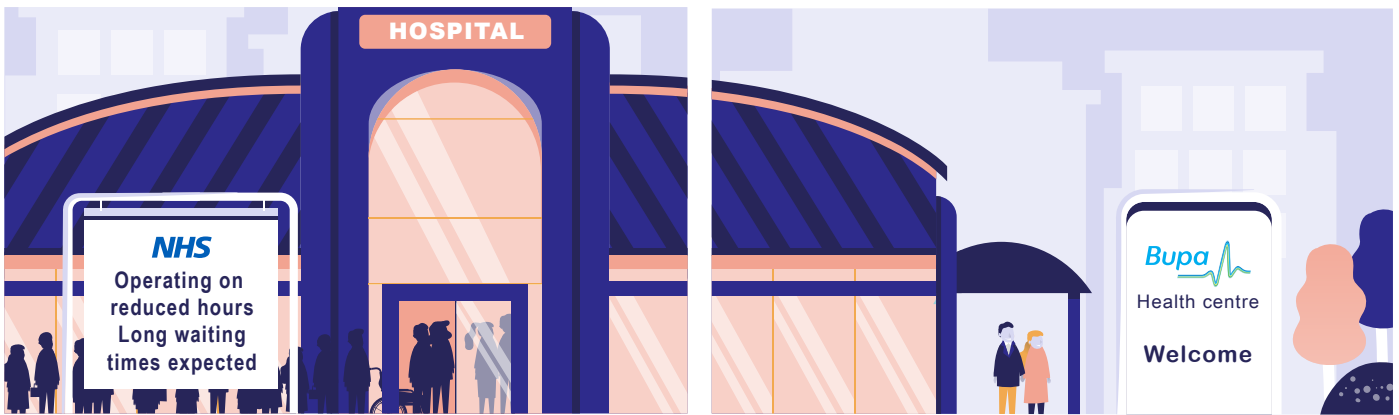
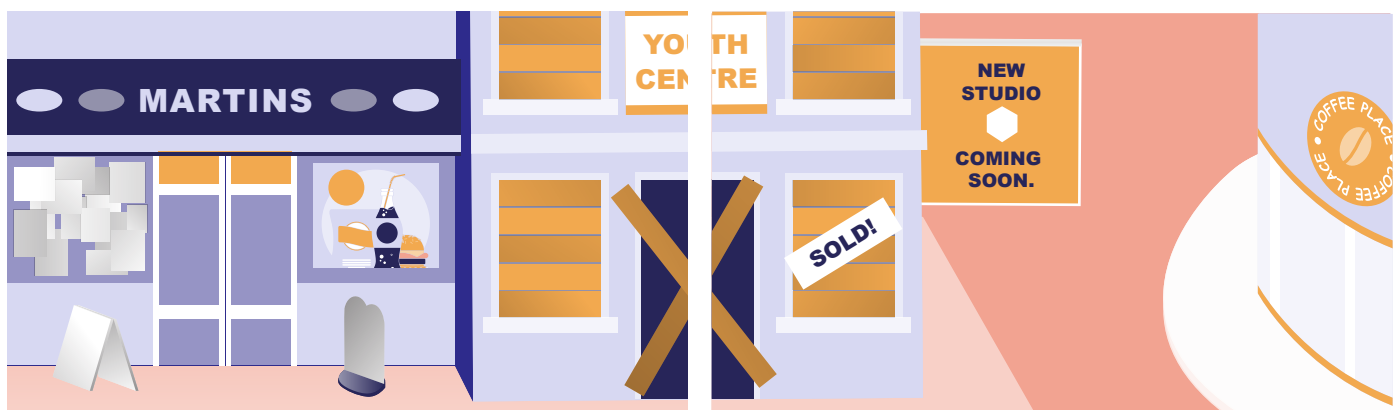


“Not in it Together” The Snowball Effect of Austerity

Since 2010, a programme of welfare reform and public sector cuts in Britain has deepened poverty and widened inequality. The effects of austerity can be seen in the diverging fortunes of communities, cities and regions.



Geographical research suggests that those living in deprived areas - particularly the unemployed, low-income earners, the very elderly, the young and the disabled - are most affected by cuts to public services...



..because they can seldom afford private facilities and are more reliant on public services and welfare, both of which are now reduced.



The effort to get by day-to-day makes it harder to join with others to protect local assets at risk of closure, causing areas to become hollowed out socially and perpetuating inequality.

The toll that austerity has caused is evidenced not just at the level of communities, cities and regions. It is also traced in the life courses of individuals and families.



Research shows that children brought up in poorer conditions receive less time and resources from their parents relative to those who are rich.



The differences in opportunity influence their chances of success later in life and in turn create a 'snowball effect' of constraints and privileges.



As a result not only is austerity leading to groups and areas being left behind, it is causing inequality and disadvantage to accumulate over generations.