



**Isle of Man**  
**Government**

*Reilrys Eilan Vannin*



# Public Health Isle of Man

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OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES 2023 – 2024

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# Who are Public Health Isle of Man?

## Our vision for Public Health Isle of Man

*We will work together to make the Isle of Man a place where our community can achieve optimum health and wellbeing with fewer inequalities.*

## The role of Public Health Isle of Man

Public health is the specialty that works in the space between traditional health services and the socioeconomic, cultural and environmental factors of everyday life which make up the wider determinants of health.

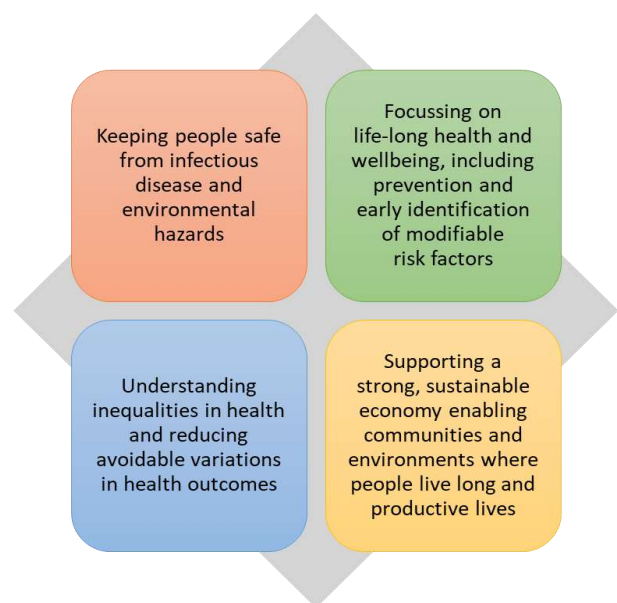
Public Health Isle of Man has a key role in helping to guide all Departments and others through the consideration of their policy making and delivery of public health priorities for the benefit of the wider population.

It provides impartial advice and guidance across Government and non-Government bodies and to members of the public, promoting and co-ordinating health and wellbeing across the Island to help improve the quality of life and reduce the demand on health and care services in the future.

It maintains formal links with the UK and other Public Health counterparts and monitors emerging threats to public health, recommending approaches to manage these which align with international practice and ensuring that, as far as is possible, advice given remains politically neutral.

Public Health Isle of Man sits within the Cabinet Office following Sir Jonathan Michael's recommendation that a centralised location puts Public Health in the best position to achieve its priorities, which are vital to Government and the Isle of Man as a whole in the long term.

A more detailed overview of the various areas of Public Health in the Isle of Man are set out in Appendix B.



# Why do we aim to improve health and wellbeing?

## Our Island Plan

There is a natural association between Public Health Isle of Man, and the priority in Our Island Plan to achieve 'An Island of Health and Wellbeing'. Public Health on the Isle of Man has a role in protecting and improving the health and wellbeing of its residents at population level. By definition this also requires a focus on reducing health inequity through the organised efforts of society.

The actions required by Public Health to support the delivery of Our Island Plan are not therefore limited to a single health and wellbeing priority, and instead span across all five of the key priorities in the Island Plan, which are shown below.



## The wider determinants of health

We know that at a population level clinical care is responsible for only around 20% of health; 80% is derived from the wider determinants of health.

To improve health in a population it is necessary to think beyond the traditional boundaries of healthcare to focus on our everyday activities and wider environment.

Our Island, like many other countries, faces challenges in protecting and improving the health and wellbeing of our population.

While life expectancy has increased, for many people that includes a significant period toward the end of life living with reduced health.

We know from local and international evidence that we have inequities in health and wellbeing in our population and these will be related to socio-economic, cultural and environmental and social, community and lifestyle factors and values.

