



Public Health
England

South Midlands & Hertfordshire Public Health Centre

Prospectus 2014-15

Archived December 2017

About Public Health England

Public Health England's mission is to protect and improve the nation's health and to address inequalities through working with national and local government, the NHS, industry and the voluntary and community sector. PHE is an operationally autonomous executive agency of the Department of Health.

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Published March 2014
Revised and updated October 2014
PHE publications gateway number: 2013549

This document is available in PDF format upon request. Please email smh@phe.gov.uk.



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Executive summary



Dr Jenifer Smith, FFPH FRCP
Centre Director, South Midlands and Hertfordshire

Public Health England (PHE) was established on 1 April 2013 as the national agency bringing together expert Public Health knowledge and skills to fulfil the Secretary of State for Health's statutory duty to protect the population's health, to promote improved health and wellbeing and to address the inequalities within this. The PHE Centre in South Midlands and Hertfordshire is one of fifteen such centres set up to support the delivery of public health strategy and interventions across the wider public health system led by local authorities. Through an integrated approach we will support and add value to the work of our local stakeholders, embracing the concept of co-production and using a distributed leadership model.

Our focus is local and we will ensure that our offer is tailored to serve the priorities and needs in Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and Milton Keynes. We will also strive to ensure that the local voice is heard in shaping national priorities, policies and strategies.

Within this prospectus you will find:

- an overview of Public Health England's vision, mission and operating principles
- a description of the role of the Public Health England Centre
- an outline of the offer based around what partners have already told us they want from us in 2013/14
- how our staff and the associated resources are organised and relate to one another
- key contact details

I hope this prospectus provides our partners with a clear overview of the offer from PHE South Midlands and Hertfordshire and a foundation to foster effective and collaborative working arrangements.

Overview

Public Health England Vision: Healthy people and communities, with increased healthy life expectancy, increased wellbeing and reduced inequalities.

PHE Mission: Our mission is to protect and improve the nation's health and to address inequalities, working with national and local government, the NHS, industry, academia, the public and the voluntary and community sector.

Centre Vision: The vision for PHE South Midlands and Hertfordshire is to develop a local public health delivery system through distributed leadership across PHE, local authorities and other related partners, delivering high quality, innovative and effective interventions supporting improvements in health and wellbeing.

National priorities

Reduce preventable deaths by:

- supporting and assuring the full implementation of NHS Health checks
- accelerating efforts to promote tobacco control and reduce the prevalence of smoking
- reporting on premature mortality and the Public Health Outcomes Framework
- enabling improved integration of care

Reduce the burden of disease by:

- reducing the incident and impact of dementia
- improving recovery rates from drug dependency
- improving the co-ordination, effectiveness and impact of HIV and sexual health services
- developing a national programme on mental health in public health

Protect the country's health by:

- reducing the rates of tuberculosis infections
- leading the gold standards for current vaccination and screening programmes
- tackling antimicrobial resistance
- developing and implementing a national surveillance strategy

Give children and young people the best start in life by:

- promoting healthy weight and tackling childhood obesity
- partnering the troubled families programme to improve life chances and outcomes
- accelerating improvements in child health outcomes
- partnering the early intervention foundation

Improve health in the workplace by:

- supporting employers to support a healthier workforce
- encourage adoption of the responsibility deal commitment on mental health adjustments in the workplace
- become a key exemplar for workplace health for the PHE workforce

Develop our own capacity and capability by:

- developing and implementing an organisational development strategy
- developing a research strategy for PHE
- establishing a single integrated national PHE centre for epidemiology and microbiology
- developing a commercial strategy to maximise potential benefits

Promote place-based public health systems by:

- promoting wellbeing, prevention and early intervention
- partnering with NHS England to maximise the NHS' impact on improving the public's health
- implementing the public health workforce strategy
- using data and information to quantify the benefits of the new public health system and demonstrate value for money

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Principles

Public Health England exists to serve the public through the public health system, a system led locally by elected members where responsibility for the public's health sits alongside responsibility for jobs, housing and communities. This system will be a combination of local government leadership for the public's health supported by Public Health England. Our aim is to earn, and cement, a reputation with local authorities for our credibility and expertise, as the foundation upon which PHE will help the new system to drive transformation. Collaboration will be the hallmark of success through leadership without hierarchy.

We will deliver our offer by adopting behaviours and attitudes that have the greatest impact in achieving our ambition. This means we will:

- work together, not undermine each other
- speak well of each other, in public and in private
- consistently spend our time on what we say we care about
- behave well, especially when things go wrong
- keep our promises, small or large
- speak with candour and courage

