



## **Memorandum of Understanding between Public Health England and the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health**

### **Introduction**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) sets out the framework for a working relationship between Public Health England (PHE) and the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH). Although not enforceable at law, PHE and CIEH agree to adhere to the principles set out in this MoU and will show proper regard for each other's activities.

### **Roles and responsibilities of PHE and CIEH**

PHE is the expert national public health agency which fulfils the Secretary of State for Health's statutory duty to protect health and address inequalities, and executes his power to promote the health and wellbeing of the nation. PHE has a specialist public health workforce with a wide range of experience and expertise; the Directorate for Health Protection, which includes the Centre for Radiation, Chemical and Environmental Hazards (CRCE), is the established source of expert scientific and technical advice and expertise on all environmental public health issues.

CIEH, a registered charity governed by Royal Charter, is the independent professional body for environmental health practitioners and promotes public health through effective environmental health practice. Three-quarters of its members work either in or for local government as key members of the multidisciplinary public health workforce. PHE recognises the content, processes and quality assurance mechanisms associated with the qualifications, training and continuing professional development of environmental health practitioners as competent for the purpose of advancing public health objectives.

### **Principles of co-operation**

PHE and CIEH agree that the public health system needs the contribution of an effective environmental health workforce at both national and local level. PHE and CIEH have therefore committed to work together to ensure that the environmental health profession and its professional body, CIEH, are able to contribute fully and freely to the work of PHE. In furtherance of this, PHE and CIEH have agreed that:

- CIEH will be a recognised external advisor to PHE on environmental health issues, providing a practitioner and professional body view, and the principal advisor on issues relating to the environmental health profession;
- PHE will use the CIEH as a key conduit for engagement with the environmental health profession in all areas of PHE work. Through its boards, officers, professional networks and stakeholder engagement, CIEH will provide PHE with unbiased professional advice and support on strategic planning and operational engagement with the environmental health profession at all delivery levels, including the port health service;

- along with employers, PHE and CIEH have responsibilities for the development of the environmental health workforce in local government, central agencies and business, and shall work together to enhance and deliver the environmental health capability to support delivery of PHE's objectives; and
- PHE will agree priority workstream engagement with CIEH as part of their work programming.

### **Operation and review of this MoU**

This MoU may be amended at any time by agreement between the two organisations and shall be reviewed by the end of October 2014 in order to inform any changes that might be necessary going forward.

The Chief Executives of PHE and CIEH will meet on a regular basis. Day-to-day business will be managed outside the regular Chief Executive meetings.

### **Signatures**



Duncan Selbie  
**Chief Executive**  
**Public Health England**

Date: 17 October 2013



Graham Jukes  
**Chief Executive**  
**Chartered Institute for Environmental Health**

Date: 17 October 2013