



# The Association of Directors of Public Health

## Honest conversation needed on future public health funding

ADPH has called for an “honest conversation” on public health funding in the lead up to next year’s Spending Review, following today’s Budget. Directors of Public Health are warning that the current funding situation is “not sustainable” and that the Government needs to work towards a “long-term funding package for public health.”

ADPH Chief Executive, Nicola Close, said:

“Investing more in the NHS is a good start but health is about more than the NHS. We now need to have an honest conversation about the funding required for our frontline public health services such as obesity programmes, drug and alcohol treatment, sexual health, health visitors and school nurses.

“Directors of Public Health have been relentlessly focussed on effectively managing £700 million worth of cuts, in the context of increasing demand, whilst also modernising services. However, this is not sustainable, especially when combined with the wider cuts to local government which have hit a range of community facilities central to public health, such as libraries and leisure centres.

“Next year’s Spending Review provides the Government with a unique opportunity to set out a long-term funding package for public health. This must include £3.2 billion a year extra into public health grants, and additional resources to promote the wider public health agenda, from poverty to housing to transport to crime.”

**ENDS**

### Further information

The Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) is the representative body for Directors of Public Health (DPH) in the UK. It seeks to improve and protect the health of the population through collating and presenting the views of DsPH; advising on public health policy and legislation at a local, regional, national and international level; facilitating a support network for DsPH; and providing opportunities for DsPH to develop professional practice.

The Association has a rich heritage, its origins dating back 160 years. It is a collaborative organisation working in partnership with others to maximize the voice for public health.

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