Commissioning and population health

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Thinking Differently About Commissioning, The King’s Fund
What is population health?

There are several definitions of population health in use. The King's Fund defines it as:

An approach aimed at improving the health of an entire population. It is about improving the physical and mental health outcomes and wellbeing of people within and across a defined local, regional or national population, while reducing health inequalities. It includes action to reduce the occurrence of ill health, action to deliver appropriate health and care services and action on the wider determinants of health. It requires working with communities and partner agencies.

A vision for population health, page 18
We know what determines population health

..and they are connected
Evidence, debate, intervention, system in silos

Figure 7 The four pillars of a population health system

- The wider determinants of health
- Our health behaviours and lifestyles
- An integrated health and care system
- The places and communities we live in, and with
A framework for population health

A population health system is about i) the balance between and ii) making the connections between the four pillars of population health.

What is happening, locally and nationally where these pillars overlap?

What needs to happen next, local, regional and national. Some importance messages for: resourcing, accountability, leadership.
Commissioning and population health

A critical enabler
* At what scale?
* What scope?

Depends on
* Vision
* Partnership
* Leadership
Population health management – as glue

❯ PHM can be **the glue** that helps develop, cohere and evaluate a population health approach in the ICS, but also beyond it

❯ Has significant potential for
  - *Planning*, but how does it relate to JSNA/JHWB strategies?
  - *Inequalities*, requires clear definition/focus and the connection to the three pillars of population health beyond the ICS
  - *Individual care*, most obvious benefit but focus also on the others
  - *Cost and demand control*, but understand trade-offs with care and inequality reduction

❯ Analysis underpins but how it is used, and how analysis **influences behaviour** and move to a whole system, place-based, population health approach is the big pay-off