The mass onboarding events in the community centre and working closely with our Digital Care Co-ordinators and pharmacists

Address barriers and access to support, advice, interventions

- Everyone was involved - starting from receptionist to the GPs getting up to date BP at all opportunities
- Cardiovascular outreach nurse role
- Pharmacy lead hypertension clinics
- BP at Flu clinics
- Take a BP reading at every interaction / maximise opportunistic measurements
- Difficult in deprived areas like ours as patients needed BP machines for BP@home but couldn't afford them.
- Difficult to manage those who aren't technically savvy

Address unwarranted variation in quality and provision

- Multidisciplinary approach with collaboration between all teams and with full digital support made a huge difference!
- A PCN Team dedicated to focusing on CVD looking at innovative ways to improve health and reduce inequalities
- We developed a clear pathway to streamline our approach to BP management
- Changing our process from the start, technicians taking BP in every blood test



Support people to maintain change and ongoing self-management



Activation describes the **knowledge, skills and confidence** a person has in **managing their own health** and care. **Higher activated** individuals are more likely to engage in **positive health behaviours** and to have **better health outcomes**

“How good are you at taking care of your health?”



Next Steps in the PHM Approach



Next Steps for Population Health in Primary Care - Hypertension

All PCNs are:

Increasing the number of staff trained in Very Brief Advice and Behaviour Change (LiveWell Dorset / E-Learning for Health)

Choosing a Behaviour Change project and thinking about a Team approach to delivery:

- Designing and delivering education events at scale to optimise hypertension management in Primary Care
- Develop and deploy a bitesize' workforce training offer which supports Primary Care to integrate health literacy into their everyday practice
- Understand how a patient's knowledge, skills, and confidence can be assessed to better tailor services to their needs and improve outcomes.

Identifying a target population or cohort – using PCN data and insights

Co-designing resources

Delivering interventions and connecting people to local services based on the principles of Activation

Tracking outcomes and sharing learning

The PHM team will be holding a Lunch and Learn in March, to reflect on success and learning. We will also be developing 'blueprints' to help PCNs implement good practice, in both hypertension and the application to other Long-Term Conditions.

