Postscript

Public health research NIHR
Public health research funded by the Department of Health

Under the leadership of Dame Sally C. Davies, the Department of Health (Research and Development Directorate) funds public health research through the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and the Policy Research Programme. Since the NIHR was established in 2006, funding for research activity relating to public health has undergone a step change with the introduction of a number of new funding streams designed to increase the evidence for public health practice. Public health evaluation and research are critical in enabling public health practice to develop in the future and address key challenges and opportunities.

**DH Policy Research Programme (PRP)** The PRP commissions high-quality, research-based evidence to meet DH Ministers’ and policymakers’ needs with respect to public health. The PRP commissions both project-based research and programmes of work at twelve Policy Research Units at universities across the UK. Examples of Policy Research Units include the Public Health Research Consortium, established in 2005, and the Policy Research Unit on Behaviour and Health, established in 2006.

**NIHR** The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) funds public health research through the National Institute for Health Research, a partnership which includes the Health Research Authority, the National Institute for Health Research, and the National Institute for Health Research. The NIHR funding streams are designed to increase the evidence for public health activity relating to public health, which has undergone significant changes in the past ten years. The NIHR funding streams include the Public Health Research NIHR, which funds leading researchers with up to £2 million, and the Health Technology Assessment programme, which funds a range of studies designed to increase the evidence for public health practice.

**NIHR Schools** The NIHR Schools – School for Health Research (launched in 2012) has a budget of £20 million over five years, and is a partnership between eight leading academic research centres in applied public health research in England. The School will place an emphasis on what works practically, can be applied across the country and better meets the needs of policy makers, practitioners and the public.

**NIHR Schools – Schools for Primary Care Research and Social Care Research (launched in 2006 and 2009)** are also funded to improve the evidence base and undertake high quality research for primary care and social care practice.

**NIHR Programme** The Public Health Research programme (launched in 2008) funds evaluation of non-NHS public health interventions intended to improve the health of the public and reduce inequalities in health. It provides knowledge on the benefits, costs, acceptability and wider impacts of interventions. Funding is up to £10 million a year.

The Health Services and Delivery Research programme (established in 2012) includes funding research into public health and preventive services to lead to improvements in health and services, with over 30 projects active in 2011/12 relevant to public health.

**The Health Technology Assessment programme** (launched in 1993) funds the evaluation of public health interventions delivered by the NHS. It includes the Disease Prevention Panel (launched in 2005) which funds a portfolio of research into the value of health technologies designed to promote health, prevent disease and reduce health inequalities.

**Programme Grants for Applied Research** (launched in 2006) funds leading researchers with up to £2 million. In public health, researchers are working in areas such as promotion of health and prevention of ill health.

**Research for Patient Benefit** (launched in 2006) allocates up to £25 million a year to support projects in the NHS addressing issues of importance related to health services and public health. Research includes studying the provision and use of services, evaluating interventions and examining delivery.

**NIHR Faculty** The NIHR supports a range of research training fellowships across all stages of a research career. Over 50 of the fellowships active in 2011/12 were relevant to public health, at a cost of over £6 million.

**NIHR Infrastructure**

**Biomedical Research Units (BRUs) and Centres (BRC)** bring together leading academics and clinicians to undertake translational clinical research in priority areas of high disease burden and clinical need. The first round of BRCs and BRUs were launched in 2007 for five years; the second round of eleven BRCs and twenty BRUs, with funding of up to £800 million over five years, began operating on 1st April 2012. Many of the research themes within BRCs and BRUs are relevant to public health, including BRUs focusing on nutrition, lifestyle and physical activity.

**Collaborations for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care (CLAHRCs)** (launched in 2008) receive total funding of £82 million, including for research on obesity, housing and health, maternal health services and reducing health inequalities.

**NIHR Collaborations**

**National Prevention Research Initiative** is a consortium of sixteen funders to fund research into the development and implementation of successful, cost-effective interventions that reduce people’s risk of developing disease.

**UKCRCTranslational Infection Research Initiative** is funded by seven research funders. Four Consortium Grants have been awarded to public health related research programmes at the University of Oxford, Imperial College London, University of Cambridge and St George’s, University of London.