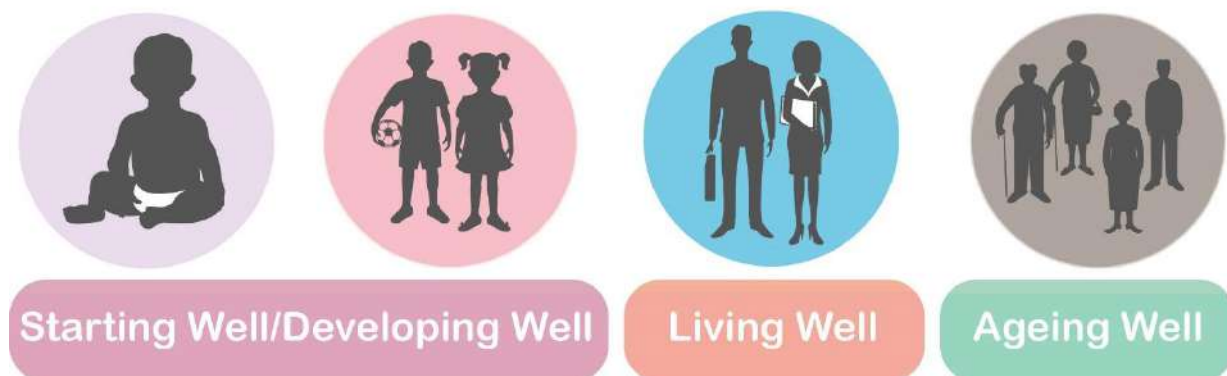


We have some data on the pattern of health and wellbeing, which is being used to inform Joint Strategic Needs Assessments to enable us to understand the pattern of deprivation on the Island, and provide advice on the targeting of effective interventions to ameliorate these effects.

Using this model of the wider determinants of health in working across government and communities we can improve outcomes at every stage of the life course.

We also need to take actions now that may not show full benefit until future generations. By focusing on improving wellbeing in all ages, and by learning more about the causes of inequity in our population, we can start to address these gaps.

Achieving better health and wellbeing is a long journey. These actions will take time to see results, and so our Public Health ambitions need to reflect a long-term approach. Our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment focus on starting well and ageing well, as indicated in the diagram below.



## Sir Jonathan's Michael's report

The work of Public Health Isle of Man is heavily influenced by the recommendations made in the April 2019 report of Independent review of the Isle of Man Health and Social Care system by Sir Jonathan Michael<sup>1</sup>.

This review provided an opinion on the status of the Island's health and social care services and made a number of recommendations for how these services may be improved.

In addition to highlighting the importance of considering Public Health in long term policy making, the report made a number of recommendations that were identified as being relevant to Public Health Isle of Man.

Independent Review of the Isle of Man Health and Social Care System

*"THERE IS CLEAR BENEFIT TO TAKING A LONG TERM PUBLIC HEALTH VIEW IN GOVERNMENT POLICY MAKING."*

Sir Jonathan Michael

<sup>1</sup> [GD 2019/0021](#).

# What do we aim to deliver?

## Our operational priorities

This documents sets out the operational priorities for Public Health Isle of Man over the next two years, within available resources.

These have been developed having regard to the drivers for improving public health on the Island, and policy commitments arising from Tynwald debates and motions.

Some of these priorities can be delivered within the existing Public Health Isle of Man budget, while others would require additional resources to allow full implementation.

These operational priorities have been organised around 3 overlapping themes linked to the Cabinet Office Plan:

- **Public Health functions**

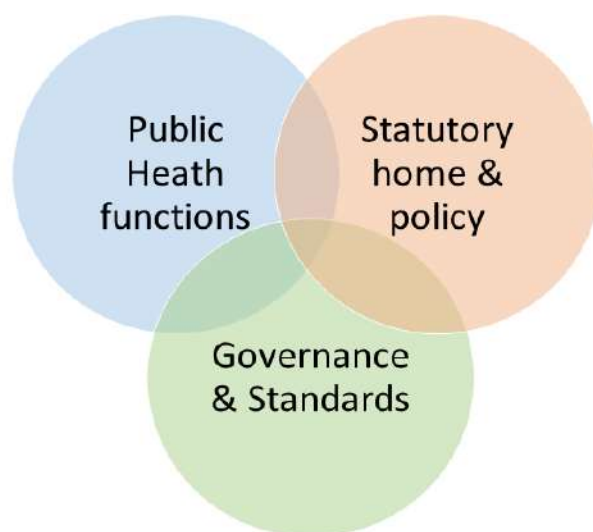
Delivery of existing strategies and programmes across Isle of Man Government.

