



## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 000466  
Date            27 September 2016

### ***Public Health***

#### **Request:**

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would be grateful if you would provide me with the following information within 20 working days:

1. Since the transfer of Public Health to Local Authorities in April 2013 have you been continuously employing a Director of Public Health? If not, please provide explain why you have decided not to employ a Director of Public Health;  
[Yes we have been continuously employing a Director of Public Health.](#)
2. If you have employed a Director of Public Health continuously since the transfer of public health to Local Authorities in April 2013, has this been jointly with another local authority? If so please provide the reasons why you decided to share your Director of Public Health with another local authority and confirm the current arrangements for the employment of your Director of Public Health;  
[This has not been jointly with another local authority.](#)
3. Has your Director of Public health been a first-tier officer within your local authority and what has their position been within the executive management structure of your local authority;  
[The Director of Public Health is not a first tier officer within the local authority. The Strategic Director - People reports directly to the Managing Director and sits on the Executive Board. The Director of Public Health reports directly to the Strategic Director - People.](#)
4. On how many occasions since April 2013 have recommendations made formally to your Executive Board by the Director of public health not been approved?  
[Public health is well integrated into the functions of the City of Wolverhampton Council. There have been no instances where the Director of Public Health has not been supported by the Executive Board when presenting recommendations.](#)
5. What is your estimate of total funds needed in your area for mental health services and will you provide a full list of all the mental health services you plan to commission from the funds allocated to your local authority for public health for 2016/17 and 2017/18?  
[Core Mental Health Services for the area are commissioned by Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group \(WCCG\).](#)

However a mental wellbeing needs assessment was completed by Public Health & Wellbeing during 2016/17 which should inform wider commissioning activity around mental health and wellbeing across the health and social care system.

In addition investment of £201,960 in 2016/17 is made from the public health allocation and provides both a young person's counselling service and a community mental wellbeing hub.

6. What is your estimate of total funds needed in your area for sexual health services and will you provide a full list of all the sexual health services you plan to commission from the funds allocated to your local authority for public health for 2016/17 and 2017/18?

The investment in sexual health services in 2016/17 is £3,080,750. An investment strategy for 2017/18 onwards is currently being developed. Local services include an integrated Contraception and Sexual Health (CaSH) and Genitourinary medicine (GUM) service, primary care Intrauterine Device and Implant fitting and removal and Chlamydia/ Gonorrhoea screening, HIV online screening service, community based outreach to vulnerable women at risk of social care proceedings, and out of area access to Wolverhampton residents at other CaSH and GUM services.

7. What is your estimate of total funds needed in your area for smoking cessation and will you provide a full list of all the smoking cessation services you plan to commission from the funds allocated to your local authority for public health for 2016/17 and 2017/18?

The investment in smoking cessation in 2016/17 is £274,390. Staff in other services also support this service i.e. health trainers and school nurses however these costs cannot be disaggregated. An investment strategy for 2017/18 onwards is currently being developed. Local services currently include GP, Pharmacy and community services smoking cessation, schools based education and cessation interventions and targeted work with maternity services via the health trainer team as well as wider community and workplace initiatives.

8. What is your estimate of total funds needed in your area for Child and Adolescent health services, including those aimed at tackling the growing problem of childhood obesity, and will you provide a full list of child and adolescent services you plan to commission from the funds allocated to your local authority for public health for 2016/17 and 2017/18?

The investment in Child and Adolescent health services in 2016/17 is approx. £5,878,890. An investment strategy for 2017/18 onwards is currently being developed. Local services currently include Health visiting and school nursing, hospital based screening and referral targeted at young people presenting with mental health and violence related issues, children's diet and physical activity programmes and healthy start to life interventions with parents.

9. Please provide a full list of all the public health services you anticipate that you will be able to fund from the funds allocated to your local authority for 2016/17 and 2017/18; and do you expect to have adequate resources to meet local need in all of the aforementioned areas of public health?

In 2016 17 local services funded by public health include;

**Specialist**

Sexual health  
Drug and alcohol treatment  
Tuberculosis  
Infection prevention  
School nursing (inc. national child measurement programme)  
Health visiting  
Hospital liaison and diversion (Young People)  
Young Peoples Counselling

**Primary Care**

Smoking Cessation & Nicotine replacement therapy  
Sexual health, contraception and sexually transmitted infection screening  
Needle exchange  
Opiate substitution prescribing  
Health checks  
Supervised consumption (opiate substitution)

**Healthy Lifestyles**

Health trainers/specialist health trainers  
Weight management adult and young people  
Schools programmes – smoking, diet and physical activity

**Wider determinants**

Healthy start – Breastfeeding and vitamin distribution  
Water fluoridation  
Advice agencies  
Refugee and migrant support service

2017/18 and future funding will depend on the outcome of ongoing financial planning exercises, which may potentially change the service portfolio. The financial planning exercises will take account of local need and the ongoing financial challenges. Mandated services and areas of focus include the healthy child programme, health protection (Tuberculosis and Infection prevention), drugs and alcohol, lifestyle interventions focused on increasing healthy life expectancy and sexual health.