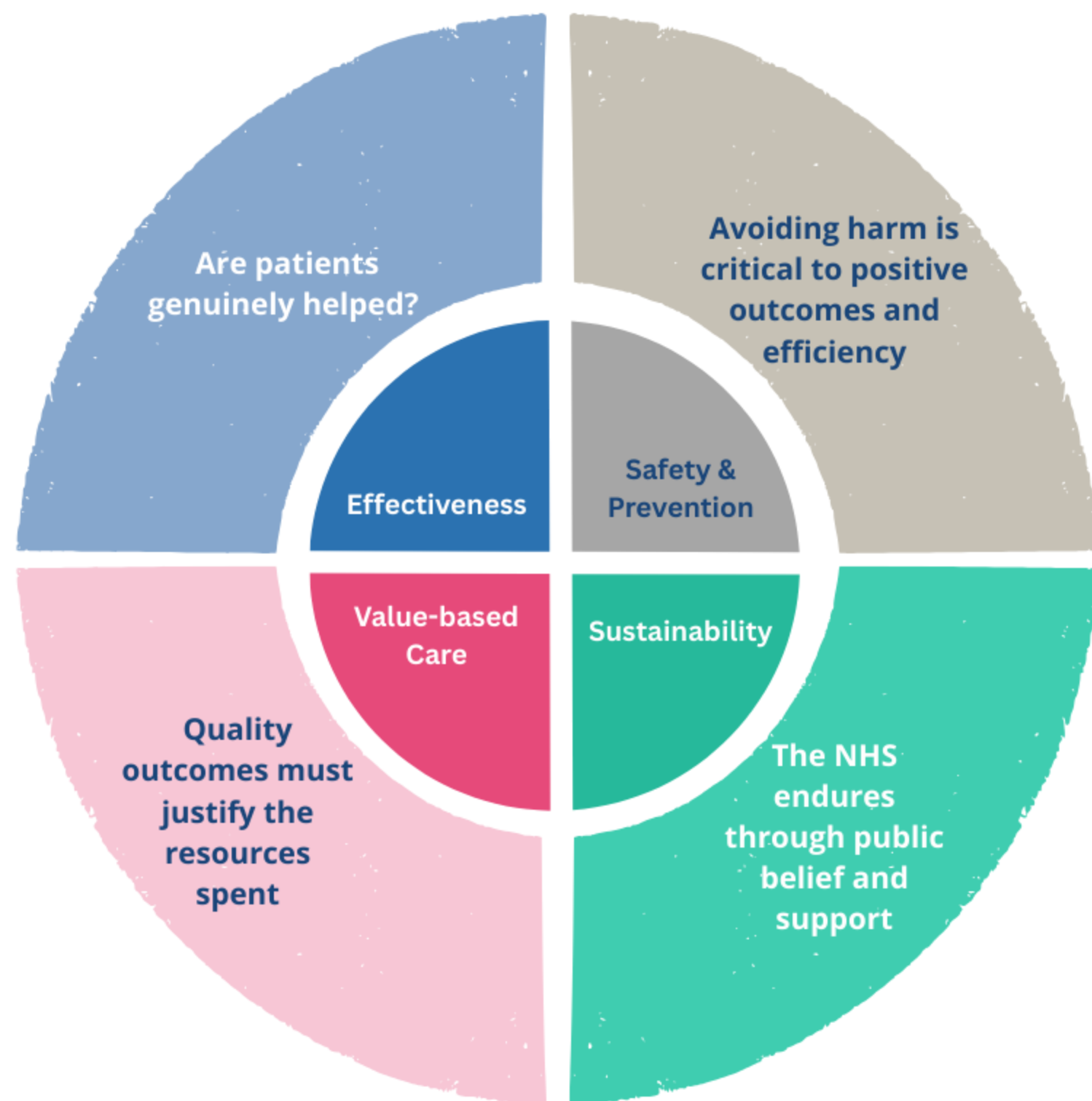


Outcomes

- What are outcomes?
- What was our intended outcome – left shift
- Impact on Hypertension optimisation in Dorset
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Link between Equality & Health Inequality Impact and PHM



What are Outcomes?



“Outcomes, by and large, remain the ultimate validation of the effectiveness and quality of medical care”

Avedis Donabedian



What was our Intended Outcome?

Improving whole population health & narrowing the gap (Left Shift)