- **Statutory home & policy**

Improvements to Public Health related legislation and policy.

- **Governance and Standards**

Developing and supporting public health standards in the Island.



Each theme sets out:

- Operational priorities to be achieved;
- Actions required to achieve these operational priorities;
- Timeframes for these actions;
- Current RAG status of those actions; and
- Notes on that status.

A new Director of Public Health will be appointed in the coming months and the plan will require review at that point. The priorities have been agreed in the context of significant financial pressures and a need to ensure cost savings measures as a result of a baseline 63% cut in the public health non-staff budget for 2023-24. This has resulted in the disinvestments summarised in Appendix D.

## Our publications

The collation and analysis of public health data and information is an important part of the work of the Public Health Directorate. The anticipated release dates for reports based on this work is set out in Appendix A for information and ease of reference.

# Operational priorities 2023 – 2024

## Public Health functions

Priority	Action	Resourcing	Timescale	Current RAG	Status Notes
Improve and protect public health and wellbeing through a series of strategic programmes	1. Support implementation of the Suicide Prevention Strategy and Action Plan	Resources and requirements as per action plan	Q4 2027		Strategy launched and implementation plan drafted
	2. Progress relevant Public Health recommendations arising from the SAPRC report on Oral Health within Children including an updated Oral Health Strategy incl. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fluoride research paper and report</li> <li>• Amalgamated implementation strategies with PH responsible for overall oral and dental health strategy</li> <li>• Options and implementation of an awareness campaign for home oral health</li> <li>• Relaunch of Smile of Mann programme and review after one year</li> <li>• Review of strategies to help overcome children’s fear of dentists</li> </ul>	Very limited resources.  Actions will be subject to options appraisal to explore delivery against different resource envelopes.	Q4 2024		Governance arrangements in development



Priority	Action	Resourcing	Timescale	Current RAG	Status Notes
	3. Work with stakeholders to develop the annual winter plan for the coming year, including systems of epidemiological surveillance to ensure rapid response to emerging concerns	Limited resources	Q3 2023		Planning underway
	4. Recover smoking cessation support services to pre-pandemic levels and expand community outreach clinics to improve accessibility and convenience for clients	Very limited resources	Q4 2023		Service analysis underway
Strengthen systems to protect the public from threats and hazards to health and wellbeing	5. Work with the Department of Home Affairs, Emergency Planning Unit to assess risk assess, plan, test and exercise emergency response to public health threats, including pandemic preparedness through the creation of a respiratory pandemic plan, and public health response to all major incidents	Resourced	Q3 2023		



Priority	Action	Resourcing	Timescale	Current RAG	Status Notes
	6. Contribute public health input to assessment of environmental factors with potential risk to public health including working to support the Environmental Health Department with surveillance of Radon and air quality	Resourced	Q4 2023		
	7. Work with stakeholders to improve and ensure best practice in health protection and prevention via Health Protection Committee, Immunisation Committee and Screening Services etc.	Resourced	Q4 2023		
Through the national JSNA programme identify the Island's strategic health and wellbeing priorities	8. Annual JSNA work programme approved	Limited resources	Q2 2023		Approval process underway
	9. Production of JSNA products relating to Starting Well/Developing Well/Ageing Well Chapters (Island Plan: Starting Well and Developing Well in Childhood)	Limited resources	Q2 2023		Underway

## Statutory home & policy

Priority	Action	Resourcing	Timescale	Current RAG	Status Notes
Work across Government to promote and co-ordinate health and wellbeing across the Island and to facilitate a model of co-operation	1. Pursuant to recommendation 9 of the Sir Jonathan Michael report, develop and introduce a health policy assessment tool to factor public health guidance into policy setting and legislation across Government	Resourced	Q3 2023		Underway  Draft self-assessment (HIAP) tool developed
	2. Work with Department of Infrastructure and other stakeholders to pursue ways to encourage people to travel in an active way through collaborative work on the travel strategy	Limited resources	Q4 2024		Initial meeting with DOI undertaken, further work would be subject to funding
	3. Deliver on the Public Health owned recommendations of the Tynwald Committee Reports on Mental Health & Suicide	Resourced	Q3 2023		Public Health actions have been addressed through the Suicide Prevention Strategy. See the Implementation Plan for details
	4. Contribute public health input if requested on recommendations made under the Population Rebalancing Select Committee	Limited resources	Q4 2024		Under exploration

