



## The Association of Directors of Public Health

### Responsibility for key public health services will remain with councils

The Department of Health and Social Care has confirmed that key public health services will remain the responsibility of local authorities. The NHS Long Term Plan had proposed a “stronger role for the NHS” in the commissioning of sexual health, health visiting and school nursing services.

Jeanelle de Gruchy, President of the ADPH, said:

"This is a hugely welcome decision. The evidence confirms that public health in local government is developing innovative approaches to public health services and delivering good outcomes for sexual and reproductive health as well for children and young people.

"There is an opportunity to build on this widespread best practice. Directors of Public Health are committed to continuing to work with the DHSC, NHSE, PHE, and local health bodies to ensure collaborative commissioning and integrated pathways for current and future users of these key services, ensuring we support the shift to prevention in all we do.

"To enable this to happen, and meet the rising demand for our services, the spending review must provide a significant and sustainable funding package for public health in local government."

**ENDS**

#### About us

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.

#### Contact information

Email: [comms@adph.org.uk](mailto:comms@adph.org.uk)

Telephone: 020 7832 6930

Website: [www.adph.org.uk](http://www.adph.org.uk)

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