

Protecting and improving the nation's health

Summary of changes to the Local Authority Health Profiles, 2019

Rationale for changes

In 2017/18 we undertook several workshops to gain user insight into the use and presentation of the profiles and to inform their development.

The feedback received from the workshops gave us an overarching theme to work on which was "simplification".

We were told:

- the profiles were too technical for most audiences, both in terms of language and content
- the most useful aspects were the text summary of the indicators on the front page and the list of indicators on the back page
- a particularly valuable element to add would be an indication of direction of travel for each indicator
- an annual output is only useful for a limited period

The changes we have made have incorporated these high-level pieces of feedback. However, development of the profiles is an ongoing process and we would welcome your feedback to continue to enhance them via healthprofiles@phe.gov.uk.

Format

The profiles have previously been published as pdf documents. For the 2019 version, we have created the output as an html file. This has the advantages of still being able to be downloaded, shared (e.g. via an email attachment) and printed. Html outputs also enable us to build in formatting which allows optimised display on mobile devices and tablets.

Content

The content of the profiles has been simplified. The profiles contain

1. Introduction and health summary (text)

2. Health summary (indicator data) - This section has been modified from a spine chart to a table of indicators and more closely resembles the "at a glance" summaries produced for the Public Health Outcomes Framework.

Timeliness

We propose to update the profiles as data become available in the source PHE profiles.