



HEALTHY LIVES, HEALTHY PEOPLE FUNDING AND COMMISSIONING ROUTES FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

COMMENTS FROM THE FACULTY OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

We support the proposal that public health departments in local authorities should take responsibility for workplace health. We suggest that in performing this role, they will need input from practitioners with expertise in occupational health. This could come through inclusion of occupational physicians and other occupational health professionals in public health teams, or by commissioning input from external contractors in NHS Plus or in the private sector. It will be important also to maintain close liaison with local HSE inspectors.

In response to Question 3 (Section 2.17), we suggest that NHS commissioning and local provision of healthcare should be reviewed as part of the Director of Public Health's annual report, production of which should be a statutory duty. In addition, public health professionals with expertise in health services should routinely provide input to commissioning bodies.

**Faculty of Occupational Medicine
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