

The Role of Research and Evidence in Tackling Health Inequalities

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**In the service
of Scotland**

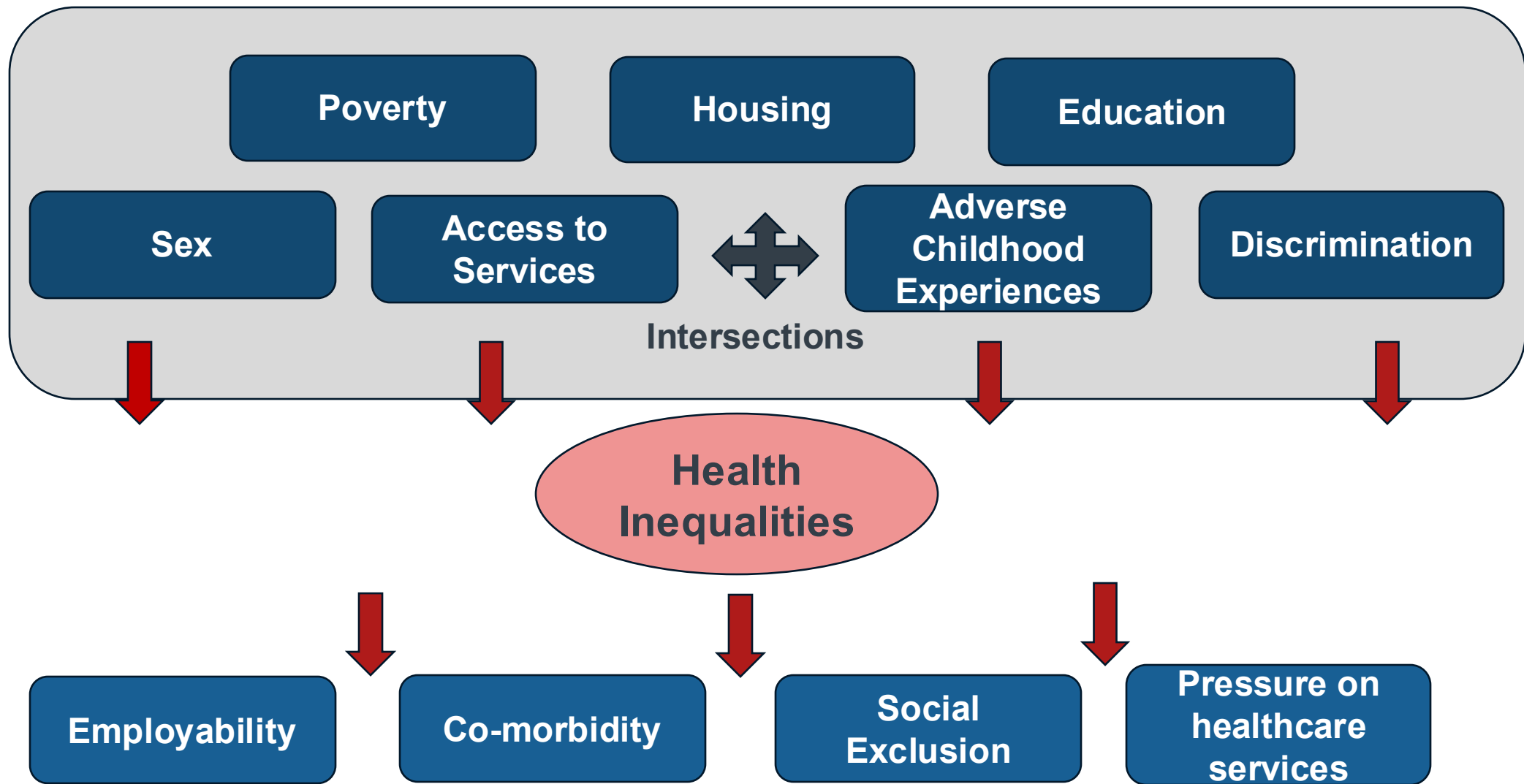


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Introduction

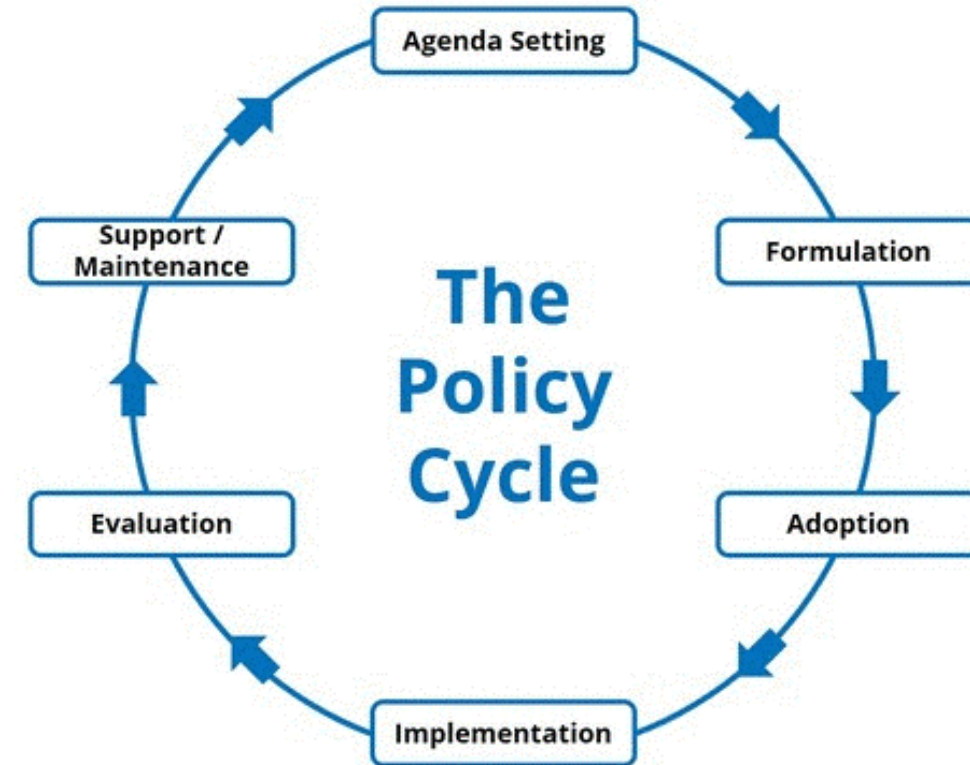
- The role of Chief Researcher
- The Social Research Profession
- Using the best and most relevant evidence to inform policy decision-making





Role of Research, Data & Evidence

- Understanding the extent of a problem
- Proposing theories and solutions as to what might work
- Evidence of how best to support delivery
- Monitoring and evaluation to determine the effectiveness of policy interventions



Equality Evidence Strategy & Equality Data Improvement Plan

