

To:
Chief Executive:
County Councils
Metropolitan District Councils
Shire Unitary Councils
London Borough Councils
Common Council of the City of London
Council of the Isles of Scilly

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11 September 2012

Dear Colleague

Warm Homes Healthy People Fund 2012/ 2013

I am writing to advise you that following the success of the Warm Homes Healthy People (WHHP) Fund last year, and the positive response from you and your colleagues about the Fund, we have agreed with Ministers that we will establish the WHHP Fund again for the coming winter 2012/ 2013.

The aim of the Fund is to support local authorities and their partners in reducing death and illness in England due to cold housing in the coming winter. It has been established in support of the aims of the Cold Weather Plan 2012 which will be published later this autumn. It is part of the wider suite of measures which the DH and NHS and other Government departments are taking to protect individuals and communities from the effects of severe winter weather. This will of course complement your own work to reduce hardship in winter.

I wanted to provide advance notice of the forthcoming availability of the WHHP Fund again this year, so you can begin to make preparations to submit applications for projects seeking support under the terms of the Fund. DH officials are currently preparing a Local Authority Circular (LAC) to announce the details of the process, which will be published shortly. However, the criteria and funding will be very similar to that used last year.

We will be seeking the submission of bids by the 5th October from 'upper tier' local authorities who will need to demonstrate close working with local partners especially in the voluntary and community sector. Many bids last year also demonstrated close cooperation with their local district councils, a welcome step which I hope will be replicated in this year's round of applications.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Felicity Harvey CBE
Director General of Public Health

cc: Directors of Social Services
Directors of Children's Services
Chief Medical Officer
Lyn Simpson, Director of NHS Operations
Strategic Health Authority Cluster Chief Executive Designates
PCT Cluster Chief Executives
Directors of Public Health