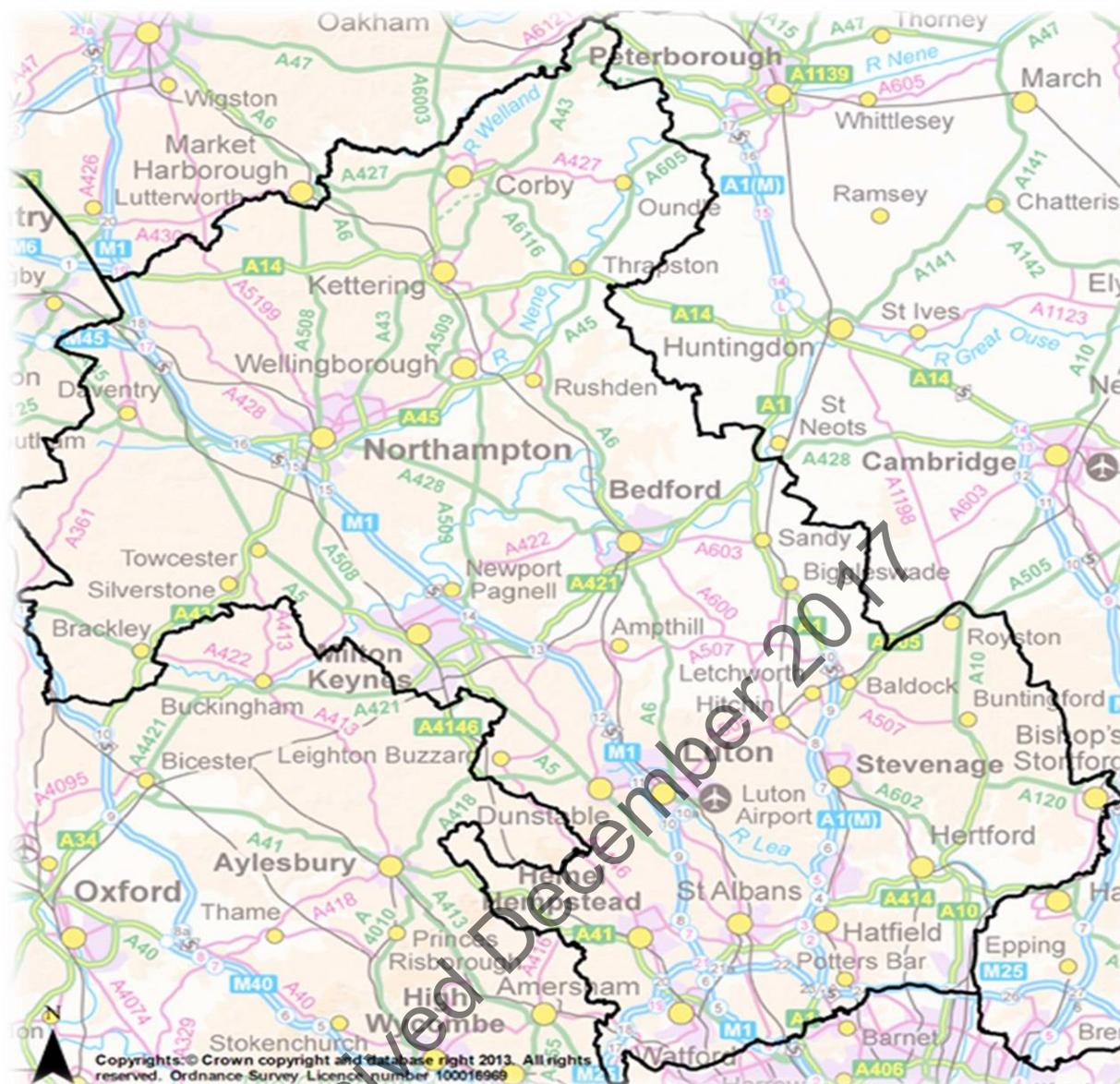
Role of the PHE Centre

The South Midlands and Hertfordshire PHE Centre is the local presence of PHE and is an active partner in the local public health system.

The PHE Centre is the “front door” to PHE. It is led by a Centre Director, a senior public health professional, who acts as the ‘account manager’ for the PHE support and advice to the local public health system. The Centre Director is a partner in the local public health system, and their role is to provide a range of services and expert advice that is tailored to the needs, wishes and aspirations of local government, the local NHS and other stakeholders.

As the “front door” to PHE, PHE South Midlands and Hertfordshire will deliver an integrated offer of services and advice across the three domains of public health: health and wellbeing, health protection and healthcare public health (or more broadly, service improvement). The Centre Director will work closely with locally facing subject matter experts within PHE teams, such as the Knowledge and Intelligence Team (KIT) to provide a seamless and integrated offer in South Midlands and Hertfordshire. PHE South Midlands and Hertfordshire will support local priorities and demands and ensure that local innovation and evidence influence the national agenda and contribute to developing best public health practice. It will also facilitate the local implementation of national evidence-base and dissemination of best practice guides and toolkits.