- Improving the breadth and quality of equalities data enables more meaningful intersectional analysis
- Organisations at all levels, and from different sectors, have a role in filling evidence gaps
- Enhances understanding and improves monitoring and evaluation

Scotland's
Equality Evidence Strategy
2023-2025



March 2023

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Importance of Lived Experience

- Involves people in decisions about issues that directly affect them
- Makes policies more relevant and effective
- Enhances legitimacy of policy decision-making
- Can highlight intersecting forms of disadvantage

Voices of practitioners and delivery organisations also vital in defining issues and developing solutions



What works?

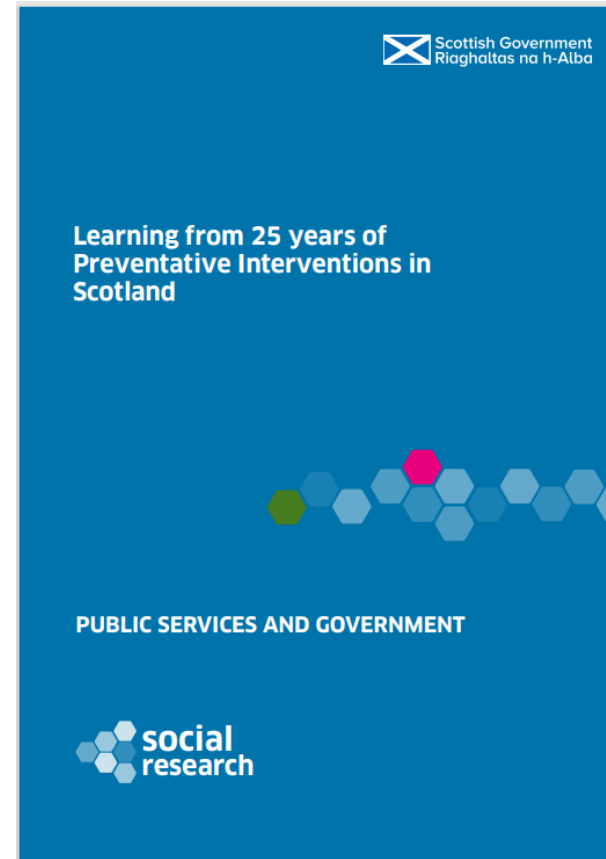
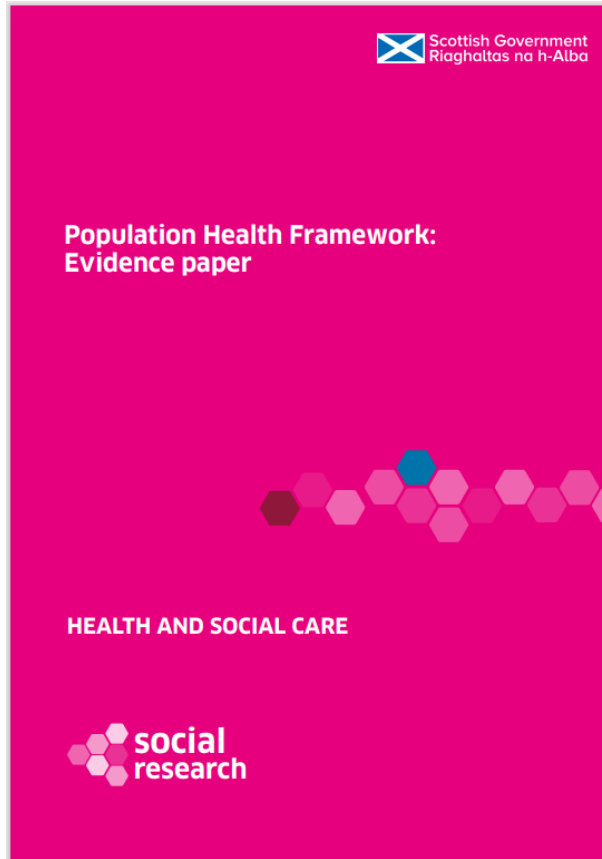


