



The Association of Directors of Public Health

Statement on the announcement of extra £20 billion funding for NHS

The extra £20 billion for the NHS is very welcome, but let's spend it wisely, say public health chiefs.

The Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) is calling for prevention and social care to be included in how the NHS spends its £20 billion 'birthday present'.

ADPH President Dr Jeanelle de Gruchy said:

"The £20 billion birthday present for the NHS is very welcome, but it won't be money well spent if we don't also invest in helping people to not get ill in the first place.

This money is a huge opportunity for the NHS to stop being just a National Hospital Service and really become a National Health Service. Prevention is better than cure, and staying healthy is better than having to go into hospital. Just funding hospitals doesn't make sense, either for improving people's health or for the economy.

We now need to put serious effort – and money – into helping people to not get ill in the first place, and if they become ill and go into hospital, to help them get back home as quickly as possible. If we don't do this then we will need to find another £20 billion or more in a few years' time.

We call on the Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt to involve Directors of Public Health both nationally and local in getting the best for people's health from this new money."

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Further information

The [Association of Directors of Public Health](https://www.adph.org.uk) (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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