



Public Health  
England



Department of Health

**NHS**  
**England**

# **Health and Care Voluntary Sector Strategic Partner Programme 2014-15 – call for applications from VCS organisations working strategically in the area of work, worklessness and health and wellbeing**

*Information pack for voluntary sector  
organisations*

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# Health and Care Voluntary Sector Strategic Partner Programme 2014/15 – call for applications from VCS organisations working strategically in the area of work, worklessness and health and wellbeing

*Information pack for Voluntary Sector organisations*

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# Executive summary

This document provides voluntary sector organisations with a call for applications to join the Health and Care Voluntary Sector Strategic Partner Programme.

The Department of Health, Public Health England and NHS England are seeking applications from voluntary and community sector organisations that work strategically in the area of work, worklessness and health and wellbeing to join the Health and Care Voluntary Sector Strategic Partner Programme in 2014/15.

The document provides voluntary sector organisations with information to help them decide if this call for an additional Strategic Partner to join the Programme is applicable to their organisation. It sets out the purpose of the Strategic Partner Programme, details the outcomes and activities that the Department of Health, NHS England and Public Health England are seeking to invest in through the Programme in 2014-15 and the criteria we will use for assessing applications. A timetable is provided for the whole process from application through to decision.

All awards from April 2014 are subject to the approval of budgets as part of business planning for 2014-15 in the autumn, by the Department of Health. The continuation of the 2013-14 Strategic Partner Programme into 2014-15 does not commit the Department of Health to any additional funding of Grant awards from April 2014.

If you need more information, you can contact the Voluntary Sector Partnerships Team:

- By email at [strategic.partners@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:strategic.partners@dh.gsi.gov.uk)
  
- By telephone on:
  - 0113 2545212
  - 0113 2546649
  - 0113 2545604



# Voluntary Sector Health and Care Strategic Partner Programme

The Strategic Partner Programme has the following over-arching aims:

- Increased capacity and capability within the voluntary and community sector to engage in improving health and care, public health and reducing health inequalities.
- Strategic, productive and transparent relationships between DH, NHS England and PHE and Strategic Partners which bring the Sector's voice and expertise into national policy making and implementation.

The Health and Care Strategic Partner Programme currently invests in 21 Strategic Partners who work collaboratively with other Strategic Partners, the Department of Health, NHS England and Public Health England to:

- Deliver agreed programmes of work (set out in work plans) which improve the capacity and capability of the Sector and support improvements in the public's health and wellbeing, health and care services and in tackling health inequalities
- Operate as a strategic forum for engaging with voluntary sector organisations at a national level in a systematic and mutually beneficial way that brings citizen and user voice to the heart of policy making and which advises and informs DH, NHS England and PHE about key issues in health and care that affect the voluntary and community sector
- Provide robust and systematic dissemination methods for information, policy developments and key programmes which enable the sector to engage in the delivery of health, care and well-being objectives

In 2013, 21 Strategic Partners were appointed to join the Programme. Details of the current membership of the Programme can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/voluntary-groups-lend-a-hand-to-government-to-improve-health-and-wellbeing>

**For 2014/15, the Department of Health, Public Health England and NHS England are seeking to appoint one additional partner who can contribute expertise and experience in the field of the impact of work and worklessness on health and wellbeing – a key priority area for improving health and wellbeing as set out in PHE's [Priorities for 2013/14](#)**

[<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-health-englands-priorities-for-2013-to-2014>]

Over 71% of adults (16-64yrs) in the UK are in employment. The average working adult spends 36.3hrs a week in work, although higher in some sectors like manufacturing and construction (41.2hrs). Like schools for children, the workplace is a unique and important place for engaging adults.

Workplace initiatives are an opportunity to engage adults in a structured way and promote healthier lifestyles and health promoting environments, supported by the fact healthier staff are more productive, more present and it makes good business sense.

Also, there is a large body of evidence which supports the view that work can be good for health, reversing the harmful effects of long-term unemployment and prolonged sickness absence.

Therefore, it is important to understand the impact of worklessness on health, as well as targeting workplace interventions.