Prevention

Collaboration

Prevention

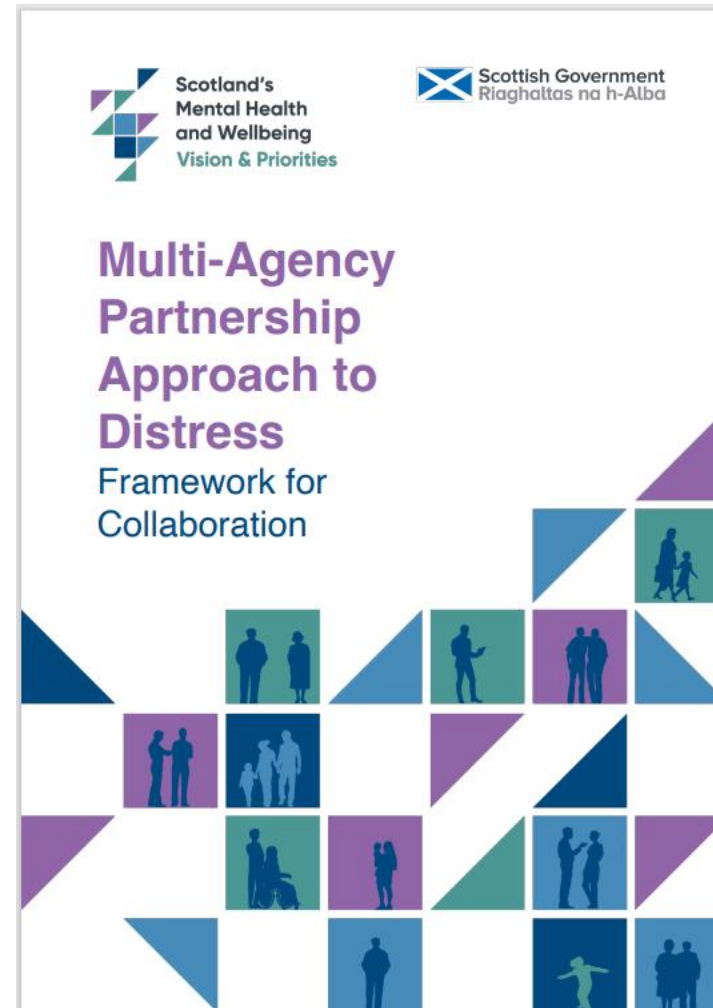
*“Evidence shows that **primary prevention** has the highest impact on **population health** because it proactively addresses the root causes of disease, reducing demand on healthcare systems.”*



*“The 15 case studies illustrate how preventative interventions introduced in Scotland have led to **improvements in outcomes, cost savings and reduced demands on public services**. The case studies are taken from a range of policy areas, and include a mix of **primary, secondary and tertiary interventions**.”*

Collaboration

“Everyone we have worked with has stressed the importance of an everyday partnership approach which promotes cohesive collaborative working.”



Supporting collaboration
between the third and public
sectors: A review of current
evidence



PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES AND PLACES

social
research

Conclusion

- Use and build on evidence of what works
- Strengthen partnerships and collaborative ways of working
- Organisations of all sizes working together to collect, share and interpret data and information. Including, prominently, the voices of lived experience
- Recognising importance of organisations like VHS that bring people together and represent the sector



Questions/Discussion

