

CORE OFFER BUDGET FOR PUBLIC HEALTH ADVICE / NHS CORE OFFER

WHY DOES THE COUNCIL HAVE TO PROVIDE THIS SERVICE AND WHAT DOES IT NEED TO COVER?

Public Health Advice including the NHS Core Offer is a mandated service through regulation. Section 12 Health and Social Care Act 2012 outlines duty for all upper-tier and unitary local authorities in England to take appropriate steps to improve the health of the people who live in their areas. This is underpinned by a number of regulations which impose a service of public health duties on the council.

Section 30 of the 2012 Act requires each upper-tier local authority, acting jointly with the Secretary of State, to appoint a director of public health who has to be 'qualified and competent', whose role is integral to the new duties for health improvement and health protection. The Director of Public Health has specific statutory duties and responsibilities which include:-

- the new health improvement duties that this Act would place on local authorities;
- the exercise of any public health functions of the Secretary of State which the Secretary of State requires the local authority to exercise by regulations under section 6C of the NHS Act;
- any Public Health activity undertaken by the local authority under arrangements with the Secretary of State;
- local authority functions in relation to planning for, and responding to, emergencies that present a risk to Public Health;
- the local authority role in co-operating with police, probation and prison services in relation to assessing risks of violent or sexual offenders; and,
- other public health functions that the Secretary of State may specify in regulations (e.g. functions in relation to making representations about the grant of a license to use premises for the supply of alcohol).
- Duty to have regard to guidance: Public Health Outcomes Framework
- Responsibility for dental services and services for prisoners
- Responsibility for sexual health services
- provide information and advice about health improvement to local residents
- Provide Public Health advice to Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group
- have a particular focus on ensuring disadvantaged groups receive the attention they need, with the aim of reducing health inequalities.
- ensure that providers have appropriate clinical governance arrangements in place that are equivalent to NHS standards
- The Director of Public Health requires the support of specialist Public Health resources with access to adequate information and evidence functions in relation to the size and relative needs of the local population.

The Core Offer Budget also provides:-

- Access to a specialist team of Infection Control Nurses through contractual arrangements with the local Clinical Commissioning Groups in County Durham and Darlington and Durham County Council.

- Contributes to the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) along with other neighbouring authorities and the NHS.

HOW DOES THE CORE OFFER BUDGET MEET THE COUNCIL'S OBLIGATIONS?

The Core Offer Budget ensures that the Director of Public Health is able to discharge these statutory duties through the provision of a trained and qualified Public Health workforce which is competent to provide advice and support in all aspects required to ensure the Council's Public Health obligations are met.

DOES THIS DIFFER FROM THE CURRENT SERVICE?

Yes the Core Offer is different from the current Service.

Currently the Director of Public Health is supported in discharging these statutory duties by a Specialist Public Health team which includes:-

- Public Health Principal (Specialist)
- Public Health Portfolio Lead (Practitioner)
- Public Health Business Officer

The Director is also currently supported by a specialist Drug and Alcohol and Tobacco Commissioning team specifically in those areas of responsibility related to Drug and Alcohol treatment, rehabilitation and prevention. This includes:-

- DAAT Joint Commissioning Unit Manager
- Recovery & Reintegration Manager
- Finance and Business Support Officers

The Director of Public Health also has access to highly specialised Public Health advice including Public Health Medicine, pharmaceutical and epidemiological analysis through the Tees Valley Public Health Shared Service provided by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council.

The **Core Offer** would comprise of a single team :-

- The Director of Public Health
- Public Health Principal (Specialist)
- Public Health Portfolio Lead (Practitioner)
- Public Health Business Officer
- Data Analyst (Shared with People's Service)

The Director of Public Health will access highly specialised Public Health advice including Public Health Medicine, pharmaceutical, infection control and specialised epidemiology through procurement arrangements.

WHAT IS THE CORE BUDGET MADE UP OF?

By 2019/20 the core budget of £459,823 will include:-

- £364,212 - Specialist Public Health Team
- £31,700 – highly specialised Public Health support budget
- £46,581 – Infection Control Nurses
- £3,230 – contribution to Local Resilience infrastructure
- £14,100 - Overheads