## Funding

Grants to support this programme will be made using powers provided by Section 64 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 or Sections 149-156 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 that give the Secretary of State for Health the power to make grants or loans to certain voluntary organisations in England whose activities support the Department of Health's policy priorities or who are delivering health and social care services. Such organisations must meet the legal requirements of section 64 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 or Sections 149-152 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 to qualify.

All awards from April 2014 are subject to the approval of budgets as part of business planning for 2014-15 in the autumn, by the Department of Health. The continuation of the 2013-14 Strategic Partner Programme into 2014-15 does not commit the Department of Health to any additional funding of Grant awards from April 2014.



# Eligibility

## Is your organisation eligible to apply?

### Section 64 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968

Your organisation must meet the conditions set out in Section 64 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 to be eligible to receive a grant under the Voluntary Sector Investment Programme. You must meet the following legal requirements (which are a summary of the criteria in Section 64 and not a complete description of the law).

- Your organisation must be carrying out activities that involve “... providing a service similar to a service provided by the National Health Service or by local authority social services, promoting, publicising or providing advice to do with providing either a national health or local authority social service or a similar service”.
- A ‘relevant service’ is defined in the 1968 Act and means, “a service which must or may, under relevant law, be provided or arranged by the Secretary of State or a number of other public authorities”. Or, it is a service a primary care trust or other health service body under Part 2 of the National Health Service Act 2006 are under a duty to make arrangements to provide.
- A ‘voluntary organisation’ is defined in Section 64 of the ‘Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 as “... an organisation which carries out activities but not for profit, but does not include any public or local authority”.

The Act gives the Secretary of State for Health the power to award grants to not for profit organisations in England whose activities support our priorities.

### Section 149-156 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008

In summary, these provisions allow the Secretary of State to provide financial support to qualifying bodies who are delivering health and social care services. It also allows the Secretary of State to fund qualifying bodies delivering related services to providers of health and social care services.

149 Power of Secretary of State to give financial assistance:

1. The Secretary of State may give financial assistance to qualifying bodies which are engaged in:
  - a. the provision in England of health services or of social care services, or
  - b. the provision to other persons of services that are connected with the provision in England by those other persons of health services or of social care services.
2. The Secretary of State may also give financial assistance to persons for the purposes of the establishment by them of qualifying bodies which satisfy any conditions prescribed for the purposes of this subsection and which are to be engaged in:
  - a. the provision in England of health services or of social care services, or
  - b. the provision to other persons of services that will be connected with the provision in England by those other persons of health services or of social care services.

#### 150 Qualifying bodies:

1. A body is a qualifying body for the purposes of this group of sections if:
  - a reasonable person might consider that its activities are being carried on for the benefit of the community in England,
    - a. except in the case of a body of a prescribed kind, it satisfies prescribed conditions relating to the distribution of its profits,
    - b. it is carrying on a business, and
    - c. it satisfies such other conditions as may be prescribed.
2. Regulations may provide that:
  - a. a body may only be a qualifying body if it is of a prescribed kind;
  - b. activities of a prescribed description are to be treated as being, or as not being, activities which a reasonable person might consider are activities carried on for the benefit of the community in England.
3. "Community" includes a section of the community; and regulations may make provision about what does, does not or may constitute a section of the community.

The associated Regulations (The Health and Social Care (Financial Assistance) Regulations 2009) set out further conditions that must be satisfied for a body to be a qualifying body.

Further detail is available at:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/14/part/5/crossheading/financial-assistance-related-to-provision-of-health-or-social-care-services>

## Eligibility conditions:

As well as the legal requirements in Section 64 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 Act or Sections 149-156 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008, the following eligibility conditions also apply if you want to apply to the fund.

- Your organisation must work in England. There are separate arrangements for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- Organisations must be not for profit and:

Incorporated (this would be a company limited by guarantee and registered with companies house OR a community interest company OR a co-operative or industrial and provident society OR a Social Enterprise).

OR

Have charitable status (registered with the Charity Commission).

