



UNIVERSITY OF  
LEICESTER



The Centre for Ethnic  
Health Research  
national centre for tackling health inequalities



Leicester  
Institute for  
Advanced  
Studies

### What did we do?

Research on COVID-19 communication and health inequalities within ethnic minority communities in Leicester during the pandemic



### Which communities? How did we connect?

- African-Caribbean, South Asian and Somali communities in Leicester
- 6 focus groups and 6 interviews with community leaders from local organisations



## What did we find?: Health



Main source for COVID-19 information was news reports, and communication gaps increased anxiety and depression.



Health providers ignored cultural factors in ethnic minority communities.



Reduced GP contact, isolation and poor Government transparency encouraged use of information from countries of heritage.



Language barriers limited access to the first set of COVID-19 information.

National guidance considered unreliable and dishonest, while Local Governments were trusted more.



### What next?

- Local health authorities need to work with community leaders to maintain support to ethnic minorities and provide them with ways to manage their experiences from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- More studies needed on the connections between anxiety, ethnic minorities, social media use and inequalities.
- Need to conduct bigger studies developed and carried out with a wider range of communities.