South Midlands and Hertfordshire Vicinity



Key Facts

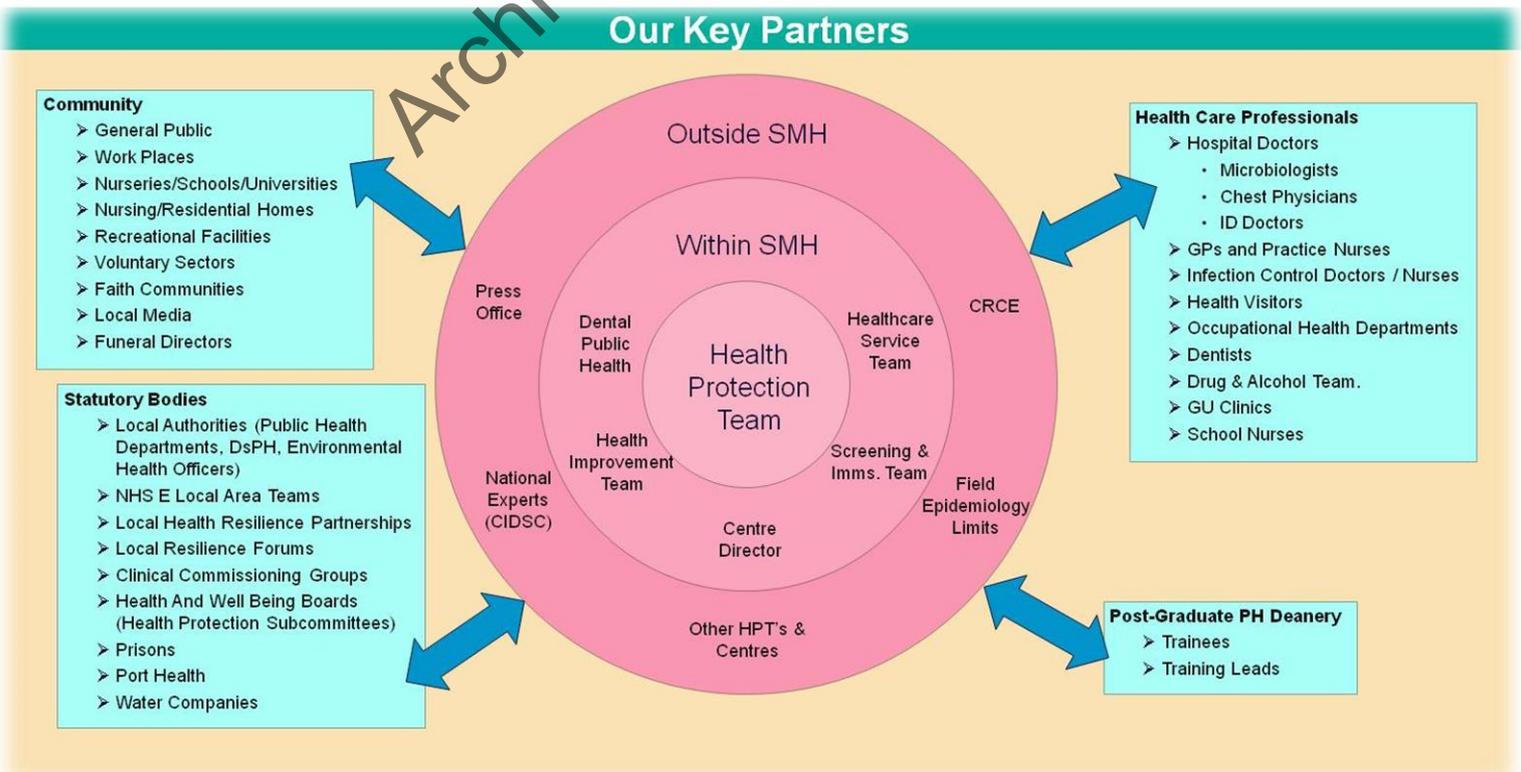
- population: 2.8 Million (≈ 10% ethnic minority)
- land mass: Approximately 2,294 square miles
- local authorities: 20 including 4 Unitary Authorities
- hospitals:
 - 9 Acute Hospitals (7 Trusts)
 - 5 Community Trusts
 - 4 Mental Health Trusts
- GP Practices: 325 (410 premises)
- Dental Practices: 418
- Clinical Commissioning Groups: 7
- prisons: 7 (including 1 Remand Prison, 2 Young Offenders)
 - 1 Immigration Detention Centre
- Control of Major Accident Hazards Sites: 2 Fuel Distribution Centres
 - High pressure fuel pipes
- airports: 1 International and several airfields
- universities: 8 Universities of which 2 have around 80% ethnic minority international students

South Midlands and Hertfordshire PHE Centre will:

- provide intelligence and evidence to support actions taken by local government and the local NHS to improve and protect health and reduce inequalities
- support local authority directors of public health across the range of their responsibilities enabling them to access specialised advice and support when required
- work with NHS England to support it in its role as a direct commissioner of key services, including primary care, oral health and nationally determined public health programmes
- provide leadership in responding to emergencies where specialist public health expertise is necessary
- provide leadership to the public health delivery system, promoting transparency and accountability by publishing outcomes, building the evidence base, managing relationships with key partners, and supporting national and international policy and scientific development
- support the development of the public health workforce and support excellence in Public Health practice by drawing on a regional resource
- deliver services in health protection, public health information and intelligence, and social marketing and behavioural insight activities

In South Midlands and Hertfordshire (SMH), we will work with our partners to develop local priorities in keeping with local health needs. Where necessary, we will prioritise local responsiveness against the national agenda.

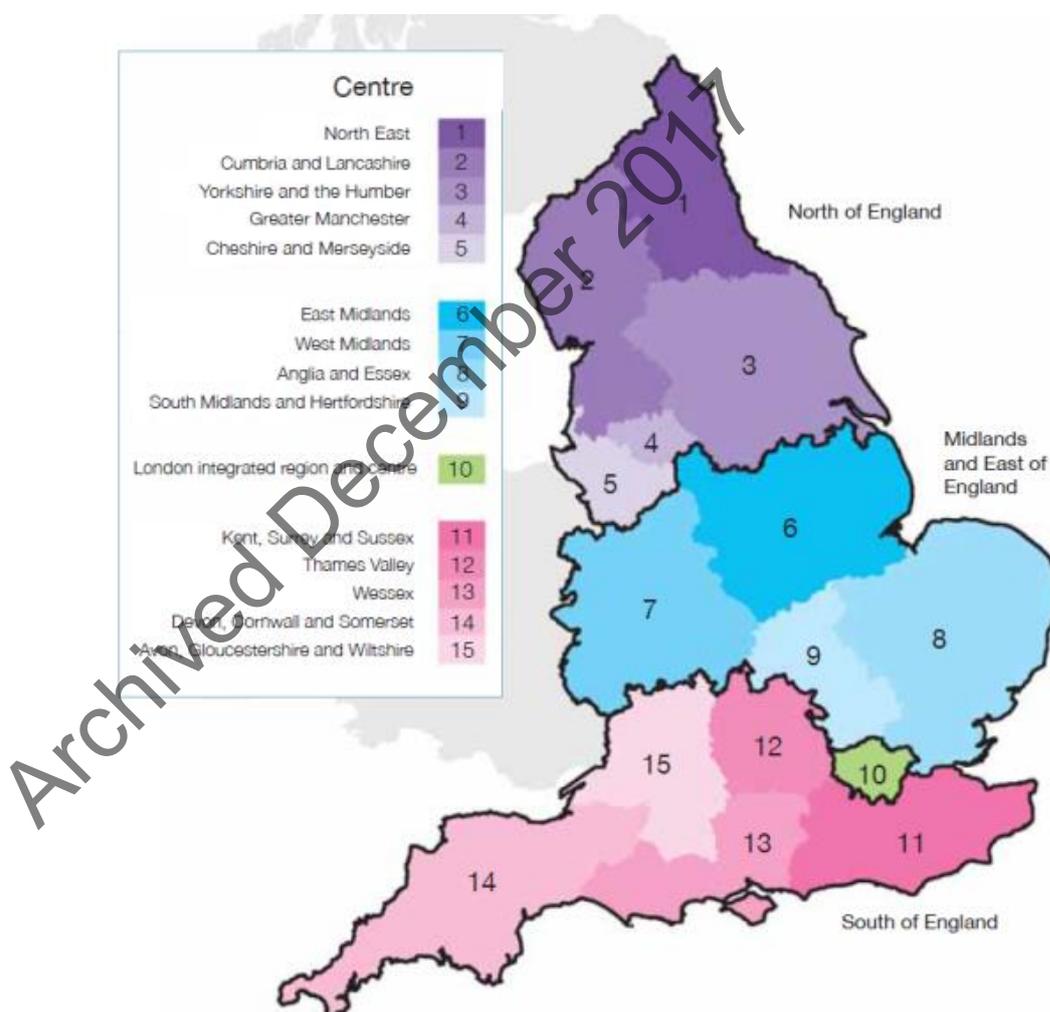
This prospectus will form the basis for partnership agreements with the 2 upper tier and 4 unitary local authorities and NHS England Hertfordshire and South Midlands. It will provide a framework through which the needs of the local population can inform the PHE South Midlands and Hertfordshire business plans and priorities.