- Your organisation must have an Equal Opportunities Policy and Health & Safety Policy.
- Your organisation must be able to evidence breadth and depth of reach to voluntary, community and social enterprise groups and organisations throughout England.
- Your organisation should be able to demonstrate:
  - The breadth and depth of memberships and networks in the voluntary and community sectors
  - Specific expertise and strength in health, public health, well-being and care
  - Experience of working in partnership and co-producing approaches
  - Expertise in building sector capability and capacity
  - Its role in supporting and enabling effective and accountable representation of citizen and community voice
  - A unique offer that no other national umbrella or membership organisation can deliver – their space in the sector
  - That it can contribute to the Department of Health, NHS England's and Public Health England's strategic objectives and outcomes, taking into account of (this is not an exhaustive list):
    - Equalities and protected characteristic groups
    - Social determinants
    - The life course, e.g. children and young people, older people
    - Communities

**Please note:**

**At this stage we are not asking applicants to present a project proposal, work plan or programme of activity.**

**The process is more akin to a job recruitment. We want to see the evidence of how your organisation would deliver and work in a strategic partner role with health, public health and social care partners.**

**You will need to demonstrate your organisations experience of working at national level, influencing and developing policy and with your voluntary sector members or networks and supporting their development and engagement.**

**You may wish to consider contacting us for a verbal discussion if you are considering submitting an application.**

# Call for applications - work, worklessness and health and wellbeing

The Department of Health, Public Health England and NHS England are seeking to appoint one additional partnership to the Strategic Partner Programme for 2014/15 and are inviting applications from organisations that can bring strategic expertise and experience around the area of the impact on health and wellbeing of work and worklessness.

We are looking to recruit a collaborative partnership with organisations working strategically in the areas of health and wellbeing in the workplace for those in employment and in tackling health issues as a barrier to work amongst the unemployed.

We would like to appoint a partnership able to make contributions in the following areas and to contribute to the work of the Strategic Partner Programme by:

- improving the evidence base and evaluation of workplace wellbeing and back to work health interventions
- supporting the inclusion of work and health data and evidence for Joint Strategic Needs Assessments and Health and Wellbeing Strategies
- developing the evidence base and discourse around inequalities in health and work and worklessness
- supporting a life course approach to improving health and work issues, including 'healthy retirement'
- supporting networks and organisations working in this area to engage with health and with the system locally and nationally
- supporting the integration of employer-led interventions and interventions aimed at people not in work, which improve health and wellbeing, and health and care services
- supporting the wider VCS and employers to engage in the work place as an environment for health and wellbeing interventions
- supporting the implementation of the public health responsibility deal and the workplace wellbeing charter around health and work.

## Criteria & Role Description

The broad roles for strategic partner(s), which form the basis for the Strategic Partner Programme:

- Facilitate strategic participation of voluntary sector organisations working in the area of work, worklessness and health with DH, NHS England, and Public Health England
  - Advise on key issues affecting the sector in relation to health and social care
  - Provide regular updates to the sector about key issues and policy developments
  - Provide regular feedback from voluntary sector organisations about the key issues affecting the sector and its ability to engage with the wider reform process
  - Enable effective, inclusive and open representation from voluntary sector organisations
- Work collaboratively towards common goals both short and long term
  - Have clear links and networks with health and social care organisations in the voluntary sector and be committed to working towards the DH, NHS England and Public Health England's strategic objectives
- Contribute experience and expertise to policy development as a 'critical friend'
  - Be able to contribute evidence based expertise, drawing on experience within the voluntary sector, to inform policy and programme development
  - Be able to provide constructive criticism of policies and programmes
- Support synergy with other government departments and statutory organisations
  - Have experience and links with other government departments and utilise these to address cross-cutting health and well-being issues
- Give 'voice' to service users and communities of interest
  - Have a demonstrable track record of enabling service users, local communities and 'seldom heard voices' to have their experience and issues articulated at national level
- Underpin strategic sector capacity, capability and credibility in the health and social care system
  - Work collaboratively with DH, NHS England and Public Health England to develop capacity, knowledge and skills within the sector
  - Have experience of 'interpreting' policy for relevant local application
  - Connect system-wide strategic work with other work programmes and initiatives in the voluntary sector, ensuring relevance for local application
- Support coherence between organisations in the sector – including support for smaller organisations

