



Public Health
England



Duncan Selbie
Chief Executive

Friday message

1 February 2013

Dear everyone

It is with great pleasure that I can confirm the completion of our National Executive Team with the [appointment](#) of Dr Jenny Harries as Regional Director for the South of England. Jenny will take up post full time in April.

Our Chief Operating Officer Richard Gleave and the Regional Directors this week led a discussion with colleagues from Local Government, the NHS Commissioning Board and the wider public health system to consider together how to ensure that our “Go Live” on 1 April is as safe as possible and to agree on ways of working that are most likely to succeed as we go forward. The extent to which everyone shared the same vision and values was really encouraging and this common purpose will be exceptionally powerful. Working together in an environment of unfettered ambition, mutuality, collaboration and partnership will be the hallmark of the new public health system.

I was delighted to join Sir David Nicholson on Tuesday in launching the [Consultation](#) for the Sustainable Development Strategy for the NHS, Public Health System and for Social Care. What really impressed me was the powerful impact we can make by harnessing the synergies across the entire health and care system. This will enable us to do so much to reduce our impact on the environment as well as the burden of ill-health both now and in the future, especially where the threats to health – in particular unemployment, families, friends, safe and secure communities – fall most heavily on those often least able to cope. It is very important that all parts of the public health system respond to the consultation before 31 May.

Another important event was the opportunity for our national team to meet our counterparts at the Royal Society for Public Health, led by their President Dr Fiona Sim and Chief Executive Professor Richard Parish. We share many areas of interest and look forward to our working together. The RSPH has an enviable track record in making practical contributions that count on the ground.

PHE has recently led a major piece of work to develop a coherent [public health surveillance strategy](#) for England. Our staff in knowledge and intelligence, health protection, and health improvement, together with our many partners, have pooled their expertise in the production of this seminal work. The value of this approach has been recognised internationally. It is an early and good example of the benefits to come through integrating disease registration, health protection and the wider public health services.

And finally, work gets under way on Monday on the refurbishment of the main entrance to Wellington House, a much needed and long overdue improvement. This will, though, involve some inconvenience, with people having to use a temporary entrance at the back and I wanted to let you know and to ask for your further forbearance.

With best wishes