



Department
of Health &
Social Care



Public Health
England

Framework Agreement between the Department of Health and Social Care and Public Health England February 2018

Annex A: Public Health England's statutory functions

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This annex sets out the statutory functions that the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has instructed Public Health England (PHE) to carry out on his behalf:

- Section 2A of the National Health Service Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act") – a duty to take such steps as Secretary of State considers appropriate to protect the health of the public in England
- Section 2B of the 2006 Act – a power to take such steps as the Secretary of State considers appropriate for improving the health of the people of England
- paragraph 12 of Schedule 1 to the 2006 Act – a power to provide a microbiological service in England
- Section 58 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 – a duty to take such steps as the Secretary of State considers appropriate for the purpose of protecting the public in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland from radiation
- Section 1E of the 2006 Act – in so far as this duty relates to the statutory functions performed by PHE a duty to promote research on matters relevant to the health service (including public health), and the use of evidence obtained from research
- paragraph 13 of Schedule 1 to the 2006 Act – a power (also available to NHS England or a clinical commissioning group) to conduct, commission or assist research in relation to public health in order to benefit the NHS
- as a Category 1 responder under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (CCA) in respect of emergency planning, the response and resilience functions for public health. For the avoidance of doubt, these duties under the CCA shall be delegated from the Secretary of State to officials in PHE who are responsible for emergency planning, resilience and response, such that those officers operate as if PHE itself were a category 1 responder under the CCA