

What is Public Health England

Public Health England (PHE) was established on 1 April 2013 to bring together public health specialists from more than 70 organisations into a single public health service.

Our 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.



PHE's mission

We exist to serve the public through the public health system, a system led locally by elected members where responsibility for the public's health sits alongside responsibility for jobs, housing and communities. This system is new – the combination of local government leadership for the public's health supported by an expert national body is a first for England. Our aim is to cement a reputation with local authorities for our credibility and expertise, as the foundation upon which PHE will help the new system to drive transformation.



PHE Key Functions

The Chief Knowledge Officer (CKO) Directorate - aims to deliver an internationally recognised, high performing knowledge and intelligence service encompassing research, statistics and know-how. Taken together, this knowledge will inform and support the practice of public health and drive improvements in the public's health.

The Health and Wellbeing directorate - is designed to save lives, promote wellbeing and create environments that enable individuals, families and communities to be informed, empowered, healthier and more productive.

The Health Protection Directorate - comprises of teams of health protection specialists coordinating services at a local level, a nationally organised integrated epidemiology service based at PHE Colindale and an emergency response department which works to improve the UK's emergency response capability, developing the infrastructure for surveillance and early recognition of events.



PHE Operations Directorate

Operations Directorate – The gateway to all of the above services is provided by a regional structure through which England is divided into four regions in the South, the Midlands, the North and finally London region. This structure is managed at PHE HQ located at Wellington House, Waterloo Road, London.

These regional centres are supported by in total 14 local centres distributed throughout the UK. The location for London Region and Centre is at 151 Buckingham Palace Road, London.

The Operations Directorate is accountable for the delivery of consistent, high-quality services across Public Health England which support local government, NHS commissioners and public health providers and provides support and delivery across the 3 domains of public health specified above with a specific focus on reducing health inequalities.