

Public Health

Cabinet Member: Councillor Stockman

Responsible Officer: Caroline Dimond

Public Health

Since 1 April 2013, Torbay Council has been responsible for some of the legal duties to improve the health of the local population. Others are the responsibility of Public Health England which is a Government agency that oversees national public health programmes such as national immunisation programmes.

The Public Health Team works closely with different departments within Torbay Council – specifically Adult Social care Commissioning with whom Public health now forms part of an integrated joint Commissioning Team. It also works alongside NHS Devon Torbay Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), representatives of NHS England, statutory and non-statutory service providers and voluntary groups to create as integrated an approach as possible to improve the health of Torbay residents. In all it does, the Public Health Team seeks to ensure the health needs of disadvantaged communities and vulnerable groups within the area are addressed and there is due consideration made to addressing inequalities in health. The aim is to improve the health of all people, but improving the health of the poorest, fastest.

This includes prescribed functions such as sexual health, public health advice and health checks. Income includes wider grant contributions for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to support substance misuse (drugs and alcohol) treatment services. Non prescribed functions include substance misuse, stop smoking, obesity and physical activity and also commissioning 0-19 service for families and young people (including Health Visitors and school nurses). Public Health also has responsibility for funding Community Development infrastructure organisation.