The wider context

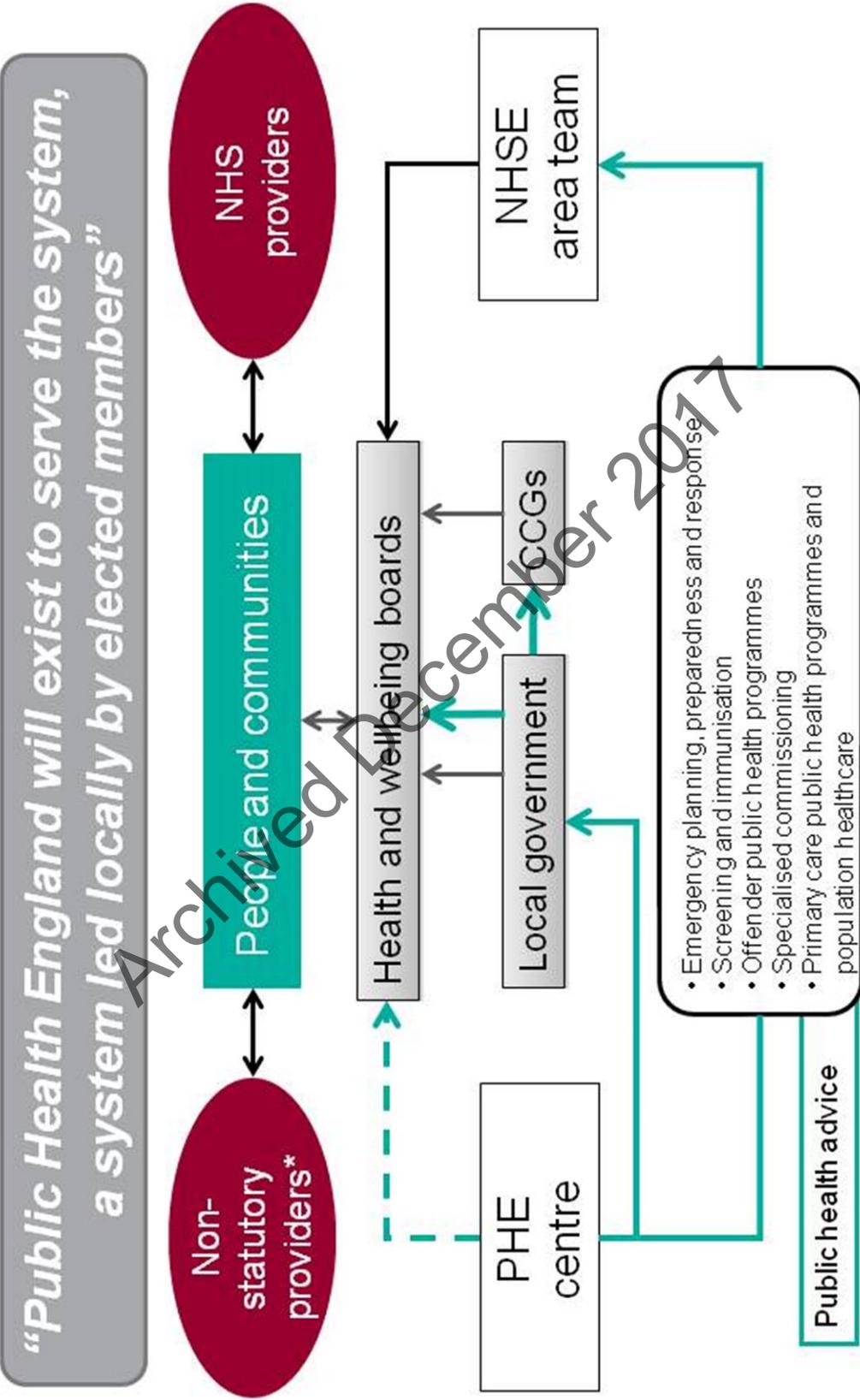
The PHE South Midlands and Hertfordshire Centre is one of four Centres in the Midlands and East of England Region. The four PHE Regions, North of England, Midlands and East of England, London Region and South of England, are coterminous with those of NHS England, and they also map onto the nine regional local government groupings. Each PHE Region will:

- nurture and support the local public health system
- maintain an overview of the whole system's progress in implementing the Public Health Outcomes Framework
- have a special responsibility for development of the wider public health workforce.



