

# Public health reform

## Update

March 2018



# Introduction

Welcome to the first update from the public health reform programme team. This is the first in a series of briefings covering all things public health reform, including the development of public health priorities and a new national public health body for Scotland.

In this briefing, we introduce the programme team, set out the vision for reform and provide an update on progress and next steps in establishing public health priorities for Scotland. The update also describes our work to establish a new public health body for Scotland and the areas the team will focus on over the coming months.

## Message from Marion Bain and Eibhlin McHugh, Co-Directors, Executive Delivery Group

The public health reform programme is a jointly led collaboration between national and local government and brings together colleagues from the Scottish Government, Local Government and NHS Scotland.

The aspiration is to create a public health system fit for the future and equipped to respond to the complex challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. This is an exciting opportunity for us all. We are ambitious in what we are aiming to achieve for the public's health and we want partners to share in that ambition and help shape its delivery.

There will be opportunities for partners from across local and national government, public sector, private sector, third sector and communities to play a role in creating a new body consistent with the ambitions for improving the public's health.

There is much to do and we will work proactively with partners across Scotland to deliver a reform programme that builds on the evidence of what works in improving the public's health, is future focused and puts communities at the heart of reform.

We look forward to working closely with you over the months ahead to deliver the reform programme and realising this aspiration for Scotland's health.

## Meet the Team



Marion Bain, Executive Director



Eibhlin McHugh, Executive Director



## Meet the Team



Robert Skey, Programme Director



Amanda Trolland, Programme Manager



Asif Ishaq, Public Health Priorities lead



Colin Sumpter, Public Health Specialty Registrar

## Vision for public health reform

The vision for the public health reform programme is “a Scotland where everybody thrives”. The ambition is for Scotland to be a world leader in improving the public’s health.

The reform programme is being led in partnership by Scottish Government and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), but our ambition for Scotland cannot be achieved by any one body or organisation alone.

It will require the combined efforts of partners from across the public, private and third sectors and importantly, from within local communities as well. Our focus will be working with partners to improve the public’s health through a stronger focus on early intervention and preventing illness. Shared public health priorities for Scotland will be the first key milestone of our reform programme.

## Scotland’s public health priorities

The priorities will be developed through a process of engagement with national and local stakeholders and will be the foundation to deliver the wider reform ambitions. Engagement to date has included external stakeholder events in Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Glasgow with participants from local government, NHS boards, third sector and community organisations contributing. Similar events were also held for staff from the national bodies responsible for public health intelligence, health protection and health improvement.

Over 500 individuals participated in the events and contributed to developing the criteria being used to assess potential priorities and put forward their own suggested priorities for consideration. A big thank you to everyone who came along.

We are now collating feedback from this first phase of engagement. Along with evidence from other sources, the feedback will be reviewed by an expert group who will recommend a final set of priorities we believe can deliver real progress. These priorities will be considered by an oversight board in April 2018 before final agreement by Scottish Ministers and COSLA leaders in advance of being published in spring 2018.

Thereafter, the next phase of our engagement will increasingly focus on building consensus, endorsement and commitment from partners across Scotland, to take forward collaborative action, nationally and locally, in support of the new priorities.

# Establishing a new public health body

Parallel with work on establishing public health priorities, the focus of the programme team over recent months has been developing the overall 'blueprint' for reform and related programme management arrangements. A programme board has been established to authorise the key tasks and activities required to create the new public health body and the means by which it will support national and local partners. The next task the programme team will take forward is the formal commissioning of work to inform the design of the new body.

These commissions are the building blocks for the new body and will be collaborative from the outset, co-led by organisations from across the wider public sector and with the right expertise to help us design the future. There is also a requirement for the lead organisations to engage with stakeholders in delivery of the commissioned work. A summary of the first suite of commissions is set out below.

<b>Commission</b>	<b>Lead Organisations</b>
<b>Improving health</b>	Health Scotland (HS) / Integration Joint Board Chief Officers Group (IJBCOG)
<b>Protecting health</b>	National Services Scotland (NSS) / Scottish Directors of Public Health
<b>Health and social care public health</b>	NSS / Health Service Public Health Group / Improvement Service (IS) / IJBCOG
<b>Underpinning data &amp; intelligence</b>	NSS / HS / IS
<b>Leadership for public health research</b>	Facilitated workshops undertaken by Scottish Public Health Network (ScotPHN)

An update on these and planned future commissions will be included in future briefings, along with further information on the programme board, details of a new website for public health reform and an update on Scotland's public health priorities, including details of how you can help support their launch and further engagement. In the meantime, if you have any specific questions you would like us to answer, please get in touch using the details below.

## Meet the Team



Mark McAllister,  
Communication lead



Steven Manson, Policy  
Adviser



Aneta Kubik, Business  
and Policy Support Officer

### Get in touch:

Follow us @phrscot or email [publichealthreform@gov.scot](mailto:publichealthreform@gov.scot)