



# Health of the Region Report (2020) Summary

Health Inequalities in WMCA:

**22** Years

Years on average lived in poor health

**18** Years

Rates of death from preventable causes are above national average  
e.g. cardiovascular disease, cancer, liver disease, respiratory disease

There are higher rates of problem drinking, child and adult obesity and physical inactivity

And lower rates of cancer screening cover



## The WMCA is committed to:

**1**

Develop a targeted Thrive mental health programme co-designed with BAME employers and employees

**2**

Work with partners to become a Marmot City-Region and develop a 3-year action plan for change.

**3**

Train and support healthcare professionals to refer disabled citizens to physical activity as part of its IncludeMe initiative.

**4**

Standardising inclusion of social value in our single commissioning framework to include Wellbeing and work together to maximise and measure outputs in the communities that we work in.

## Partners are committed to:

**1**

The new multi-agency Midlands System Transformation Recovery Board will carry out an evaluation of regional NHS programmes through a Black Lives Matter and post-COVID lens.

**2**

Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust are committed to deploying a minimum of 2% of its future annual budget with local suppliers and to paying all staff at or above the 'living wage'.

**3**

Black Country and West Birmingham CCG will develop population health management capacity to widen access including early diagnosis of cancer in vulnerable groups.

**4**

Black Country Consortium is supporting a social prescribing campaign, supporting prevention and community resilience; and supporting a whole system approach to reducing childhood obesity.

## Recommendations to Government:

**1**

To produce a clear and comprehensive action plan setting out how it will work with local and regional partners to take action on race disparities and associated risk factors.

**2**

To double the proportion of health and social care spending focused on prevention and public health from 5 to 10 percent over time

**3**

To do all it can to close the gap in primary care provision between the most and least deprived neighbourhoods in terms of funding per patient and serving GPs.

**4**

To invest in the WMCA's Radical Health Prevention Fund to drive forward innovation, social prescribing and other initiatives to tackle health inequalities in the region.

WOLVERHAMPTON WALSALL

SANDWELL DUDLEY

BIRMINGHAM

SOLIHULL

COVENTRY

## Impact of COVID-19:



The WMCA has a higher rate of COVID-19 cases overall than the West Midlands region

Highest rates of COVID-19 related deaths are in:



Areas with a greater proportion of BAME residents

**41.2%–47.9%** of people surveyed in West Midlands region reported high levels of anxiety. This is more than double of those surveyed in 2019\*

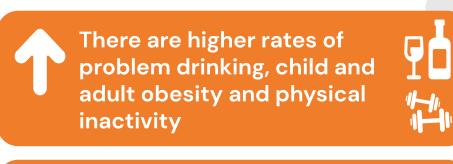
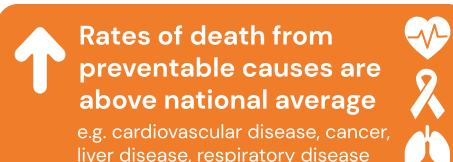
period week ending 22 March – 3 August 2020

**38%** of parents surveyed in West Midlands region reported their children doing less than 30 minutes of physical activity per day\*

period week ending 3 April – 25 May 2020

\*Please note use of sample survey data

Challenges:



**1**

Improving outcomes for BAME communities

**4**

Enabling people-powered health

**2**

Tackling the wider determinants of health

**3**

Widening access to health and care services

