



# The Association of Directors of Public Health Consultation Response

## NHS Performance Assessment Framework

### Objectives and Scope

NHS England is seeking views on the proposed approach and methodology set out in the updated [NHS Performance Assessment Framework \(NPAF\)](#).

This one-year framework is designed to ensure that health services are effective, efficient, and centred around the needs of patients and communities. The segmentation approach will provide a transparent view of performance across the NHS, forming the basis for how NHS England works with integrated care boards (ICBs) and providers (NHS trusts and NHS foundation trusts).

NHS England's approach to assessment is designed to evaluate and improve the performance of ICBs and NHS trusts and foundation trusts to help ensure that health services are effective, efficient, and patient-centred while supporting continuous improvement.

The consultation is seeking views to ensure the framework will meet the needs of the system.

### About ADPH

ADPH is the representative body for Directors of Public Health (DsPH), and is a collaborative organisation, working in partnership with others to strengthen the voice for public health, with a heritage which dates back over 160 years. ADPH works closely with a range of Government departments, including UKHSA and OHID as well as the four CMOs, NHS, devolved administrations, local authorities (LAs) and national organisations across all sectors to minimise the use of resources as well as maximise our voice.

ADPH aims to improve and protect the health of the population by:

- Representing the views of DsPH on public health policy.
- Advising on public health policy and legislation at a local, regional, national and international level.
- Providing a support network for DsPH to share ideas and good practice.
- Identifying and providing professional development opportunities for DsPH.

### ADPH response to questions

#### Questions 1-2

As above.

### Questions 3-7

N/A

### Question 8: Do you have any comments about the proposal and the impact on advancing equalities and/or reducing health inequalities?

While we recognise that some of the metrics included in the proposed NPAF provide insight, it is important that, to reduce health inequalities, metrics are chosen which truly reflect the impact of health care.

- It would be helpful to differentiate between cancers diagnosed at stage 1 and 2 as a result of screening, and those detected by other means.
- Length of wait time in acute care, while useful for individual patients, does not indicate how effective any intervention has been.

### Question 9: Do you have any other comments?

Specific metrics should be introduced to assess whether the desired shifts from sickness to prevention, and from hospital to community, are being achieved. For example:

- Sufficient resource must be allocated towards meaningful action and implementation on prevention. Even in areas where prevention spend has already increased, it should continue to do so. The [Hewitt Review](#) into Integrated Care Systems recommended an increased spend on prevention of at least 1% over the next five years. We recommend that prevention spend is included in the NPAF and that it should increase to an aspirational target of 10-20%.
- The key to managing long term conditions is effective primary care. As such, it is important that the NPAF includes specific metrics that reflect their treatment.