- Have experience of facilitating partnerships and collaborative working
- Ensure that small organisations are able to engage and participate either through existing networks and fora or through partnerships with other membership organisations

## Expectations of Strategic Partners:

We expect successful applicants to the Strategic Partner Programme to demonstrate their capability and commitment to:

- deliver programmes of work (set out in work plans) which improve the capacity and capability of the sector and support improvements in the public's health and wellbeing, in health and care services and in tackling health inequalities
- work collaboratively with other Strategic Partners as well as other organisations in the voluntary sector at local, regional and national level
- support the development and capacity of organisations in the voluntary sector including smaller organisations at local level
- have a track record of working at a strategic level informing and advocating on behalf of the wider voluntary sector to Government or other statutory sector agency
- have a well developed understanding of the health and social care reform agenda and the roles voluntary sector organisations have to play in improving the health and well-being of the population

## Example Activities

Activities a strategic partner might undertake to deliver this role may include (this list is not exhaustive):

- Advising DH, NHS England and Public Health England on key issues affecting the sector
- Articulating views and experiences of their membership and networks to DH, NHS England and Public Health England. This could include attending meetings, seminars, workshops and debating issues.
- Structured programmes of knowledge building activities informing and involving voluntary sector organisations to support understanding of the architecture and policy that underpins the wider health and social care economy
- Active dissemination of information and advice to wider voluntary sector, ensuring that voluntary sector organisations are informed and aware of key policy publications and strategies.

- Developing appropriate briefing / information papers, supported by workshops / learning events, that interpret DH, NHS England and Public Health England policy and strategy into a meaningful application for voluntary sector organisations
- Identifying key barriers to voluntary sector engagement and working collaboratively with DH, NHS England and Public Health England to address these
- Informing and awareness raising with DH, NHS England and Public Health England of successful partnerships, activities and projects within the sector that will inform future developments
- Working with DH, NHS England and Public Health England to develop a customer focus through developing volunteering links between DH, NHS England and Public Health England and voluntary sector organisations

Your application should provide examples and evidence of how you have undertaken and delivered this type of activity.



# The application process

This chapter gives guidance on the application process and timescales.

The application process requires applicants to provide:

- evidence that they meet the eligibility criteria for the Strategic Partner Programme (set out in the 'Eligibility' section above)
- evidence of that applicants can to meet the expectations of Strategic Partners (set out in the 'Call for applications' section above)

You may wish to consider contacting us for a verbal discussion if you are considering submitting an application.

## What makes a good application?

A good application:

- is concise
- is relevant to and addresses the requirements of the Strategic Partner Programme;
- is clear about how the organisation will contribute to the DH, NHS England and Public Health England strategic objectives and priorities;
- demonstrates meaningful arrangements for partnership working;
- demonstrates diversity and reach;
- demonstrates how it will ensure equalities issues are an integral part of the project.

## How do I apply?

Applications to the Strategic Partner Programme follow a single stage process although, once successful, applicants will then need to work in partnership with DH, PHE and NHS England to develop an agreed work plan.

You will need to complete the attached application form and submit this, together with the supporting information listed below, by email to [strategic.partners@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:strategic.partners@dh.gsi.gov.uk). Please contact us if this is likely to cause a problem for your organisation.

## Assessing applications

Applications will be assessed against the criteria set out for the Strategic Partner Programme. We may wish to discuss your proposal in more detail using an approach similar to that of a 'competitive dialogue' situation to more clearly understand the options available

We will seek expert advice from within the Department of Health, NHS England and Public Health England.

Any applications that are sent outside the Department will be accompanied by a reminder that they are confidential and should not be discussed with others.