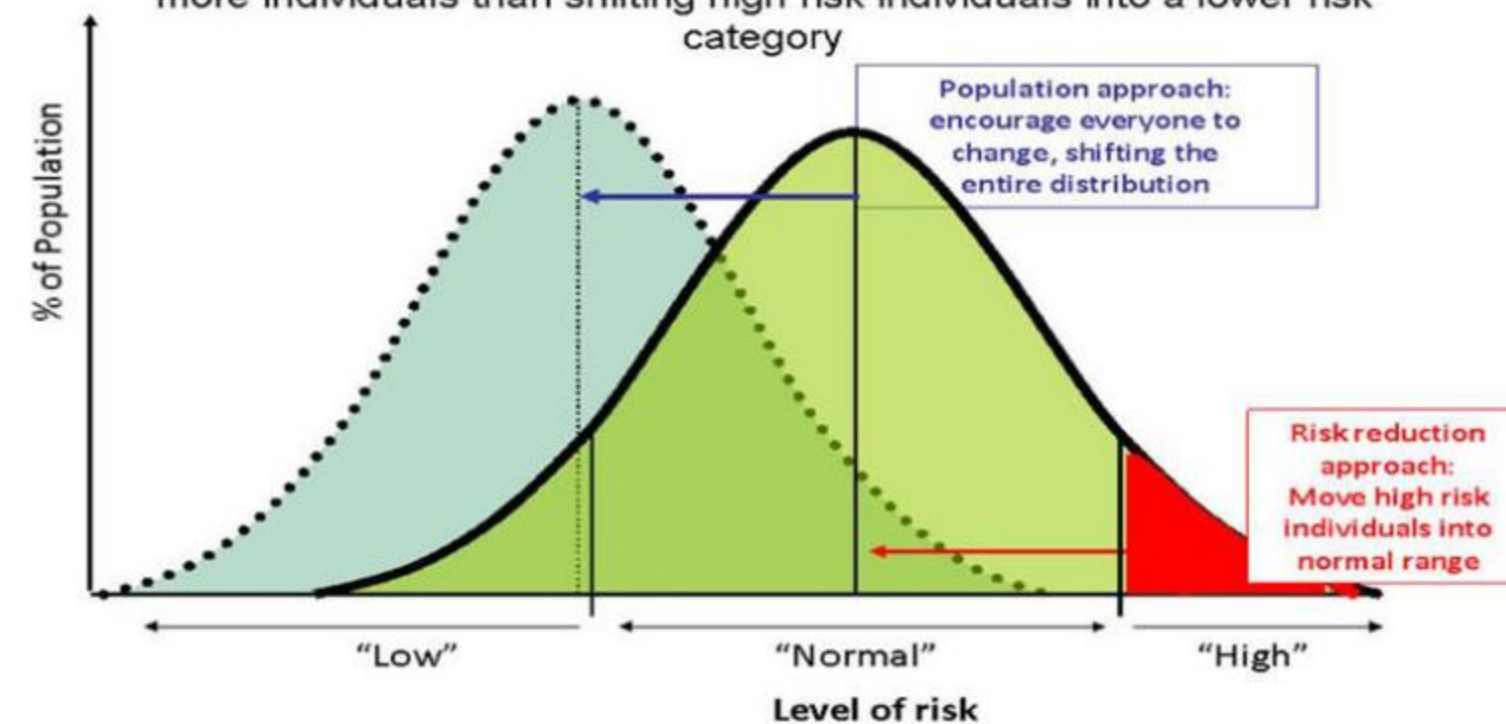


Impact on whole
population (move
everyone a little)

Impact on health
inequality groups
(Move some people a
lot)

The Bell-Curve Shift in Populations

Shifting the whole population into a lower risk category benefits more individuals than shifting high risk individuals into a lower risk category



Source: Rose G. Sick Individuals and sick populations. *Int J Epidemiol.* 1985; 12:32-38.

