

## Shared Services Portfolio – Public Health

6 June 2016

### **Background**

As you will recall, the 2015 Public Health Review in Scotland concluded that the current configuration for the public health function needs to change to meet the both current and future demands on population health and fit within the changing public sector landscape. Several areas were suggested for improvement.

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Health/Healthy-Living/Public-Health-Review>

In making the recommendation, the Public Health Review identified that the work of exploring options for how this was to be achieved should be carried forward by the NHS Scotland Shared Services Health Portfolio in which public health was an identified area of work.

The Shared Service Portfolio for Public Health (SSP-PH), which was paused to allow the Public Health Review to complete its work, is now progressing the work of generating possible options, with a specific focus on the domains of public health and the specific functions undertaken within domains.

### **Governance**

The NHS Scotland Shared Services Portfolio (SSP) provides the overall governance structure for this work. There are a number of specific governance bodies though, ultimately, the SSP reports to the NHS Board Chief Executives.

The SSP-PH is led by Mahmood Adil, Director, PHI, NSS, supported by the Scottish Public Health Network, on behalf of the Scottish Directors of Public Health. A Professional Advisory Group (PAG) has been established to guide and provide advice within the three domains of public health (health improvement, health protection and health services) and the underpinning domain of (public) health intelligence.

At this time, the major focus of the SSP-PH is to produce options for how we could provide public health functions differently. If the identified options are considered sufficiently realistic and robust, then the SSP-PH will secure an 'Initial Agreement' for costed Business Case Options to be developed for presentation to the NHS Shared Services Portfolio (via the Health Portfolio) in September 2016.

In developing these options, the SSP-PH project group is seeking to engage widely with all those involved in public health and pose specific questions on how the public health function can be delivered through a 'best for Scotland' approach. The following actions are being taken forward:

1. material related to function that was obtained through the Public Health Review will be further analysed. The SSP-PH are clear that they do not

wish to repeat the PHR, this reanalysis will allow stakeholders to look more closely at the detail provided to the review;

2. project leads will discuss the overall approach and set the scene for capturing stakeholder views on the public health function on which options would be developed. This will seek to cover as many stakeholders as possible between May and July 2016.
3. possible options for planning and delivering public health functions differently will be developed using tools derived from the functional service standards for public health in Scotland that was developed and validated by ScotPHN on behalf of the SDsPH. This will start in now in early June 2016 and continue to the end of July 2016;
4. costed business case options will be developed in conjunction with the PAG for discussion at event(s) with stakeholders in August and September 2016 (CoSLA, Verity House, 19 Haymarket Yards, Edinburgh). Further stakeholder meetings will be arranged if needed.