Advice will be provided to Ministers on each application and how it matches up with the criteria and preferences for Ministers to make the decision to fund or not. You should be aware that not all applications that meet the criteria and preferences will be funded. **This is a recruitment process for organisations that can bring a specific expertise and experience to the Programme and our intention is to appoint only one additional partner to the Programme for 2014/15.**

We will provide feedback on all unsuccessful applications linked to the criteria and preferences. We provide this in a constructive way to enable you to review your proposals so you can see where we felt the strengths and weaknesses were in the application.

## What supporting information do I need to supply?

You will need to provide:

- For established organisations:
  - Your last years' annual report and final accounts, unless these are available on the Charity Commission website
  - confirmation that your organisation has equal opportunities and health & safety policies
  - Staffing structure for the organisation and project
  - Your organisations Business Plan, including financial forecasts for 2013-14
  - Copy of Memorandum and Articles of Association or constitution / governing document

In addition, for partnership or consortia applications you would need to provide:

- Details of the partnership or consortia arrangements

- Confirmation from each organisation involved of their commitment to and role in the partnership / consortia
- Details of which organisation would be acting as the lead or accountable body

If you do not have electronic copies of your annual report and final accounts and they are not available through the Charity Commission website you should send hard copies to:

Voluntary Sector Partnerships Team  
Department of Health  
2N14 Quarry House  
Quarry Hill  
Leeds  
LS2 7UE

## Funding

Successful applicants would have access to up to £200,000 for activities and work throughout the year. This will be confirmed as a grant with the work programme being developed and agreed across all the partners appointed and taking into consideration specific priorities that DH, NHS England and PHE identify.

This will be an iterative and developmental process that successful partners will be required to participate in to agree a coordinated and relevant programme of work across partners.

VAT is not payable on these grants as they are generally considered out of scope of VAT as the grant giver (DH) does not receive direct benefit from the grant. The Department of Health cannot advise a grant recipient on whether the activities they will be carrying out with the grant are subject to VAT - the organisation will need to discuss this with HMRC themselves. It could be that while the income (i.e. the grant) is outside the scope of VAT, the activities they are providing may be within scope. If you need to pay VAT on any aspects of the work and it is not recoverable you should include this in the initial costings.

All awards from April 2014 are subject to the approval of budgets as part of business planning for 2014-15 in the autumn, by the Department of Health. The continuation of the 2013-14 Strategic Partner Programme into 2014-15 does not commit the Department of Health to any additional funding of Grant awards from April 2014.

# What happens next?

## Notification of decisions

Decisions and feedback will be sent by e-mail to the address on your application form. We aim to send out all notifications by the end of January 2014. If you have not received notification by then please contact us.

## Appeals

The Strategic Partner Programme is a discretionary scheme and there is no appeal process on decisions made by Ministers.

However, we do recognise that, on occasions, applicants may feel that the application process has not been followed correctly and wish to raise a concern. We treat these requests as complaints and use our complaints procedure. The first stage is 'Informal Resolution' where your initial complaint would be handled by the Voluntary Sector Partnership Team. If you are unhappy with their response you can make a formal complaint to the Voluntary Sector Investment Programme Manager and they will investigate and get back to you with their findings:

Voluntary Sector Investment Programme Manager  
Voluntary Sector Grant Funding Hub  
2N14 Quarry House  
Quarry Hill  
Leeds  
LS2 7UE

If you are unhappy with this response then you can take this further within the Department's complaints procedure by writing to the Head of Customer Service:

Complaints Manager  
Customer Service Centre  
Department of Health  
Richmond House  
79 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2NS

This is a summary of our complaints procedure and full details are available at <http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/ContactUs/ComplaintProcedures/index.htm>

# Summary of conditions of the award

If you are successful you will be sent an award letter, which will reflect principles outlined in the Compact funding and procurement code, detailing the full terms and conditions of the grant. Some of the terms you may wish to know in advance are:

- The terms and conditions must be accepted by a board member - Trustee or Director – or the Chair of the management committee if you are an unincorporated association.
- Year 1 is confirmed and year 2 and 3 amounts are provisional offers subject to approval by Parliament in the budget setting process.
- Grants are restricted funds.
- The grant is recoverable if you do not use it for the purposes intended.
- The grant may not be passed to a third party.
- There is no commitment to any funding after the agreed term of the grant.
- The grant must be identified in your accounts as being from the Department of Health.