**Case studies**

**Case Study 1**

Policy Research Unit on Behaviour and Health – ‘Alterating choice architecture to change population behaviour to improve health outcomes: a conceptual and empirical review’. This is a scoping review mapping literature on physical activity, alcohol and tobacco related behaviours, categorising interventions focusing on product properties, placement, proximity and availability.

**Case Study 2**

School for Social Care Research – The Bristol TARA project (Dr Emma Williamson, University of Bristol). A longitudinal study following homeless women over an 18 month period to establish their service use and need, and how housing, social care and health services can work together more effectively to meet those needs.

**Case Study 3**

Health Services and Delivery Research programme – Multi-site implementation of a promising innovation in low income communities: support for childbearing women (Professor Spiby, University of Nottingham). This study will evaluate the impact of trained volunteer doula support provided to a woman during pregnancy, labour and the period after birth, particularly in low income communities.

**Case Study 4**

Health Technology Assessment programme – A peer-support weight management programme to supplement brief advice in general practice for obese adults from deprived communities (Dr Hayden McRobbie, Wolfson Institute of Preventive Medicine, Barts and The London). This trial has been designed to establish whether the programme maintains its effects long term, and whether it helps people more than current best-practice GP advice.

**Case Study 5**

Research for Patient Benefit – Hands up for Max! Hand Hygiene study in Primary Schools (Professor Campbell, University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust). This is a cluster randomised controlled trial to test the effectiveness of an educational intervention to promote hand washing in reducing absenteeism in primary schools.
Postscript

Abbreviations and links to data resources
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPW</td>
<td>Pounds per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95%CI</td>
<td>95% Confidence Interval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AML</td>
<td>Acute Myeloid Leukemia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APHO</td>
<td>Association of Public Health Observatories</td>
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<tr>
<td>APS</td>
<td>Annual Population Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BINOCAR</td>
<td>British Isles Network of Congenital Anomaly Registers</td>
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<tr>
<td>BME</td>
<td>Black and Minority Ethnic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRC</td>
<td>Biomedical research centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBVT</td>
<td>Cerebrovascular diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF</td>
<td>Cystic fibrosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHD</td>
<td>Coronary heart disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chimat</td>
<td>Child and Maternal Health Observatory</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHS</td>
<td>Child Health System</td>
</tr>
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<td>CHT</td>
<td>Congenital hypothyroidism</td>
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<tr>
<td>CKD</td>
<td>Chronic kidney disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMACE</td>
<td>Centre for Maternal and Child Enquiries</td>
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<tr>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Chief Scientific Officer</td>
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<td>CVD</td>
<td>Cardiovascular disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CVI</td>
<td>Certificate of vision impairment</td>
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<tr>
<td>DCLG</td>
<td>Department for Communities and Local Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>DECC</td>
<td>Department for Energy and Climate Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEXA Scan</td>
<td>Dual energy X-ray absorptiometry scan</td>
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<tr>
<td>DFLE</td>
<td>Disability Free Life Expectancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFT</td>
<td>Department for Transport</td>
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<tr>
<td>DH</td>
<td>Department of Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>DMTF</td>
<td>Decayed, missing or filled tooth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DWP</td>
<td>Department of Work and Pensions</td>
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<tr>
<td>E.Coli</td>
<td>Escherichia coli</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMPHO</td>
<td>East Midlands Public Health Observatory</td>
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<tr>
<td>ERPHO</td>
<td>Eastern Region Public Health Observatory</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU-04-07</td>
<td>European Union members since 2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU-15</td>
<td>European Union members before 2004</td>
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<td>EWDI</td>
<td>Excess Winter Death Survey</td>
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<tr>
<td>FSM</td>
<td>Free school meals</td>
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<td>GB</td>
<td>Great Britain</td>
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<tr>
<td>GBD study</td>
<td>Global Burden of Disease Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>GCSE</td>
<td>General certificate in secondary education</td>
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<td>GI</td>
<td>Gastrointestinal</td>
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<tr>
<td>GPRD</td>
<td>General Practice Research Database</td>
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<td>GUM</td>
<td>Genitourinary medicine</td>
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<td>GUMAMM</td>
<td>Genitourinary Medicine Access Monthly Monitoring</td>
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<tr>
<td>GUMCAD</td>
<td>Genitourinary Medicine Clinic Activity Dataset</td>
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<td>Hospital Episode Statistics</td>
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<td>HESA</td>
<td>Higher Education Statistics Agency</td>
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<td>HM Government</td>
<td>Her Majesty's Government</td>
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<td>HO</td>
<td>Home Office</td>
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<td>Health Protection Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPV</td>
<td>Human papillomavirus</td>
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<td>HSCIC</td>
<td>Health and Social Care Information Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSE</td>
<td>Health Survey for England</td>
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<td>HSE</td>
<td>Health and Safety Executive</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICD10</td>
<td>Tenth revision of the International Classification of Diseases</td>
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<td>IMD</td>
<td>Index of Multiple Deprivation</td>
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<tr>
<td>IPMR</td>
<td>Integrated performance measures monitoring</td>
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<tr>
<td>JSNA</td>
<td>Joint Strategic Needs Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>LE</td>
<td>Life expectancy</td>
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<td>LHO</td>
<td>London Health Observatory</td>
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<tr>
<td>LRTI</td>
<td>Lower respiratory tract infections</td>
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<tr>
<td>MADD</td>
<td>Medium-chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase deficiency</td>
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<td>MDR TB</td>
<td>Multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis</td>
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<tr>
<td>MMR vaccine</td>
<td>Measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOJ</td>
<td>Ministry of Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>MRI</td>
<td>Magnetic resonance imaging</td>
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<tr>
<td>MRSA</td>
<td>Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSM</td>
<td>Men who have sex with men</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCI</td>
<td>National Cancer Intelligence Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>NDA</td>
<td>National Diabetes Audit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NDSCR</td>
<td>National Down Syndrome Cytogenetic Register</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEET</td>
<td>Not in education, employment, or training</td>
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<td>NEPHO</td>
<td>North East Public Health Observatory</td>
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<td>NHL</td>
<td>Non-Hodgkin lymphoma</td>
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<td>NHS DEP for England</td>
<td>NHS Dental Epidemiology Programme for England</td>
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Evidence and intelligence resources