In addition to our local South Midlands and Hertfordshire staff (some of whom are hosted in neighbouring PHE centres) and Midlands and East Regional staff, we have expert public health teams at a national level providing specialist expertise across the three domains of public health: Health Protection, Health Improvement and Healthcare Public Health. These national teams will play a critical role in supporting the frontline delivery of PHE services and functions in South Midlands and Hertfordshire. PHE South Midlands and Hertfordshire will actively facilitate a channel of communication with national experts to inform our local advice and support to stakeholders. We will also seek to contribute to national work programmes by drawing from local innovation and practice.

Place-based approach to public health



*Including voluntary and community sector

Public Health workforce development

A high quality workforce is the key to the new public health system. Workforce development advice and support is organised by a team working with Directors of Public Health, Public Health England, Health Education England and others.

With a dedicated resource working at a regional level:

- develop a description of the workforce in South Midlands and Hertfordshire, identifying key gaps and timetabled plans to fill them
- support local authorities in making Director of Public Health and Consultant appointments and with succession planning
- implement a system of professional appraisal to support revalidation and to underpin development of the specialist workforce
- work with colleagues in local government and Health Education England to ensure that speciality and practitioner training in public health develops public health professional with the skills and experience to thrive and deliver in a political environment
- support and ensure the delivery of training and development that equips the wider public health workforce for the challenges ahead, including the development and delivery of a programme of training for screening and immunisation staff
- actively manage the talent in the public health system to maximise the impact we can have on the population's health and wellbeing

Specialist Microbiology Services

PHE's network of eight Public Health Laboratories, working closely with national centres at Colindale and Porton and a number of key NHS and academic collaborating centres, provide a total clinical microbiology service. This includes routine diagnostic testing, results interpretation, and consultant microbiologist clinical advice and liaison. PHE also offers a number of novel and proprietary molecular tests e.g. for rare, unusual, imported and emergent pathogens. PHE reference laboratories are also established centres of excellence in their designated fields.

PHE also has five dedicated food, water and environmental laboratories. They undertake the microbiological testing of food, water, and environmental samples on behalf of e.g. local authorities, port health authorities, the NHS, and the food industry. The services provided include a wide range of accredited tests for statutory microbiology testing, the interpretation of test results, support for food-borne outbreak investigation, and the provision of expert advice and training.



Our services and functions

PHE South Midlands and Hertfordshire will work to protect and improve the health and to address inequalities for its population, collaborating with local partners in local government, the NHS, industry, academia, the public and the voluntary and community sector. It will serve as a 'nucleus' where actions to improve health and reduce inequalities can be co-produced, agreed and shared. It will deliver statutory services for health protection and provide advice and support across the three domains of public health practice, including health protection, health improvement and population healthcare.

The specific nature of services, advice and support are detailed for each of these high-level functions as follows:

Health protection and Emergency Planning

A team of Consultants in Communicable Disease Control, Health Protection Nurses and Health Protection Practitioners supported by administrative staff lead the Centre's local response to protect people from communicable disease and non-communicable hazards. This was formerly a part of the Health Protection Agency.

Following incorporation into Public Health England on 1 April 2013, the health protection responsibilities have aligned to the PHE Centre boundaries and we now cover Northamptonshire and Milton Keynes in addition to Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. We welcome this opportunity of working with the NHS, Local Authority colleagues and the wider public health teams in these areas.

What we do:

- we lead the investigation and control of individual cases, incidents and outbreaks of communicable diseases, chemical, radiological and other environmental hazards
- we work across networks of NHS and Social Care providers and Commissioners and within Local Government (County Councils, District Councils and Unitary Authorities) to prevent, mitigate and control risks associated with such hazard.
- provide specialist advice to health professionals, local authorities and the public on health protection issues including immunisation
- we act as the 'Proper officer' in relation to the health protection legislation 2010 and also provide health protection response to Port Health issues
- provide infection control advice and support to care homes and schools
- support the development and implementation of health protection programmes
- provide access to specialist microbiological testing services
- contribute to emergency planning, response and recovery for chemical, biological and radiological incidents and extreme weather
- provide access to specialist advice from the Public Health England Centre for Chemicals, Radiation and Environmental Hazards based at Chilton

- undertake surveillance of infections of public health importance locally and nationally and respond to new threats when they arise, such as newly discovered viruses
- communicate with individuals (public and professionals) in settings (such as GPs, schools and care homes) or populations to increase awareness for preventing and protecting themselves from threats to health from infection or non-infectious hazards
- provide a dedicated training site for public health trainees in the East of England region and also provide training for the wider public health workforce, for example immunisation and infection control



Quality assurance

- implementation of geographically based consultants in communicable disease control and health protection nurse/practitioner leads
- allocation of lead areas for consultants in communicable disease control and nursing staff
- revision of standard operating procedures in line with national guidance
- assessment of customer evaluations
- addressing contentious areas by clinical review meetings
- drive quality improvement by observation of practice on daily basis via HP Zone peer reviews and the addition of audits of compliance in line with national standards

Health and wellbeing

Working with our partners and PHE colleagues we will support delivery of locally led and nationally informed health and wellbeing programmes of work, such as:



- longer, healthier lives (preventable mortality)
- supporting the implementation of the NHS Healthchecks programme by local authorities
- efforts to promote tobacco control and reduce the prevalence of smoking
- reducing the burden of disease
- improving recovery rates from drug dependency
- promotion of mental health wellbeing, prevention of mental health problems and the prevention of suicide, along with improving the wellbeing of those living with and recovering from mental illness
- children and young people
- promoting healthy weight and tackling childhood obesity
- partnering with the Troubled Families Programme
- improvements in child health outcomes through a focus on under-fives
- partnering the Early Intervention Foundation
- health and work
- supporting local led initiatives which enable employers to establish a healthy workforce

- place-based public health
- providing evidence for a place-based approach for the delivery of an efficient and effective public health system
- supporting the continuing professional development programme for the multi-disciplinary public health workforce in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Northamptonshire and Milton Keynes
- health impact assessment
- building multidisciplinary public health capability

We will assess the impact of relevant policies and strategies and use our findings to influence the development of health improvement

Screening & immunisations

The Screening and Immunisation Team are public health specialists that are employed by PHE and embedded in the NHS England Area Team. The Consultant Screening and Immunisation Leads lead a team of Screening and Immunisation Managers and Coordinators supporting the NHS commissioners for these services.



The Screening and Immunisation Team are responsible for ensuring that the screening and immunisation services that are commissioned by the NHS England Area Team meet the national service specifications as set out as part of the national Section 7A agreement between the Department of Health, Public Health England and NHS England. The Screening and immunisation team work to:

- support delivery of current, extended and new national screening and immunisation programmes. For example:
 - Introduce new vaccine programmes for rotavirus, childhood influenza, Meningitis C in schools and shingles. Identify the resources needed for implementation and ensure that safe effective vaccination programmes are being delivered with high uptake
 - The development of the bowel endoscopy programme – ensure plans are developed for local implementation to include capacity planning for endoscopy
 - Maintain performance of national screening and immunisation programmes to facilitate early identification and treatment of disease following screening and effective levels of immunity amongst local communities
- coordinate the sources of information and intelligence needed to identify target populations:
 - Build an effective public health system for reporting and surveillance
- work with local authorities and other organisations to promote the importance of the services to the population of Hertfordshire and South Midlands:
 - Ensure effective governance across and within provider organisations:
 - Support the NHS England Area Team nursing directorate with serious incidents involving immunisation or screening
 - Ensure screening programme management boards are fit for purpose and are well attended

- Assess services against the national service specifications for screening and immunisation programmes to support its Section 7A agreement with NHS England
- identify training needs and support initiatives to build capacity and capability across the system
- respond to clinical enquiries on immunisations for professionals
- provide public health advice to inform and/or lead the commissioning of health services by NHS England Area Teams

Dental public health

Poor oral health and deprivation go hand in hand. Dental caries, the major cause of poor oral health, is prevented by a reduction of diets high in sugars and the use of fluoride products.

The dental public health consultants support local authority commissioners by advising on evidence based fluoride interventions and effective oral health education services.

The dental public health team supports NHS commissioners in commissioning services that are effective and efficient in delivering high quality, equitable services to complement the activities of local authorities' commissioners in ensuring a comprehensive range of interventions at both population and individual levels to improve oral health.



Alcohol and drugs

Problem drug and alcohol use is often concentrated within the poorest communities and can occur in combination with other high risk behaviours and negative lifestyle factors, such as isolation, family breakdown, inadequate housing, offending, low educational attainment, unemployment, and poor physical and mental health. With substance misuse interventions now part of the wider public health system we have the opportunity to deliver an even more integrated response to reduce these risk factors and build greater resilience for our local populations.

PHE Alcohol and Drugs team work as active members of locally led public health systems across South Midlands & Hertfordshire, supporting a range of partners to address the root causes and wider determinants of drug dependence and alcohol related harm. They can be contacted for expert advice, support, and guidance in assessing the extent of drug and alcohol related harm in your communities and how best we can support you to respond.

National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS)

The National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) is the main administrative system for the drug and alcohol treatment sector. It collects activity data from around 2,000 drug and alcohol services in England, which is used to monitor the progress of local treatment systems, and to assure the delivery of the treatment element of the Government's drug strategy. Specifically, the data is used to:

- produce national statistics about drug and alcohol treatment in England
- underpin the production of two indicators from the Public Health Outcomes Framework
- produce detailed management reporting for treatment providers and commissioners
- produce data to support annual Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNA)
- provide data to support Payment by Results (PbR) pilots for substance misuse
- produce lists of clients requiring action for individual service providers
- facilitate cross-government studies relating to drug misusing populations
- provide data for international drug treatment statistics, the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)

The system also supports a number of research activities (such as drug use prevalence studies) by measuring "what works" in relation to drug and alcohol treatment, specifically by monitoring a range of health and social outcomes over time.

Knowledge and Information Team (KIT)

Local and national government and NHS partners need information on the health of the population and on what can be done to improve people's health. The role of the Knowledge and Intelligence Team (KIT East) is to enable policy makers, commissioners and providers of services to access and act on evidence and information relating to population health.

KIT East supports the Centre role in collecting, collating, analysing and disseminating information for public health action. The KIT works as part of the integrated Centre team to provide a seamless offer of public Health knowledge and intelligence to support local health surveillance, needs assessment, benchmarking quality, comparison of outcomes, evaluation of impact and service planning.

