

To DsPH
Clinical Commissioning Group Leads

Cc Cluster PCT Chief Executives
Local Government Association
Association of Directors of Adult Social Services
Royal College of General Practitioners

Dear Colleagues

Re: Healthcare Public Health Advice to CCGs

As you know, Ministers have given a commitment that, subject to the Health and Social Care Bill, from 2013-14 clinical commissioning groups will have access to public health advice, information and expertise in relation to the healthcare services that they commission, provided by local public health teams based in local authorities. The policy intention is to make it a mandatory requirement for local authorities to provide this service to CCGs, but the detail of the arrangements will need to be planned locally by you.

To help the Department in developing its policy and to support local planning for implementation, the Department convened a small task group with stakeholders from the Royal College of General Practitioners, Local Government Association, Association of Directors of Public Health (ADsPH), Association of Directors of Adult Social Services, Faculty of Public Health and British Medical Association. This task group devised recommendations on the content of the mandatory service and has produced draft guidance to support implementation, drawing on best practice.

We are pleased to enclose the latest draft of this guidance, which we are issuing both to seek further comments and to support you in your local planning at this time.

We would be grateful for feedback, comments and questions. Please send these to: Anya Tahir at anya.tahir@dh.gsi.gov.uk, as soon as possible and no later than Friday 30 March 2012.

Yours faithfully

Paul Johnstone and Paul Jennings, Joint Task Group Chairs
Dr Liz Robin and Dr Ruth Milton, ADsPH