## Monitoring and Reporting

Successful organisations under the Strategic Partner Programme will agree at the outset of the arrangements the monitoring and reporting arrangements.

Successful organisations who do not meet the monitoring and reporting arrangements agreed at the outset may risk having future grant payments withheld.

## Other issues to consider

You will not be able to use the DH, NHS or PHE logo on any material produced through a grant from the Fund. You can use 'Produced with funding support from the Department of Health, NHS England or Public Health England' or similar. The statement should not imply that the Department of Health, NHS England or Public Health England has quality assured the Product or endorses the product. If you are a member of the Information Accreditation Scheme you will be able to use their logo to indicate membership of the scheme.

If you are producing material that has Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and/or copyright issues you should address this in your application. We may want to discuss this with you.

# References & background information

## Freedom of Information

The Freedom of Information (FOI) Act gives you the right to see a wide range of public information. For example, you are entitled to see the documents that we used to assess an application for a grant from the Fund. All applications received are covered by the Act and copies will be provided when requested. Unless there is a good reason, we must provide the information within a month. If we decide to withhold information, we must give you the reason. You can find out more about the FOI Act and making a request for information held by the Department of Health at:

<https://www.gov.uk/make-a-freedom-of-information-request/the-freedom-of-information-act>

## Useful Publications and websites:

### NHS England

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/>

### NHS Outcomes Framework 2013 to 2014

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/11/nhs-outcomes-framework/>

### Public Health England

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

### Public Health England's Priorities for 2013/14

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/192676/Our\\_priorities\\_final.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/192676/Our_priorities_final.pdf)

### Public Health Outcomes Framework:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/216159/dh\\_132362.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/216159/dh_132362.pdf)

### Department of Health Business Plan

<http://transparency.dh.gov.uk/tag/business-plan/>

### Care and Support

<http://caringforourfuture.dh.gov.uk/http://caringforourfuture.dh.gov.uk/>

### Modernisation of health and care

<http://healthandcare.dh.gov.uk/>

### Compact Voice – Publications

<http://www.compactvoice.org.uk/resources/publications>

### Fair Society, Healthy Lives (February 2010)

<http://www.instituteofhealthequity.org/projects/fair-society-healthy-lives-the-marmot-review>

## **Equality Objectives 2012-16**

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/04/equality-objectives-2012-16/>

You can download other relevant publications from

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/index.htm>

Please check the DH, NHS England and Public Health England website regularly for updates and forthcoming publications.



# Timetable

10 January (Noon)	Closing date for applications
By end January	Successful Organisations notified
February	Announcement of arrangements for April 2014 Work planning process commences across all partners
April	Final arrangements in place and programme commences delivery

# Annex

## Introduction to the System Partners

### Public Health England

Public Health England (PHE) is as an executive agency of the Department of Health. It was established in April 2013 and it brings together a range of public health organisations and functions into a single body. These include the Health Protection Agency, Public Health Observatories, National Treatment Agency, UK National Screening Committees, Cancer and Non-Cancer Screening Programmes and DH Public Health marketing. At the same time, the statutory duty for health improvement moved from the NHS to local government.

PHE's mission is to protect and improve the nation's health and to address inequalities, working with national and local government, the NHS, industry, academia, the public and the voluntary and community sector.