1  Health intelligence resources

1.1 The NHS Information Centre for Health and Social Care

The NHS Information Centre for Health and Social Care (NIC) is the main provider of data and information for the NHS. The indicator portal (https://indicators.ic.nhs.uk) provides a range of health and social care indicators, including:

- **Compendium of Population Health Indicators**

A wide-ranging collection of over 1,000 indicators designed to provide a comprehensive overview of population health at a national, regional and local level. These indicators were previously available on the Clinical and Health Outcomes Framework (ASCOF). They include data for 14 measures which are designed to enable users to compare the effectiveness of care delivered by councils responsible for adult social care services.

- **Local Basket of Inequalities Indicators (LBOI)**

This collection of 60 indicators helps organisations to measure health and other factors which influence health inequalities such as unemployment, poverty, crime and education.

- **NHS Outcomes Framework**

The NHS Outcomes Framework indicators will be used by the Secretary of State to hold the NHS Commissioning Board to account.

- **Social Care**

The first figures for the new Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF). They include data for 14 measures which are designed to enable users to compare the effectiveness of care delivered by councils responsible for adult social care services.

1.2 The English Public Health Observatories

The English Public Health Observatories (EPHO) provide a range of public health data and intelligence. A new Public Health England portal to public health evidence and intelligence will be launched in 2013.

The wealth of resources produced by the observatories can be found at: http://www.epho.org.uk/default.aspx?RID=39403.

1.2.1 English health profiling products, atlases, scorecards and tools

- **Health Profiles for English Local Authorities**

These annual profiles comprising 37 indicators, provide a snapshot of health in each upper and lower tier local authority in England. They provide summary health information to support local authority elected members and community partners to plan for health improvement. The information is presented as a four page document and there is also an interactive atlas. These have been produced since 2006. See www.healthprofiles.info.

- **Local Health**

This provides a range of health indicators at the level of Middle Super Output Areas, wards (these are estimated), and local authorities. The indicators are drawn from the small areas indicators for Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (http://www.aspectcare.org.uk/resources/jansa/). They are displayed as interactive maps and reports. It is possible to combine areas to create a user-defined geography. It allows the user to compare any selected area to the England average for a range of indicators. See www.localhealth.org.uk

- **2012 Cardiovascular Disease Profiles for England**

http://www.sepho.org.uk/CVDprof.aspx

- **Community Mental Health Profiles**

http://www.nepho.org.uk/cmhp/

- **End of Life Care Local Authority Profiles 2012**


- **Excess Winter Deaths**


- **Health inequality indicators for local authorities and primary care organisations**


- **Local Alcohol Profiles for England (LAPE)**

http://www.lape.org.uk

- **Local Authority Child Health Profiles 2012**

http://www.chimat.org.uk/profiles

- **Local Tobacco Control Profiles**

http://www.tobaccocontrolprofiles.org

- **National General Practice Profiles**

http://www.apho.org.uk/pracprof/

- **Sexual Health Balanced Scorecard 2012 update**


Abbreviations continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NIHR</td>
<td>National Institute for Health Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>NMSC</td>
<td>Non-melanoma skin cancers</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOIDs</td>
<td>Notifications of Infectious Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOO</td>
<td>National Obesity Observatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NWPHO</td>
<td>North West Public Health Observatory</td>
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<tr>
<td>ONS</td>
<td>Office for National Statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCT</td>
<td>Primary Care Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHO</td>
<td>Public Health Observatory</td>
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<tr>
<td>PKU</td>
<td>Phery/ketonuria</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSA</td>
<td>Prostate-specific antigen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PYLL</td>
<td>Potential Years of Life Lost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QOF</td>
<td>Quality Outcomes Framework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCGP</td>
<td>Royal College of General Practitioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCOpth</td>
<td>The Royal College of Ophthalmologists</td>
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<tr>
<td>RNIB</td>
<td>Royal National Institute of Blind People</td>
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<td>RRT</td>
<td>Renal replacement therapy</td>
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<td>SCD</td>
<td>Sickle cell disease</td>
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<td>SEPHO</td>
<td>South West Public Health Observatory</td>
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<tr>
<td>SII</td>
<td>Slope Index of Inequality</td>
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<tr>
<td>STI</td>
<td>Sexually transmitted disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>SWPHO</td>
<td>South West Public Health Observatory</td>
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<td>TB</td>
<td>Tuberculosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TDO</td>
<td>The Dental Observatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<tr>
<td>UKACR</td>
<td>United Kingdom Association of Cancer Registries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>United Nations Children’s Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URTI</td>
<td>Upper respiratory tract infections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>United States of America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEMWBS</td>
<td>Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMPHO</td>
<td>West Midlands Public Health Observatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XDR TB</td>
<td>Extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.2.2 Topic-based collections

- **Child and Maternal Health Observatory (ChIMat)**
  The national Child and Maternal Health Observatory (ChIMat) provides information and intelligence to improve decision making for high quality, cost effective services. It supports policy makers, commissioners, managers, regulators, and other health stakeholders working on children's, young people's and maternal health. [http://www.chimat.org.uk/](http://www.chimat.org.uk/)

- **Diabetes Health Intelligence**
  Diabetes Health Intelligence is run by Yorkshire and the Humber Public Health Observatory to provide timely, quality assured national diabetes health intelligence working in partnership with a number of organisations. [http://www.yhpho.org.uk/default.aspx?RID=8467](http://www.yhpho.org.uk/default.aspx?RID=8467)

- **End of Life Care Intelligence Network**
  The National End of Life Care Intelligence Network (NEoLCIN) aims to improve the collection and analysis of information related to the quality, volume and costs of care provided by the NHS to a comprehensive suite of diabetes information products, datasets and tools, through a single web portal www.diabetes-ndis.org.

- **GP Practice Cancer Profiles**
  The GP Practice Profiles bring together a range of outcomes and process information relevant to cancer in primary care. They provide readily available and comparative information to authorised users via the Cancer Commissioning Toolkit.

