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TO:  
All PCT Cluster Chief Executives in England  
All PCT Directors of Public Health in England



CC:  
All SHA Cluster and Regional Directors of Public Health in England  
All SHA Cluster Chief Executives in England

Local Government House  
Smith Square  
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Dear colleague,

**Creation of the new local public health system: Transition planning for Local Authorities and Primary Care Trusts and Local Government Transition Guidance on Public Health Workforce Matters**

*Healthy Lives Healthy People our strategy for public health in England*, sets out the government's vision for a new public health system for the improvement and protection of the public's health. The new system will embody localism, with new responsibilities and resources for local government to improve the health and wellbeing of their population and the transfer of public health functions from Primary Care Trusts to Local Authorities.

Primary Care Trusts with Local Government have a shared role in developing the new local public health system beginning with Primary Care Trust Cluster planning processes. Local partners will now want to agree arrangements for managing public health functions during the transition year 2012/13.

[Creation of the new local public health system: Transition planning for Local Authorities and Primary Care Trusts](#)

As part of a commitment to help the process of local decision-making around the public health transition, the Department of Health and Local Government Association are publishing the attached planning guide, which has been developed with the NHS and Local Government. It aims to support Primary Care Trusts and Local Authorities as they develop transition plans for the transformation of the local Public Health system, including how transfer of accountability from the NHS to Local Government will be enacted during the transition year.

[Local Government Transition Guidance on Public Health Workforce Matters](#)

You are also asked to note the link below to the LGA transition guidance on Public Health Workforce Matters. This document has been developed with Local Authorities, Department of Health, NHS Employers and trade unions. This guidance is aimed primarily at HR specialists in councils who will develop their own local approaches in detail. Further information on pensions and engaging individuals with their new organisation are under discussion and further notes may be issued.

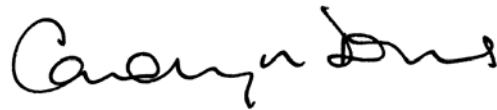
We hope that these documents will assist Primary Care Trust Clusters and councils to produce public health transition plans, as part of the integrated plan, set out in the NHS planning guidance for 2012/13. We hope this will enable you to work you're your Local Authority partners to move towards a transformed local system.

Yours sincerely



**Professor Dame Sally C Davies**

Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health



**Carolyn Downs**

Chief Executive Local Government Association

**Link to documents:**

[Transition planning for Local Authorities and Primary Care Trusts](#)

[www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/01/transition-planning/](http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/01/transition-planning/)

[Local Government Transition Guidance on Public Health Workforce Matters](#)

[www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/01/public-health-workforce/](http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/01/public-health-workforce/)