As part of the local public health system, we work closely with public health information teams in local government. We also work with colleagues in other Knowledge and Intelligence Teams across the country to provide national knowledge and intelligence support including the production of national resources such as the Local Health Profiles and the Public Health Outcomes Framework Data Tool. We support the local public health system by:

- facilitating joint working, sharing of good practice and professional development through the local Knowledge and Intelligence Network
- capturing the information needs of the local public health system and ensuring these are fed back to national work stream leads
- providing a data request service for knowledge and intelligence queries that cannot readily be answered by signposting to published material. This service is intended to support local

public health information teams, for example, by addressing queries which would be more efficiently dealt with on a Centre or Network area basis.

- facilitating access to, and the use of knowledge and intelligence resources including those published through the Public Health England Data and Knowledge Gateway, <http://datagateway.phe.org.uk/>, and through Fingertips Midlands and East, <http://fingertips.phe.org.uk/>

KIT East also hosts Improving Health and Lives, the Learning Disability Information Network that keeps watch on the health of people with learning disabilities and the health care they receive, <http://www.improvinghealthandlives.org.uk>.

Field epidemiology

The Field Epidemiology Service (FES) is a nationally managed and co-ordinated but geographically dispersed specialist field epidemiology resource that works with and for local and national centres to provide a flexible expert resource that can be deployed in a timely manner to inform public health action. FES will support the PHE South Midlands and Hertfordshire Centre in delivering their stated priorities by:

- supporting the local health protection function through real-time monitoring of infectious disease activity and issues arising
- co-ordinating the communication of epidemiological updates
- producing weekly surveillance outputs on infectious diseases with high service impact such as influenza and gastrointestinal infections
- synthesising and analysing surveillance information from local and national health protection and laboratory activities and presenting information for local use
- providing a responsive local ad-hoc intelligence service for health protection information
- providing epidemiological support and expertise for the investigation of outbreaks
- maintaining and promoting good practice in outbreak investigation across the PHE South Midlands and Hertfordshire Centre through outbreak governance systems and provision of training and exercises
- supporting health protection colleagues, including the Screening and Immunisation Leads, by providing epidemiological analysis of vaccine preventable disease and information on vaccine coverage
- maintaining partnerships with colleagues in local authority public health teams and environmental health teams, microbiology laboratories and other parts of PHE
- delivering on national FES priorities within the PHEC

Health and justice

PHE works in partnership with health and social care commissioners and service providers to identify and meet the health needs of people in prisons and other prescribed places of detention, as well as those in contact with the criminal justice system in the community (the objectives set out here refer to each kind of custodial setting).

Within South Midlands and Hertfordshire PHEC and in partnership with the Public Health in Prison Team (PHiP) we support this work through:

- developing and maintaining effective working arrangements with prison governors, and public healthcare teams, to ensure infectious disease is prevented, diagnosed and where necessary investigated to high standard in custodial settings
- together with NHS England and other commissioners ensure those detained within the justice system have equitable access to healthcare services.
- work with the Field Epidemiology Services to collate surveillance data for inclusion in the health needs assessment to inform the commissioners of healthcare for offenders
- support the auditing of services for blood borne virus infections
- ensure appropriate arrangements, including an outbreak and central plan, are in place across the criminal justice system

Sexual Health

Improving sexual health and reducing the burden of sexually transmitted infections is a PHE priority underpinned by the Department of Health Guidance “A Framework for sexual health Improvement in England” and three Public Health Outcome Framework Measures:

- continued fall in the rate of births to women under the age of 18
- increase in Chlamydia diagnosis in 15-24 year olds (to be achieved through screening)
- reduction in the proportion of people presenting with HIV at a late stage of diagnosis

The role of the sexual health facilitator for the Centre is to work with other specialised colleagues within PHE such as the field epidemiology service, health and wellbeing and health protection colleagues to offer support aimed at those responsible for commissioning sexual health services and providers of those services.

The sexual health facilitator role for the Centre with assistance from previously mentioned specialised colleagues includes:

- provision of data relating to sexual health
- providing advice and guidance to a range of stakeholders during outbreak investigations
- attend and support local sexual health network meetings
- attend and support local sexual health strategy meetings
- attend and actively participate in local and regional professional networks
- dissemination of information to networks when required including outbreak updates, guidance, professional standards and good practice
- identify areas of sexual health work that may need development
- promote the role of prevention work in reducing the health inequalities related to sexual health
- assist commissioners in the procurement of sexual health services

Key contact details

South Midlands and Hertfordshire PHE Centre

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How to find out more

Public Health England is a new organisation with many opportunities for new partners, new ideas and new development.

Our website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england> can signpost you to key documents, information about event, job vacancies and corporate reports and publications. On this you can read our [Chief Executive's weekly message](#) and also view our monthly national newsletter, [PHE Bulletin](#).

If you would like to discuss specific aspects of work within South Midlands and Hertfordshire, please contact Dr Jenifer Smith, Centre Director, South Midlands and Hertfordshire.

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Useful Website Addresses	
Public Health England	www.gov.uk/phe
Data and Knowledge	http://datagateway.phe.org.uk
PHE Priorities	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/192676/Our_priorities_final.pdf
Public Health Campaigns	http://campaigns.dh.gov.uk
PHE Immunisation	www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england/series/immunisation
UK Screening Portal	www.screening.nhs.uk
NHS Cancer Screening Programmes	www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk
CPD For Screening	http://cpd.screening.nhs.uk/transition-resources
Alcohol and Drugs	www.nta.nhs.uk/recovery-resources.aspx
KIT	www.erpho.org.uk
NDTMS	http://www.erpho.org.uk/muse
EMCDDA	http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/

Appendix 1: The PHE offer

The PHE offer will be delivered across a range of overarching themes as follows:

Nurture a place-based approach by:

- developing a business plan in collaboration with partners to reflect local priorities and needs
- adopting asset-based approaches in delivering our business plan
- equally supporting local responsiveness and national priorities
- contributing to the development of a fit for purpose and resilient local public health system
- co-producing and developing bespoke formal agreements with local authorities and NHS England Area Teams
- monitoring regularly the delivery of partnership agreements
- advocating for the public's health locally