Dorset Systematic Approach to PHM: Impact on Hypertension Optimisation



Improve population health

7,896* more people optimised

46** heart attacks prevented

70** strokes prevented

40** deaths prevented



Reduce health inequalities

Black ethnic group **190%*****

Mixed ethnic group **120%*****

Most deprived **175%*****



Best use of resources

£360k** not treating heart attacks

£1m** not treating strokes

£666K saved in social care**

£££ saved in wider healthcare spend

Dorset Health Inequalities and PHM Programme – Hypertension Optimisation

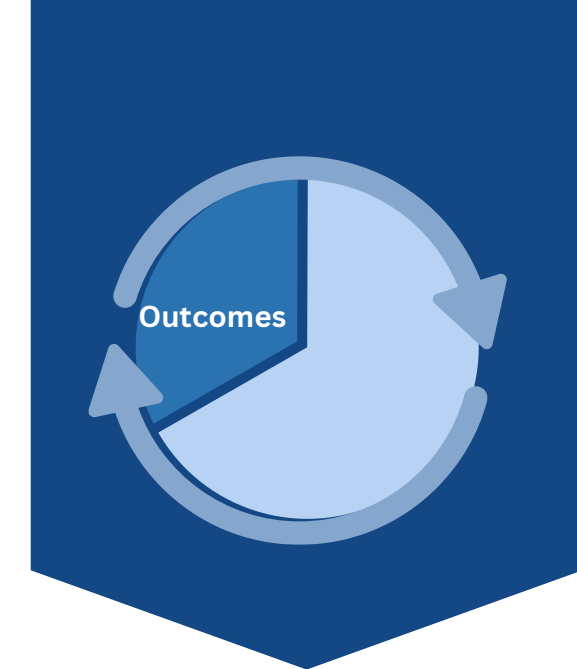
*DiIS to March 2025

** Source: Size of the Prize for high blood pressure – modelled on Dorset Activity delivered in 2024/25 (based on 7896 patients optimised)

**Stroke costs to social care are given for the 1st year following stroke only

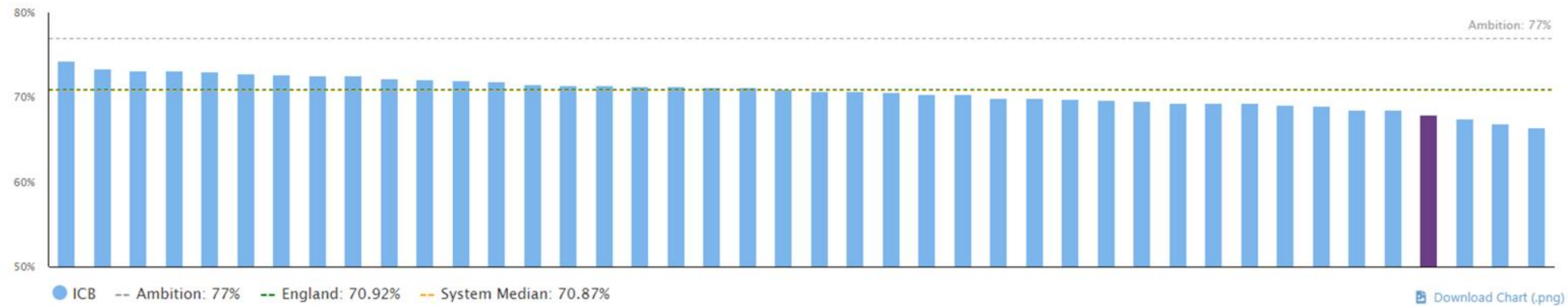
*** Source: [CVD Prevent](#) to March 2024 – March 2025 improvement relative to the whole population with hypertension



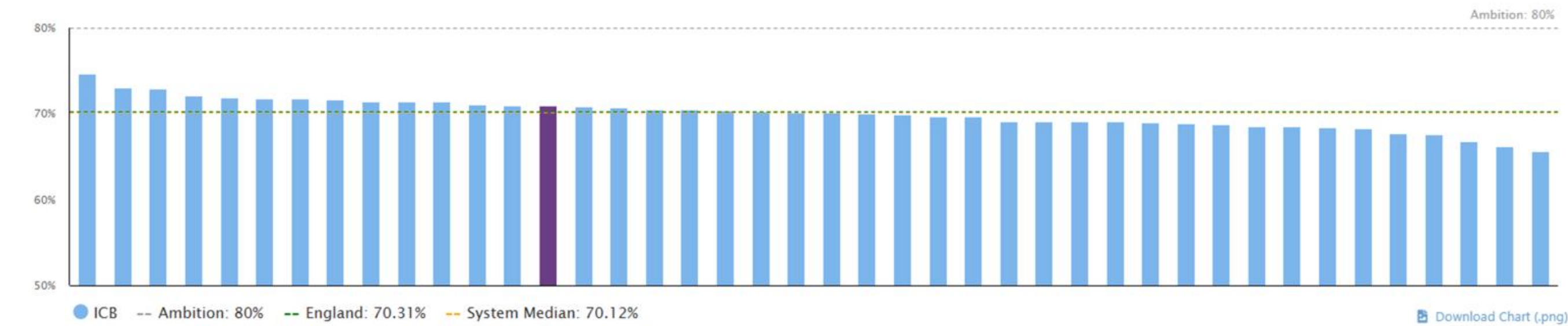


System Level Comparison: NHS Dorset Integrated Care Board against other ICBs
March 2024

Filter Chart Table



March 2025



Monitoring & Evaluation



Why is this important?

