





Initial impact of the pandemic on people's health and wellbeing

Results of a VHS member survey 26-31 March 2020

Increased poverty

Increased food insecurity

Digital exclusion

Poorer mental health: increased anxiety, fear, suicidal thoughts

Increased loneliness and social isolation

Lack of access to clear information about Covid-19

Lack of access to necessary services and support, including transport


Suspension of health and social care services for pre-existing conditions

Loss of respite for carers

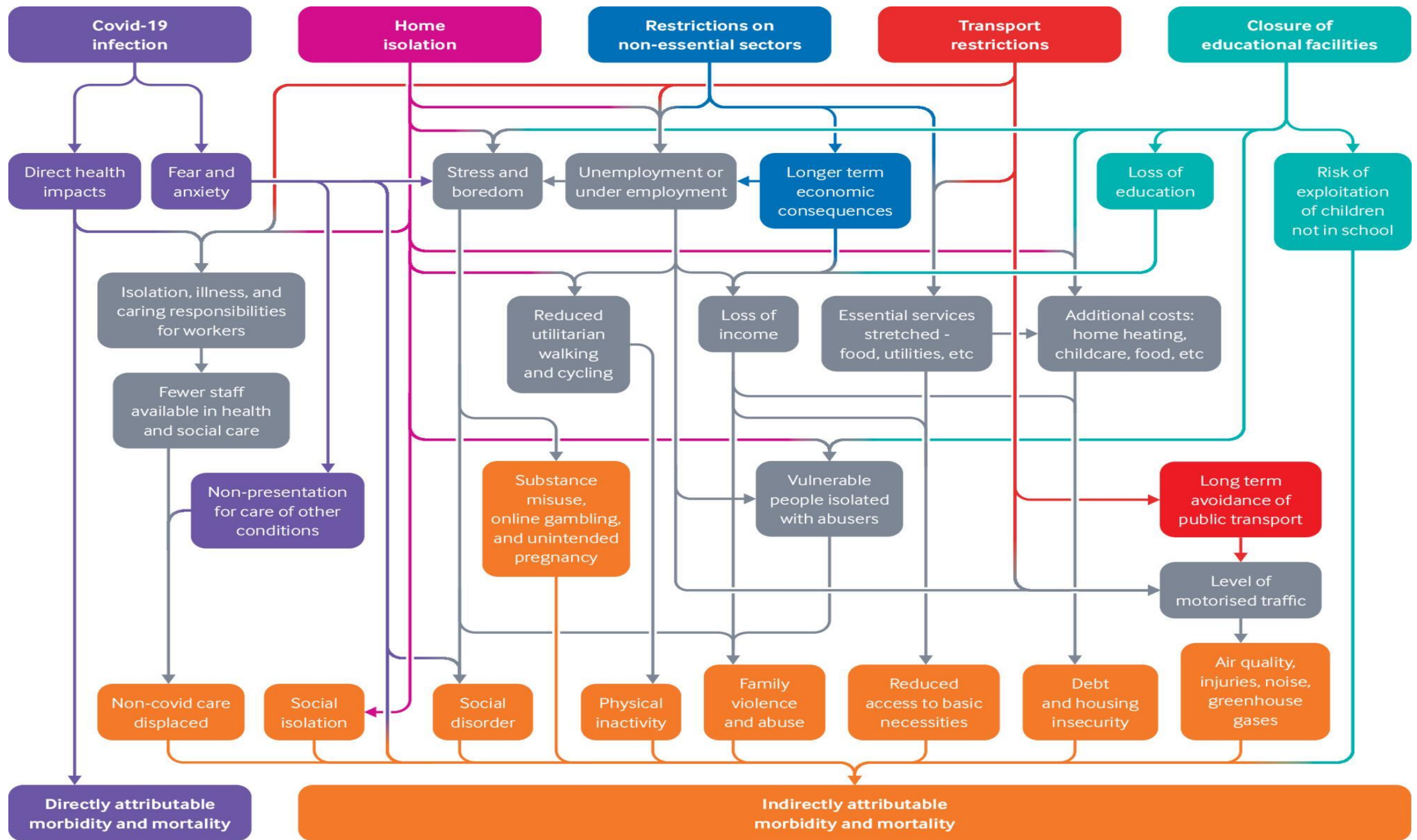
Increased substance mis-use/dependency

Heightened stress on family relationships (and domestic abuse)

Reduced resilience

A stage spotlight is shown on the left side of the image, casting a bright, circular beam of light onto a dark, textured background. The spotlight has a metallic, cylindrical body with a glass lens in the center. The beam of light is a warm, yellowish-white color, creating a strong contrast with the dark surroundings. The background appears to be a dark curtain or wall with some vertical folds or lines.

Covid is exposing
and amplifying
the scale of
inequalities in
our society.



Our third sector response

Pivoting/Adaption/innovation

- Face to face – delivery of food, medicine, meals and other essentials
- Remote - telephone and online - e.g. information, therapies, meditation, exercise, peer support, consultations, advice and befriending
- Taking on new service users in addition to existing ones

Looking after our people, capacity and sustainability

Gathering and sharing evidence of need/what works

Building partnerships and collaborative working

Horizon scanning

Influencing policy agendas

