

APPENDIX B

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The Director has four key roles:

- Health Improvement
- Health protection
- Health care, Commissioning and service planning
- Reduction of health inequalities

The Director is a statutory chief officers of the local authority, and therefore a holder of politically restricted posts, by section 2(6)(zb) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, inserted by Schedule 5 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Pursuant to the Health and Social Care Act 2012 the Director is responsible for

- all of the local authority's duties to take steps to improve public health (the exercise by the authority of its functions under section 2B, 111 or 249 of, or Schedule 1 to, the 2006 Act)
- any of the Secretary of State's public health protection or health improvement functions that s/he delegates to local authorities, either by arrangement or under regulations – these include services mandated by regulations made under section 6C of the 2006 Act, inserted by section 18 of the 2012 Act
- the Secretary of State's public health functions exercised by local authorities in pursuance of arrangements under section 7A of the 2006 Act
- exercising the local authority's functions that relate to planning for, or responding to, emergencies that present a risk to public health
- the local authority duty to co-operate with the prison service with a view to improving the exercise of functions in relation to securing and maintaining the health of prisoners (the functions of the Authority under section 325 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003)
- such other public health functions as the Secretary of State may prescribe.
- the duty to write the annual report on the health of the local population:
- Subject to the publication of Regulations, the local authority's public health response as a responsible authority under the Licensing Act 2003, such as making representations about licensing applications (a function given to local authorities by sections 5(3), 13(4), 69(4)

and 172B(4) of the Licensing Act, as amended by Schedule 5 of the 2012 Act)

- if the local authority provides or commissions a maternity or child health clinic, then regulations made under section 73A(1) will also give the DPH responsibility for providing Healthy Start vitamins (a function conferred on local authorities by the Healthy Start and Welfare Food Regulations 2005 as amended)

The Director of Public Health will also:

- be the person who elected members and senior officers look to for leadership, expertise and advice on a range of issues, from outbreaks of disease and emergency preparedness through to improving local people's health and concerns around access to health services
- know how to improve the population's health by understanding the factors that determine health and ill health, how to change behaviour, and promote both health and wellbeing in ways that reduce inequalities in health
- provide the public with expert, objective advice on health matters
- be able to promote action across the life course, working together with local authority colleagues such as the Strategic Director of Children, Families and Adults services, and with NHS colleagues
- work through local resilience fora to ensure effective and tested plans are in place for the wider health sector to protect the local population from risks to public health
- work with local criminal justice partners and police and crime commissioners to promote safer communities
- work with wider civil society to engage local partners in fostering improved health and wellbeing
- be an active member of the Health and Wellbeing Board, advising on and contributing to the development of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, and commission appropriate services accordingly
- take responsibility for the management of their authority's public health services, with professional responsibility and accountability for their effectiveness, availability and value for money
- play a full part in their authority's action to meet the needs of vulnerable children, for example by linking effectively with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board

- contribute to and influence the work of NHS commissioners, ensuring a whole system approach across the public sector.
- will receive information on all local health protection incidents and outbreaks and take any necessary action, working in concert with Public Health England and the NHS.

Pursuant to Section 6C(1) and (3) of the NHS Act 2006 as amended by the, 2012 Act, the Director is responsible for:

- steps to be taken to protect the health of the local population
- ensuring NHS commissioners receive the public health advice they need
- appropriate access to sexual health services
- the National Child Measurement Programme
- NHS Health Check assessments.

The DPH will also lead the non mandated public health commissioning responsibilities of the local authority, which include:

- tobacco control and smoking cessation services
- alcohol and drug misuse services
- public health services for children and young people aged 5-19 (including the Healthy Child Programme 5-19) (and in the longer term all public health services for children and young people)
- interventions to tackle obesity such as community lifestyle and weight management services
- locally-led nutrition initiatives
- increasing levels of physical activity in the local population
- public mental health services
- dental public health services
- accidental injury prevention
- population level interventions to reduce and prevent birth defects
- behavioural and lifestyle campaigns to prevent cancer and long-term conditions

- local initiatives on workplace health
- supporting, reviewing and challenging delivery of key public health funded and NHS delivered services such as immunisation and screening programmes
- local initiatives to reduce excess deaths as a result of seasonal mortality
- public health aspects of promotion of community safety, violence prevention and response
- public health aspects of local initiatives to tackle social exclusion
- local initiatives that reduce public health impacts of environmental risks.

The DPH will take day-to-day management over the ring-fenced public health grant is provided to local authority to discharge its new public health responsibilities

The DPH will carry overall responsibility for all services and issues concerning public health, and for professional advice to the Cabinet, Corporate Management Team and Council as the designated statutory Director of Public Health (including exercising the duties and functions set out in statutory guidance). The DPH may sub delegate any of these responsibilities to the Associate Directors of Public Health or to other individuals.