Enables evidence-based decisions, supports health equity, and ensures interventions are effective, responsive and efficient to population needs.

Monitoring: Ongoing, systematic collection and analysis of data to track programme activities, service delivery, and progress toward objectives.

Evaluation: Periodic assessment to determine the effectiveness, outcomes, and impact of interventions, and to attribute observed changes to specific programs.

Top line Questions: Did it work?

- What worked and for whom? – what should be continued or adapted
- How effectively is the programme being implemented? (process evaluation)
- What are measurable outcomes?
- How does the programme address health equity and disparities in different population groups?
- How sustainable is programme? (long term outcome)
- How the evaluation influence policy and practice?
- (actionable recommendations)



What we hope to achieve through this intervention:

Inputs

Participants

Activities

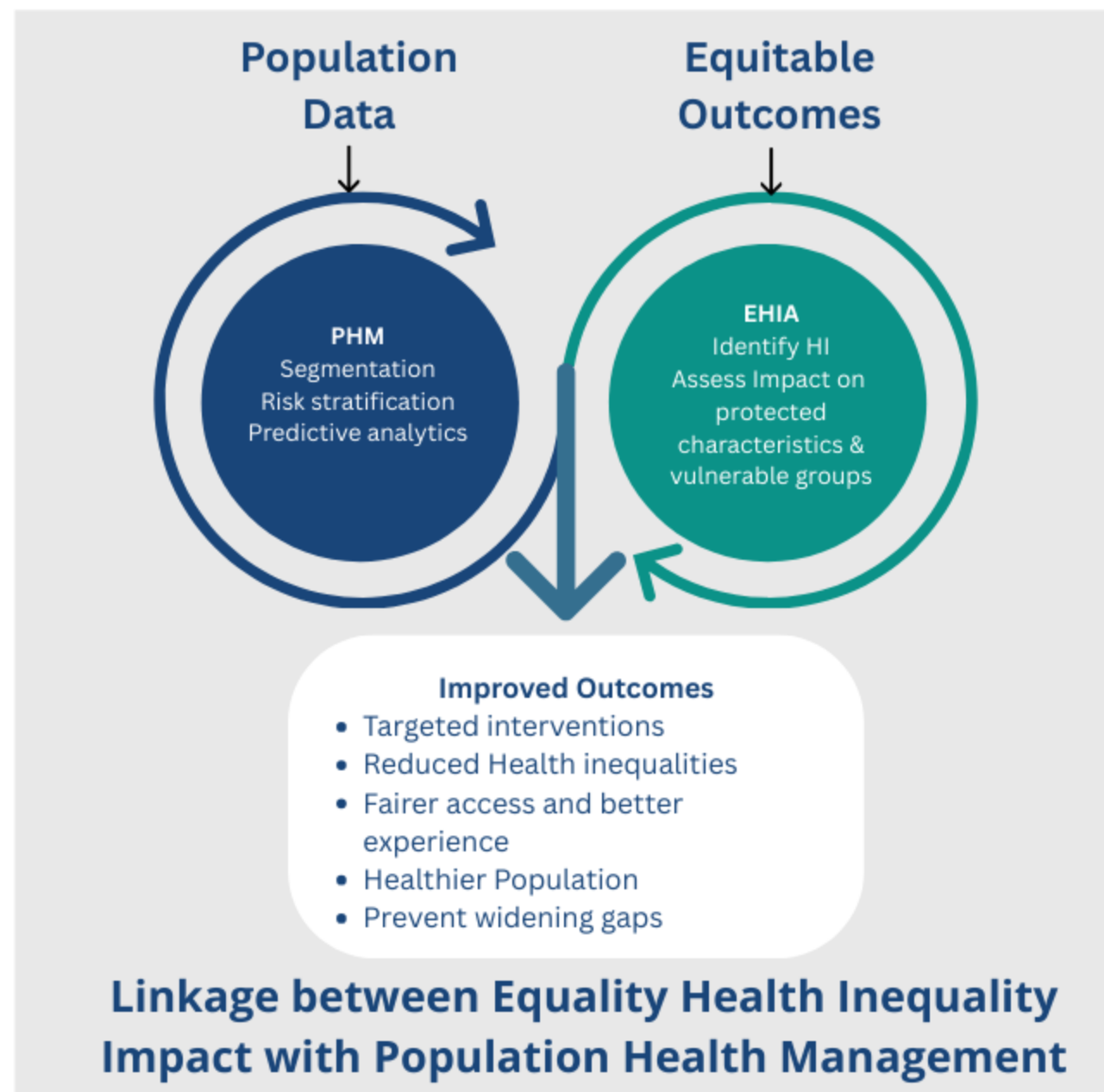
Outputs

Short-term
Outcomes

Medium-term
Outcomes

Long-term
Outcomes

Link Between Equality & Health Inequality Impact & PHM



By measuring the right things, for the right groups, in the right way, every part of the system can work together to deliver healthier and fairer outcomes for all.

What next: We will be delivering Lunch and Learn sessions on EHIA. We will continue to work with our commissioning and system colleagues to redesign services on the principles of proportionate universalism and equality lens making sure no one is left behind.




“We’re incredibly proud of what Dorset has achieved in such a short time. High blood pressure is often called the silent killer, but through proactive care, community engagement, and data-driven decision-making, we’ve turned the tide.

These results aren’t just numbers - they represent lives saved, strokes prevented, and families spared the heartbreak of sudden loss. It’s a powerful reminder of what’s possible.”


Dr. Forbes Watson, GP and Chair of Dorset General Practice Alliance




It Works! A clinician's perspective



Insights



Actions



Outcomes

Dorset Population Health Management & Health Inequalities



Martin Longley, CVD Lead GP, Dorset ICB



Summary



- Dorset PHM Approach (**The What?**)
- Systematic / replicable approach (**The How?**)
- Underpinned by key value-based concepts (**The Why?**)

