



The Association of Directors of Public Health

Statement on the Health Select Committee's Childhood Obesity Report

ADPH welcomes the Health Select Committee's report demanding that bold and urgent government action is taken

The Association of Directors of Public Health welcomes the publication of [Health Select Committee's report](#) which calls for the government to make a positive and lasting difference to children's health and life chances through bold and wide ranging measures within its new childhood obesity strategy.

ADPH welcomes the actions stated in the report. Including the nine highlighted areas for improvement which call for:

- Strong controls on price promotions of unhealthy food and drink.
- Tougher controls on marketing and advertising of unhealthy food and drink.
- Greater powers for local authorities to tackle the environment leading to obesity.
- A centrally led reformulation programme to reduce sugar in food and drink.
- Labelling of single portions of products with added sugar to show sugar content in teaspoons
- Improved education and information about diet.
- A sugary drinks tax on full sugar soft drinks, in order to help change behaviour, with all proceeds targeted to help those children at greatest risk of obesity.
- Universal school food standards.
- Early intervention to offer help to families of children affected by obesity and further research into the most effective interventions.

Directors of Public Health are leading local action to support children and families to eat more healthily and be more physically active. These recommendations, if put into practice, will greatly support this work.

ENDS

Further information

The Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) is a Company Limited by guarantee (soon to be a charity) and is the representative body for Directors of Public Health (DPH) in the UK. The Association is hosted by the UK Health Forum.

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 more than 150 years. It is a collaborative organisation working in partnership with others to maximise the voice for public health.

www.adph.org.uk

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