Provide expert input by:

- providing independent expert and constructive advice and support
- providing appraisals of evidence and briefings on key topics and themes
- providing access to the evidence base and supporting the implementation of evidence-based practice
- supporting and encouraging the production of practice-based evidence
- providing public health advice to inform and/or lead the commissioning of health services by NHS England Area Teams through PHE staff embedded or co-located with the Area Team, including: screening and immunisation, primary healthcare, dental public health care
- providing local system leadership for screening and immunisation services
- supporting the development of consistent, integrated and evidence-based care pathways
- responding to clinical enquiries on immunisations for professionals
- providing dental public health advice to local authorities, particularly in relation to fluoridation, dental epidemiology and oral health improvement
- producing return of investment assessments for key public health interventions
- supporting, and where agreed, undertaking key public health assessments, such as: risk assessment for health threats, Health Needs Assessment, and Health Impact Assessment
- promoting healthier behaviour through social marketing and application of behavioural insight
- providing public health intelligence support and access to relevant resources to support local health surveillance, needs assessment, benchmarking quality, comparing outcomes, developing plans and evaluating impact
- liaising with neighbouring PHE centre staff to ensure that public health advice is available to support commissioning of specialised services, offender health and health services for the armed forces

Manage and plan for incidents and outbreaks by:

- undertaking statutory functions, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Health, to “protect the public from disease or other dangers to health”¹
- ensuring its own preparedness to respond to health protection emergencies in line with its Category 1 status under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and be a pro-active member of all local and regional multi-agency partnerships
- providing specialist emergency planning advice in support of the local system to ensure that inter-agency plans incorporate national standards and guidance
- advising on, participating in or leading emergency preparedness exercises with and for partners
- maintaining an overview of the risks from health protection emergencies and advocate for a proportionate response to prevent and prepare for their occurrence
- providing an expert, 24/7 health protection response for the control of acute and chronic health protection incidents and emergencies working in partnership with the local public health system
- providing leadership in response to outbreaks and incidents and facilitate access to national expertise
- leading on behalf of the NHS England Area Team to manage incidents arising from screening and immunisation programmes in accordance with national incident guidance
- contributing to the management of incidents occurring in the provision of dental healthcare
- developing protocols for the managing of incidents and outbreaks

¹ Section 2A of the NHS 2006 Act as inserted by section 11 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012

- providing epidemiological support in the investigation of outbreaks and incidents
- identifying any gaps in the system's response to outbreaks and incidents and seeking local resolution where required

Assure and improve service quality by:

- providing quality assurance for screening and immunisation programmes
- ensuring governance arrangements are in place for screening and immunisation programmes
- contributing to the development of service evaluation frameworks
- supporting, and where agreed, undertaking Health Equity Audits
- delivering services that maintain and deliver best practice and establish and maintain best standards of delivery
- complying with Care Quality Commission inspection (on a non-statutory and voluntary basis) for specified services delivered by PHE
- providing expert public health advice and intelligence to ensure that services contribute to improving health and wellbeing
- identifying risks in quality and patient safety and sharing these with others to mitigate against such risks in a timely manner
- providing a local presence for national health intelligence networks covering cancer, cardiovascular disease, mental health and child and maternal health

Facilitate networks by:

- organising and/or contributing to networks on key themes and topics as prioritised and agreed by stakeholders
- ensuring that there is appropriate input from both local and national stakeholders
- facilitating the exchange of best practice
- establishing and supporting professional networks, such as for Knowledge and Intelligence, healthcare public health (e.g. to support those providing core offer to CCGs), and health protection
- establishing task and finish groups to undertake specific pieces of work, as required

Monitor and report the Public's Health by:

- providing public health intelligence support and access to relevant resources to support local health surveillance, needs assessment, benchmarking quality, comparing outcomes, developing plans and evaluating impact
- undertaking ad hoc knowledge and intelligence work to meet local needs as requested and agreed
- providing access to national knowledge and intelligence resources and play an active role in supporting the local use of such products
- supporting the monitoring of screening and immunisation programmes and to support local authority DsPH in their challenge and scrutiny role
- reporting in an open and transparent way on public health outcomes
- undertaking surveillance and registration of diseases, including communicable diseases, cancer, and chronic diseases
- analysing, interpreting and disseminating information gathered through surveillance of communicable diseases

Support training and development by:

- providing professional support to the development of staff embedded and co-located in NHS England Area Teams
- contributing to teaching on academic courses (postgraduate and graduate)
- contributing to and/or providing training programmes across a range of public health topics, including screening and immunisation, health protection, knowledge and intelligence
- providing bespoke public health training and development courses as requested and agreed (this activity may be chargeable)
- contributing to the development of public health skills in the local public health system, including elected members, and health and wellbeing boards
- nurturing the public health system to develop capability collectively and ensure continued development of the specialist workforce
- supporting the development of public health specialist training by offering training opportunities within PHE
- co-ordinating and leading on the revalidation of public health specialists, prioritising the statutory revalidation of medically-qualified specialists in the short-term

Support research by:

- contributing as collaborators in research programmes
- providing advice to inform the development of research projects
- undertaking research projects

Facilitate the evolution of an effective distributed leadership model for public health delivery by:

- co-producing an organisational model for health improvement together with the local public health leaders
- co-producing a work programme for population healthcare public health with those providing commissioning support at the local level
- contributing expertise to the integration of health care, public health and social care delivery within place based delivery systems
- implementing a governance system for the delivery of public health interventions which is integral to the wider public health system across South Midlands and Hertfordshire

Archived December 2017