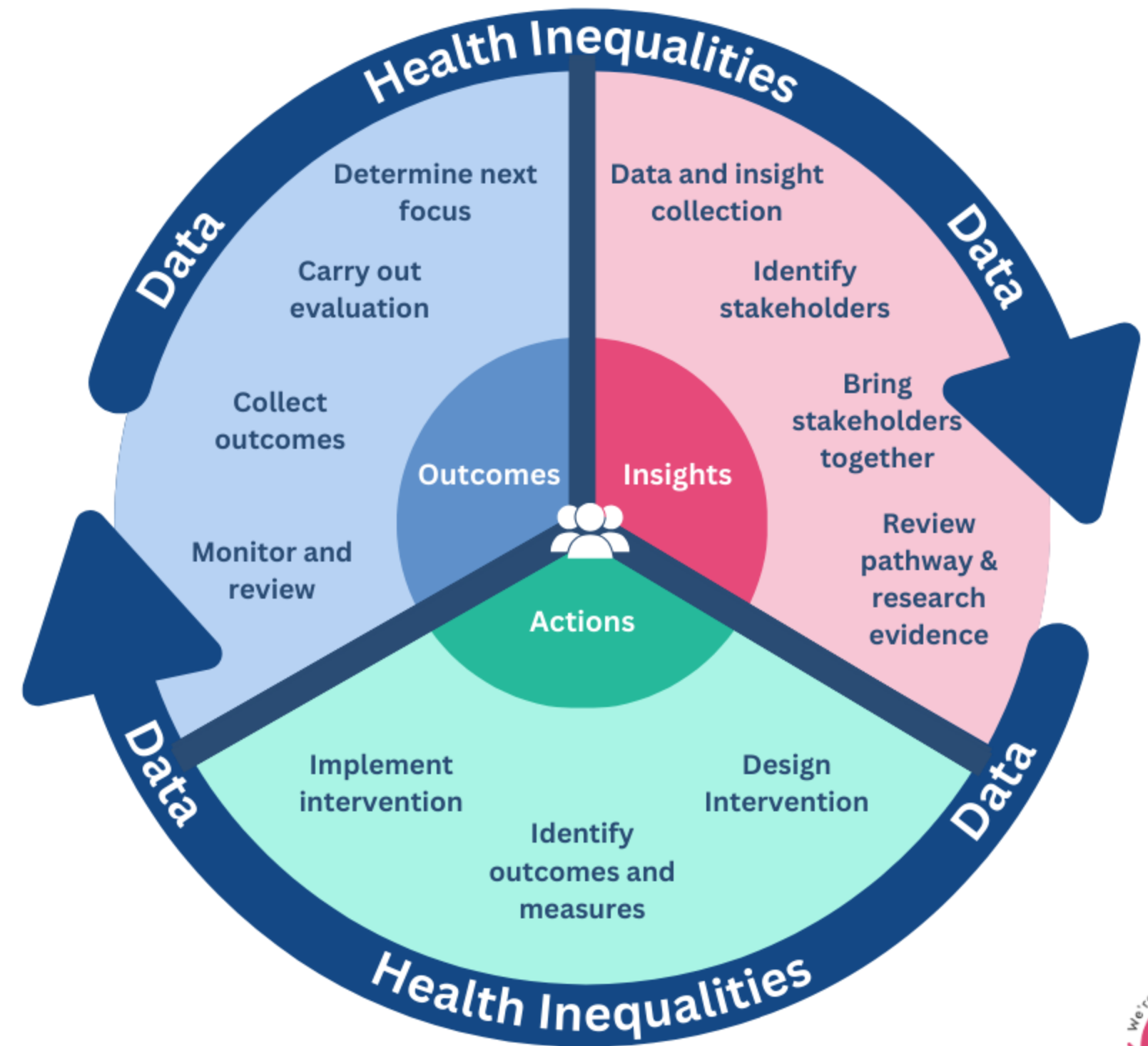
Our Dorset PHM approach aims to take people on the journey of **INSIGHTS** into **ACTION**.

We hope we have inspired you!



What Next...?

- Send out slide deck with notes
- Request for support form
- Newsletter
- EHIA module
- HSJ Award shortlisted
- Launch of Toolkit for Strategic Commissioners



? **Where does the data come from which says x number have the problem? is there a formula which says if Y have the problem identified, then x will be the total group?**

These come from modelling which will take into account demographics in a population and then the model estimates prevalence - so the total population is taken into account to predict prevalence rather than looking at who has already been identified

? **Does the DiiS still protect personal identifiable data using the University of Nottingham's pseudonymisation service?**

Data is pseudonymised at source using our own pseudonymisation tool to protect personal data.



? **How many of the inequality group hypertension improvements were for those who accessed a digital intervention?**

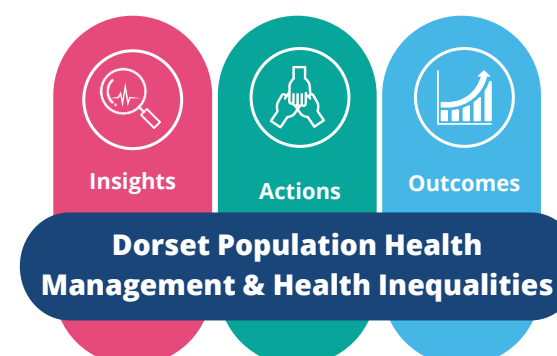
17-20% of the hypertensive population used a digital intervention. While uptake varied across cohorts, the digital offer supported equity by freeing practice time for those less able to use digital and helped practices manage the large number of patients needing BP reviews. Efficiency and productivity of those 20% adoptive cohort helped the capacity of clinical teams and helped the left shift activity.

