



Department
of Health



NHS public health functions agreement

Variation to the 2015-16 agreement on public health
functions to be exercised by NHS England

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The variation

This variation is made to the agreement for 2015-16 made under section 7A of the National Health Service Act 2006 between the Secretary of State for Health and NHS England that was published in December 2014 (the '2015-16 agreement'). It is made in accordance with paragraphs 3.16 to 3.18 of that agreement.

The 2015-16 agreement including all service specifications within Part C is available at www.gov.uk (search for "commissioning public health").

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This is a variation to the 2015-16 agreement.
- 1.2. The NHS Commissioning Board is known as NHS England.
- 1.3. The change coming into force under this variation is:
 - From 1st October 2015, NHS England no longer has responsibility for commissioning Children's Public Health services as included within Service Specification no. 27 Children's public health services (from pregnancy to age 5)
- 1.4. The changes come into force on the date that this agreement is made.

2. Changes

- 2.1. From the date this variation comes into force, the table below headed "Table B2 (Variation No.1)" will be added to Table B2 in the 2015-16 agreement.

Change to agreement
<p>The transfer of responsibility for commissioning Children's Public Health services as included within Service Specification no. 27 Children's public health services (from pregnancy to age 5) to local authorities takes place on 1st October 2015. From this date, NHS England no longer has responsibility for the commissioning of the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planning and paying for public health services for children aged 0-5. This includes health visiting and Family Nurse Partnership ((FNP) targeted services for teenage mothers). <p>The following commissioning responsibilities remain with NHS England:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Child Health Information Systems ○ The 6-8 week GP check (also known as Child Health Surveillance) <p>As part of the transfer of commissioning responsibilities, £427.5 m will be deducted from the £1804m funding that was allocated to NHS England as part of the Section 7A agreement.¹ These funds will transfer back to the department and be allocated to Local government via PHE.</p> <p>From 1st October, NHS England will not be expected to report on post-transfer performance in the services which have transferred to local government.</p>

¹Section 7A Agreement 2015-16, para.4.1, page 16,
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/389168/S7A_1516_FINAL.pdf