- **Kidney diseases and services**
  The East Midlands Public Health Observatory (EMPHO) produces information resources on kidney disease, giving useful resources and links both from Public Health Observatories and other sources. This is a joint work programme with NHS Kidney Care. [http://www.empho.org.uk/Themes/renal/renal1.aspx](http://www.empho.org.uk/Themes/renal/renal1.aspx)

- **National Obesity Observatory**
  The National Obesity Observatory provides a single point of contact for wide-ranging authoritative information on data, evaluation and evidence related to weight status and its determinants. NOO works closely with a wide range of organisations and provides support to policy makers and practitioners involved in obesity and related issues. [www.noo.org.uk](http://www.noo.org.uk)

1.3 National Cancer Intelligence Network

The NCIN provides a range of information for the general public or those with a particular interest in cancer or cancer services. They are free to access and each tool provides instructions on its use and details of the data included. These can be found at [http://www.ncin.org.uk/cancer_information_tools/default.aspx](http://www.ncin.org.uk/cancer_information_tools/default.aspx) (accessed 17th October 2012).

- **Cancer e-Atlas**
  The aim of the Cancer e-Atlas is to provide the public, health care professionals, commissioners and health service managers with basic information on incidence, mortality and survival for the main types of cancers in males and females.

- **GP Practice Cancer Profiles**
  The GP Practice Profiles bring together a range of outcomes and process information relevant to cancer in primary care. They provide readily available and comparative information for benchmarking and reviewing variations at a general practice level. GP Practice Profiles are currently available only to authorised users via the Cancer Commissioning Toolkit.

- **Cancer Mortality Profiles**
  The mortality profiles are interactive spreadsheets showing trends in cancer mortality rates in England for under 75 year olds by different levels of geography. This tool has been developed to support the monitoring,commissioning and planning of local cancer services. Produced by the South West Public Health Observatory on behalf of the National Cancer Action Team and National Cancer Intelligence Network.

- **Prevalence e-Atlas**
  The Prevalence e-Atlas is an interactive tool which uses maps, charts and data tables to display cancer prevalence data by cancer network for the UK. The data displayed are those published in the NCIN report One, Five and Ten-year Cancer Prevalence.
Postscript

Acknowledgments
The production of this report has been led by the Chief Medical Officer, the Editor in Chief, the Project Manager and the Chapter Editors. It has been a collaborative process and we have canvassed opinions from a variety of organisations, national experts and national policy leads to inform the content.

This open process has been very exciting. Many of those contacted for opinions have also canvassed opinion and comment within their organisations. This has resulted in a stimulating collaborative effort, but also makes it very difficult to ensure that all contributors are acknowledged. I would like to make it known just how much I appreciate all the efforts made by those who have advised, collated and provided data and commented on the content of this report.

**Expert Advisory Group**

I would like to start by thanking the following, who acted as an expert advisory group for the report:

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- Professor Ruth Hussey, Chief Medical Officer/Medical Director for NHS Wales
- Professor John Newton, Chief Knowledge Officer (designate) Public Health England
- Ms Clara Swinson, Director of Health Protection, Department of Health

**Expert advice and support – overall content**

I would like to thank the following who also provided expert advice and support on the overall content and structure.

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- Dr Obaghe Edeghere, Health Protection Agency West Midlands
- Professor Brian Ferguson, Yorkshire and Humber Public Health Observatory
- Professor Michael Goldacre, University of Oxford
- Professor Peter Goldblatt, University College London
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- Dr Jeremy Hawker, Health Protection Agency West Midlands
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- Ruth Harrell
- Abigail Knight
- Sarah Payne
- Lucinda Saunders

**Organisations – contributors to overall content**

I would like to thank the specific organisations that have provided data.

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I would like to thank the Directors of the PHOs, named below, and ask them to accept my thanks on behalf of their staff.

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- Eastern Region Public Health Observatory - Dr Julian Flowers
- London Health Observatory - Dr Bobbie Jacobson
- North East Public Health Observatory - Professor John Wilkinson
- North West Public Health Observatory - Professor Mark Bellis
- South East Public Health Observatory - Dr Alison Hill
- South West Public Health Observatory - Dr Julia Verne
- West Midlands Public Health Observatory - Dr Gill Lawrence, Deputy Director
- Yorkshire and Humber Public Health Observatory - Professor Brian Ferguson
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Koye Balogun
Fateha Begum
Nicki Bodington
Angie Bone
Alison Brown
Antoaneta Bukasa
Mike Catchpole
John Davies
Valerie Delpech
Sarika Desai
Stephen Duffell
Hayley Durnell
Alex Elliot
Oluwaseun Esan
Alex Elliot
Hayley Durnell

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