### Public Health England priorities for 2013-2014

In May 2013 PHE *Our priorities for 2013/14*. *Our priorities* sets out seven priorities for PHE in its first year:

- helping people to live longer and more healthy lives by reducing preventable deaths and the burdens of ill health associated with smoking, high blood pressure, obesity, poor diet, poor mental health, insufficient exercise, and alcohol
- reducing the burden of disease and disability in life by focusing on preventing and recovering from the conditions with the greatest impact, including dementia, anxiety, depression and drug dependency
- protecting the country from infectious diseases and environmental hazards, including the growing problem of infections that resist treatment with antibiotics
- supporting families to give children and young people the best start in life, through working with health visiting and school nursing, family nurse partnerships and the Troubled Families programme
- improving health in the workplace by encouraging employers to support their staff and those moving into and out of the workforce to lead healthier lives

To underpin these outcomes-focused priorities PHE will:

- promote the development of place-based public health systems
- develop its capacity and capability to provide professional, scientific and delivery expertise to its partners

## **NHS England**

NHS England exists to create the culture and conditions for health and care services and staff to deliver the highest standard of care and ensure that valuable public resources are used effectively to get the best outcomes for individuals, communities and society for now and for future generations. We empower and support clinical leaders at every level of the NHS to make genuinely informed decisions. Central to our ambition is to place patients and the public at the heart of everything we do.

In relation to the voluntary sector strategic partner programme, NHS England's priorities for 2013/14 include:

- Equalities and Health Inequalities: sharing and developing knowledge, networks, expertise and experience that connect with and support the Equality and Diversity Council and Health Inequalities programmes of work
- Public engagement and involvement: including large scale public dialogue – ensuring citizen and communities are able to engage and be heard; making the case and hard wiring into the new system
- Lay / Patient Leadership / Citizen Voice: parity of esteem in the health and care system – work that enables and supports people to be involved and able to participate and contribute
- Supporting VCSE networks and organisations to understand and engage with CCG Development & the Clinical Commissioning Assembly networks and groups
- The Constitution: including raising awareness / building understanding of individual rights and responsibilities
- Technology and new enabling approaches: bringing citizen and community expertise and insights to new developments e.g. the Integrated Customer Service Platform; Insight and feedback; e-referral services; and improving access
- Integrated / Coordinated Care – developing approaches that drive both cultural and practical shifts in developing care plans and integrated offers for people who use services.

## **Department of Health**

The Department of Health helps people to live better for longer. It leads, shapes and funds health and care in England, making sure people have the support, care and treatment they need, with the compassion, respect and dignity they deserve.

DH responsibilities are:

- **to lead across health and care** – by creating national policies and legislation, providing the long-term vision and ambition to meet current and future challenges, putting health and care at the heart of government, and being a global leader in health and care policy
- **to support the integrity of the system** – by providing funding, assuring the delivery and continuity of services and accounting to Parliament in a way that represents the best interests of the patient, public and taxpayer
- **to champion innovation and improvement** – by supporting research and technology, promoting honesty, openness and transparency, and instilling a culture that values compassion, dignity and the highest quality of care above everything

DH ensures that the health and care system delivers ministerial priorities.

DH and Ministers priorities for 2014/15 are likely to be a continuation of this year's.

#### **DH Vision - What DH wants to achieve:**

- people have the best possible start to life
- health is protected, wellbeing is promoted and avoidable deaths and diseases are prevented
- people are enabled to live independent and fulfilling lives, and take control of the care they need
- people who are ill or need support receive safe and effective care and are treated with dignity, including at the end of life
- health and care inequalities become a thing of the past

#### **Secretary of State four priorities:**

- **Mortality:** preventing people from dying prematurely by improving mortality rates for the big killer diseases to be the best in Europe, through improving prevention, diagnosis and treatment
- **Care:** improving the standard of care throughout the system so that quality of care is considered as important as quality of treatment, through greater accountability, better leadership, better training and support for staff, tougher, more comprehensive inspections and quality ratings and more attention paid to what patients say
- **Dementia and long term conditions:** improving treatment and care of people with dementia and other long term conditions
- **Technology:** bringing the technology revolution to health and care

Across all of these priorities is the ambition to provide transparent, comparable data, accessible to the public, professionals and commissioners to drive real improvements in performance and outcomes

**Similarly, Minister of State for Care has four fundamental shifts he wishes to drive forward, embedding a health and care system that:**

- prevents, not repairs,
- is integrated, not fragmented,
- is personal, not paternal and
- is inclusive, not exclusive.

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