

The Impact of local funding cuts to Environmental Health and Regulatory services on Gastrointestinal infections(GII)

Background

- Gastro intestinal infections are a range of diseases caused by bacteria, virus and protozoa
- A significant public health issue with an estimated 17m cases UK per year(1) and foodborne disease is estimated to have total burden £9.b UK per year (2)
- Symptoms range from mild to severe and fatal manifestations

GII Distribution

Inequal distribution amongst the population:

- Children of lower socioeconomic status (SES) at higher risk of GII(3)
- Increased severity of disease & likelihood of missed school, and work due to illness associated lower SES (4)
- Communities with higher levels of unemployment are at higher risk of emergency hospital admissions (5)
- Certain ethnic backgrounds show higher emergency admission rates (5)

Drivers of these sociodemographic and spatial differences of GII to be fully understood

Local Government Services

- Local Authorities(LA) reduction in funding by up to 50% 2010-2017 (6)
- Funding reductions greater in more deprived areas (6)
- Cuts associated with stalling and decline in life expectancy, with greater impacts in more deprived local authorities (7)



- Environmental health and regulatory services includes infectious disease notification/prevention and food safety surveillance/enforcement

What impact may these cuts have on GII ?

Figure 1. Emergency hospitalisation admissions due to Gastrointestinal infection by Local Authority, Hospital Episode Statistics 2018 data

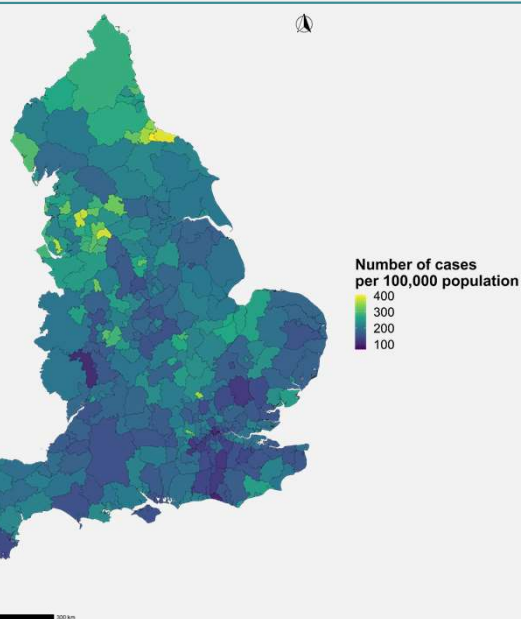
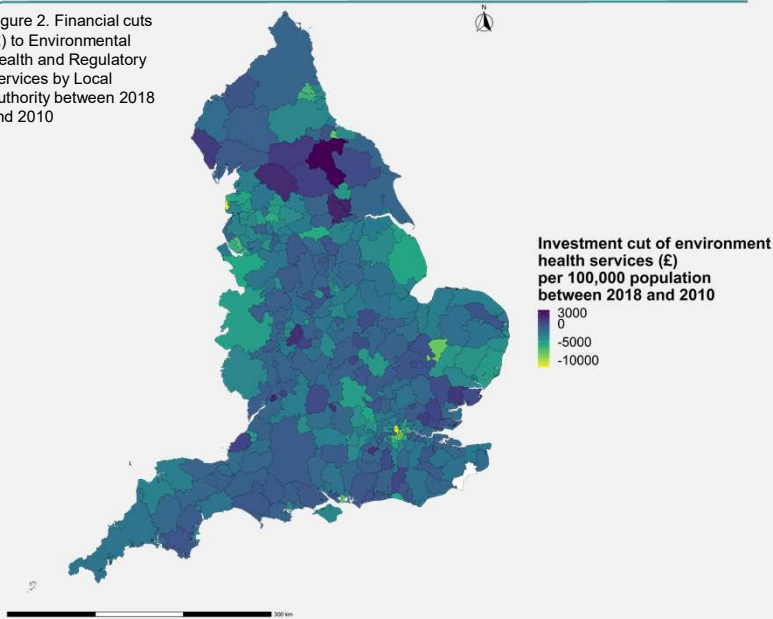


Figure 2. Financial cuts (£) to Environmental Health and Regulatory Services by Local Authority between 2018 and 2010



Research Question

What are the impacts of local funding cuts to environmental health and regulatory services on GII hospital admissions and food safety services in England 2010- 2018 ?

Methods

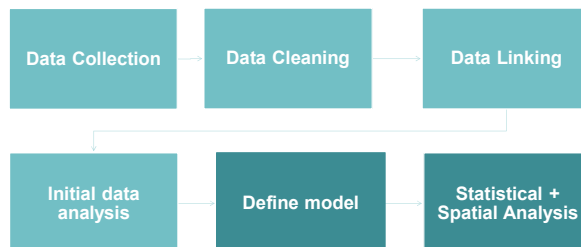
Study Design: Longitudinal Ecological study

- Historic data : 2010- 2018
- Local Authority level

Data

Exposure	Outcome(s)
Funding (£) per capita/ per LA /per year	Number of GII hospital admissions per LA/per year
Revenue expenditure and financing per financial year for each local authority (R05)	Emergency hospital admissions GII- Hospital episode data (HES)
	Food Safety Services: 1. Number of ratings "2-" per LA /per year 2. Number of inspections per LA / per year
	Food hygiene ratings reflect the standards of food hygiene at an establishment, Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS), Food Standards Agency (FSA)

Approach



References

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Acknowledgments

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