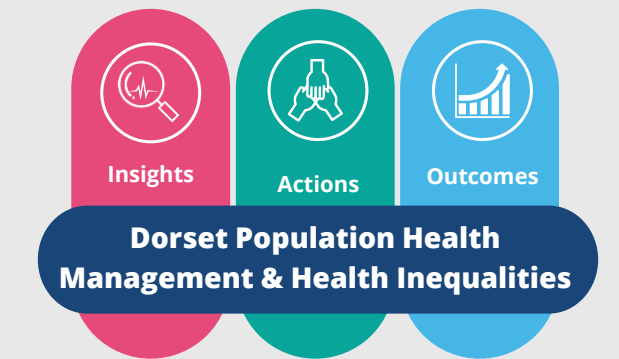
? **Your slide said that you will be delivering lunch and learn session on EHIA so you know if this will include the quality elements and the SQEEIA?**

Nayab and Surendra are working with Karen Payne on updating the system quality equity equality impact assessment (SQEEIA) process which includes EHIA and quality together and are looking at joint training

? **What plans do you have for delivering bite size training to increase knowledge of health behaviour change relevant for those working in a secondary care setting?**

We are working closely with LiveWell Dorset to co-design training, which reflects local offers. We also are testing some bitesize Health Literacy training, which we can test with partners to understand how it can be best implemented and have impact at scale. This is part of the Prevention Community workplan.





References and Useful Links:

Introduction to PHM

[NHS England » Population health management](#)
[What Is A Population Health Approach? | The King's Fund](#)
[Population Health Management - elearning for healthcare](#)

Insights

[Hospital Episode Statistics \(HES\) - NHS England Digital](#)
[Supporting Information: Secondary Uses Service](#)
[Homepage | NICE](#)
[Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) - Public Health Dorset - Dorset Council](#)
[Health Inequalities annual report 2024](#)
[Hospital Episode Statistics \(HES\) - NHS England Digital](#)
[Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care](#)
[NHS RightCare](#)
[NHS England - Model Hospital](#)
[SHAPE – Shape](#)
[Community Conversations](#)
[Neighbourhood Conversations - Listening better](#)
[Listening better](#)
[Healthwatch Dorset](#)

[Multiple conditions and health inequalities: addressing the challenge with research](#)
[Tackling Health Inequalities | Seven Priorities For The NHS | The King's Fund](#)
[Health disparities and health inequalities: applying All Our Health - GOV.UK](#)
[Population Intervention Triangle toolkit | Local Government Association](#)
[Towards a new model of evidence for population health improvement](#)
[What Is A Population Health Approach? | The King's Fund](#)
[prevention-before-cure-prioritising-population-health-report-bma-march-2019-1.pdf](#)
[fair-society-healthy-lives-full-report-pdf.pdf](#)
[Browse content | NIHR Evidence](#)

Actions

- [1] [Public Health England, Tackling high blood pressure, From evidence into action](#)
- [2] [Health Innovation West of England, Reducing high blood pressure health inequalities](#)
- [3] [Public Health England Guidance, High blood pressure: Plan and deliver effective services and treatment](#)
- [4] [NHS England, Under control: why getting to grips with blood pressure is a win-win intervention for healthcare systems](#)
- [5] [UCL Partners, Blood Pressure Optimisation Programme](#)

Outcomes

[Size of the Prize for high blood pressure](#)
[Regional & ICS Insights | CVDPREVENT](#)