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The future of the public health system

Professor Maggie Rae PrFPH, FRCP Hon, FRSPH
President, Faculty of Public Health

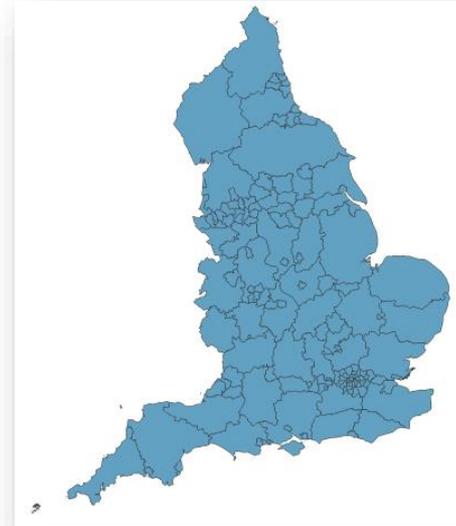
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An effective public health system starts with Local



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- COVID-19 has emphasised the importance of public health teams being part of local government
- We need an effective local, regional and national public health system with all layers working coherently
- But local leadership, ownership and involvement must be prioritised
- The knowledge of locally-based public health teams and their links to local government must be fully utilised
- We need a place-based public health system, led by Directors of Public Health and their teams which works to address health inequalities and empowers local communities



Local leadership of the public health system

Directors of Public Health are leading the local public health system and working with their local communities

- Dr Jeanelle de Gruchy and Professor Jim McManus

Local Authority leaders are engaging the public and putting their Council's case to Ministers

- James Jamieson and Ian Hudspeth

Local Chief Executives are demonstrating excellent leadership

- Tom Riordan, Paul Najsarek, Robin Tuddenham and Carolyne Wilkins

Environmental Health Officers and CIEH

- Peter Wright, Garry McFarlane

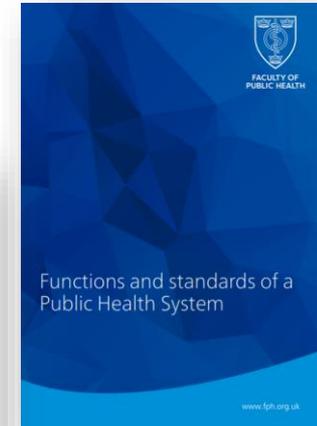
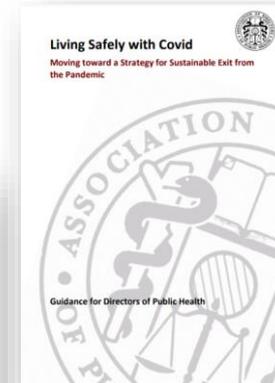
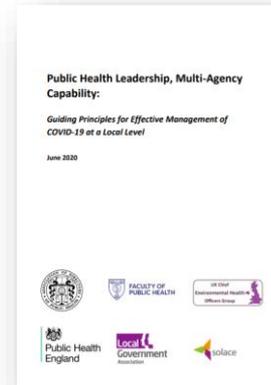


Guiding principles for the future of the public health system



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- We must listen to our local leaders and public health specialists
- We must hardwire cooperation between national and local government and between the NHS and councils
- We must tackle the challenges posed by the separation of the Health Protection function from the other functions of public health
- Who is responsible? We need clarity of responsibilities, and clear lines of accountability and communication between bodies and agencies including ICSs



We need proper funding and resource for local public health



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- Local authorities play a key leadership role in the public health system e.g. contact tracing, driving vaccine uptake, tackling inequalities
- We must hold Government to account – the Public Health Grant 2021/22 is inadequate considering the challenges faced by local public health teams
- FPH have called for a £1 billion increase in public health funding, and join with the Association of Directors of Public Health and LGA in calling for a multi-year settlement for public health
- We need 30 Public Health Specialists per million population. Recruitment to speciality training should increase from around 75 to around 100 per year across the UK

