

From the Chief Medical Officer
Dame Sally C Davies



Gateway reference: 15963

20 April 2011

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To:
Regional Director of Public Health
Directors of Public Health
Chief Executive Health Protection Agency
Chief Executive National Treatment Agency

Dear Colleagues

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

I am writing to you following Sir David Nicholson's letter of 13 April *Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS – Managing the Transition*.

We will be looking at the full implications of the listening exercise now underway, including any for public health, and at the subsequent report of the NHS Future Forum. I am very pleased to inform you that Frank Atherton, President of the Association of Directors of Public Health, is a member of this Forum. As you all know we have just completed a consultation on our public health white paper *Healthy Lives, Healthy People* and its associated documents on the Public Health Operating Framework with the funding and commissioning of public health. The Government's response will be published this summer.

I am delighted to let you know that Dr Ruth Hussey, Regional Director for Public Health in the North West, has joined the Anita Marsland's senior Public Health England Transition Team as a director, on secondment from the North West. Her specialist knowledge will strengthen the team.

As Sir David's letter stated, the assumption of full powers by Public Health England, the transfer of functions from arms length bodies including the HPA and NTA and the abolition of SHAs will take place no earlier than July 2012. This will have some impact on the indicative timetable for the public health reforms initially set out in Anita's letter of 17 March 2011. We will continue to work on the draft framework and operating model for Public Health England and we expect to have a Chief Operating Officer and senior team of Public Health England in place six months before Public Health England is established.

Anita and I will continue to keep you all updated.

Finally, I wish you all a Happy Easter break.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sally C Davies'.

**DAME SALLY C DAVIES
CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER**