



The Association of Directors of Public Health

Health charities make urgent call for £1 billion a year to reverse cuts to public health funding

The Association of Directors of Public Health has welcomed a new call from the Health Foundation and the King's Fund for the Government to restore £1 billion of real-terms per head cuts to the public health grant.

Analysis by the Health Foundation shows that the grant, which currently amounts to £3.1 billion a year, is now £850 million lower in real-terms than initial allocations in 2015/16. The two organisations note that this is having an impact on public health services, like sexual health and smoking cessation, and undermining the efforts of Directors of Public Health to influence council decisions about the wider determinants of health, such as housing and transport.

Jeanelle De Gruchy, ADPH President, said:

“This is a hugely valuable and authoritative piece of work which demonstrates the overwhelming case for a significant and sustainable funding package for local public health.

“In recent years, Directors of Public Health have delivered high quality services and innovative new approaches at a time of cuts and rising demand. However, the reality is that they are reaching the outer limits of what is possible.

“We all know prevention is not only better than cure but cheaper than cure too. The Government must urgently clarify the timetable for a much-needed spending review and commit to investing more in public health.”

ENDS

About us

The Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) is the representative body for Directors of Public Health (DsPH) 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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