

## UK Public Health Register says Simon Stevens can rely on England's regulated public health workforce

Simon Stevens' plan for decisive action to transform care to ensure the NHS remains effective and sustainable has the backing of the public health regulator. UKPHR says that the professionals it registers have the competence and the appetite to help NHS England meet its ambitions set out in the NHS Five Year Forward View, published today.

Chair of the UKPHR's Board Professor Bryan Stoten welcomes the up-front emphasis on prevention and public health:

“Public health teams know how to tackle some of the root causes of ill-health with interventions soundly based on evidence of effectiveness. Their trademark is going “upstream” to address the causes of ill-health and in doing so reducing the demand on acute healthcare services going forward.

“Professionals we regulate already work to reduce major health risks related to tobacco, obesity and alcohol, for example. They know that wider social causes of ill-health also need to be confronted and they know also that to do this work effectively they have to work in an integrated way with their health and social care partners and with communities.

“Good public health practice is important for every citizen and every community because good health and wellbeing is fundamental to a fair and strong society.

“We regulate public health practice in order to provide public protection. We find that employers of public health professionals, and this includes local authorities and the NHS, trust the standards of the workforce we assure.”