

Public Health England

Friday message



Duncan Selbie
Chief Executive Designate

19 October 2012

Dear everyone

I know that everything on HR is taking so much longer than anyone originally imagined. I do understand how difficult it is to have to wait when we all want to bring the uncertainties to a close. However everything is now starting to fall into place and I want to share some progress:

- We are well under way in identifying staff who will transfer in “lift and shift” functions or slot into posts. This is confirming that most people will transfer to PHE in their current role. We expect to let “sender organisations” know the outcome in early November so that they can confirm to their individual staff that they have a post in PHE;
- The job descriptions for the posts in the new screening and immunisation structure are now “out” for matching. I am very grateful to all those who have been so patient in waiting for these; and
- The Centre Director and Regional Director “profiles” will be published next week and appointment panels will be held in November.

We have publicly committed that staff who transfer into PHE will do so on existing terms. The outstanding question which we have to resolve is about the pension arrangements which we can offer the different groups of staff coming into the Civil Service from each of the various sender organisations. More on this to follow as soon as we can. For all new staff, and those existing staff who take on new roles, we have developed proposals on new terms and conditions that are PHE-specific and we are in discussion with staff side about these in the normal way.

I am very glad to say we are close to completing the appointments to our new national team. Dr Paul Cosford becomes Director of Health Protection and Professor John Newton our Chief Knowledge Officer. Our Director of Strategy will be Jonathan Marron, Sally Warren becomes Director of Programmes, Lis Birrane Director of Communications, Richard Gleave Chief Operating Officer and Tony Vickers-Byrne Director of Human Resources (see attached document for their biographies). The Director of Health Improvement and Population Health will be confirmed next week. Dr Tony Sannia, Director of Finance and Resources for the transition, will be retiring in the early summer of 2013. We will be advertising a new role, leading on finance and our commercial activities shortly. Our professional leader for nursing will be Viv Bennett who is also the Director of Public Health Nursing for the Department of Health. That we have attracted people of such high calibre should give everyone confidence that Public Health England is open for business.

Finally, PHE will begin its work in shadow form in early January as we prepare for taking on full statutory responsibility in April. I am giving my full personal attention to resolving the remaining issues on terms and conditions in order to have these settled well before then.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Duncan Selbie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.