Priority	Action	Resourcing	Timescale	Current RAG	Status Notes
	5. Develop early intervention strategies for health and social issues, child health and mental health	Limited resources	Q3 2024		Scoping work underway to develop a plan for this objective
Introduce legislation to place Public Health functions on a statutory basis	6. Oversee, consult, publish, and implement upon a Public Health (Vaping Products) Bill 2023	Resourced	Q4 2023		Good progress
	7. Update the Health Protection (Notification) Amendment Regulations 2022 to strengthen the control and prevention of the spread of contamination and infectious diseases	Resourced	Q3 2023		Draft Regulations developed
	8. Oversee, consult and publish Public Health (Functions) Bill Policy principles	Resourced	Q4 2023		Early draft developed
	9. Scope the regulatory landscape and agree areas of regulatory responsibility with DHSC, including medical devices, clinical trials and vaping related products	Resourced	Q2 2024		Planning underway

## Governance & Standards

Priority	Action	Resourcing	Timescale	Current RAG	Status Notes
Maintain good governance around the functions of Public Health	1. Review delegation from DHSC to ensure it is fit for purpose	Resourced	Q1 2023		Up to date with ongoing review
	2. Set and maintain governance standards, improve health and social care research quality, and safeguard the public by supporting the Isle of Man Research Ethics Committee.	Resourced	Q2 2023		New Chair for Committee recruited. Member recruitment underway.
	3. Implement a knowledge management and information governance plan to ensure ongoing good stewardship of data and information.	Limited resources	Q4 2023		Underway
Continue working with DHSC to advise on public health delivery programmes delivered by Manx Care through the mandate and create mechanisms for assurance	4. Identify key areas of strategic focus and priority for the 2024/25 mandate	Resourced	Annual Review		Approach to 2024/25 mandate jointly agreed with DHSC and Manx Care and meetings to be scheduled by DHSC
	5. Build links with DHSC Clinical Advisors to ensure effective communication	Limited resources	Q3 2023		Significant requirement for new Chief Medical Officer function of DPH role

Priority	Action	Resourcing	Timescale	Current RAG	Status Notes
Champion policy that is intelligence driven and evidence led	6. Scope approaches to making knowledge transfer available to ensure best evidence and evidence of effectiveness are made available to all decision makers	Limited resources	Q1 2024		Underway
	7. Develop tools and frameworks to help people analyse information robustly and consistently	Limited resources	Q3 2023		Future action
	8. Undertake training on the HEAT tool and use with stakeholders to ensure the consideration of health inequalities in the work of Government	Resourced	Q3 2023		
Ensure a professional, credible and resilient workforce within Public Health	9. Support staff to participate in United Kingdom Public Health Register (UKPHR) programme for professional accreditation	Limited resources	Ongoing		Subject to Organisational Development Review
	10. Ensure that staff receive the necessary qualifications and training to undertake their role effectively	Limited resources	Ongoing		Subject to Organisational Development Review

# Appendix A

## Public Health Isle of Man publications – estimated release dates

	Delivery
January	Winter Surveillance Report, Mortality dataset
February	Winter Surveillance Report
March	Winter Surveillance Report, Mortality Report
April	PHOF update, JSNA Reports
May	Cancer Report & dataset
June	Abortion Statistics Report
July	Health Protection Profile
August	
September	Wider Determinants of Health, DPH Annual Report
October	Winter Surveillance Report
November	Winter Surveillance Report
December	Winter Surveillance Report

# Appendix B

## Areas of responsibility for Public Health Isle of Man





# Appendix C

## Recommendations of the Sir Jonathan Michael's report relevant to Public Health Isle of Man

### **Recommendation 8:**

Primary and/or secondary legislation should be introduced as required, and included in the legislative programme as soon as possible, in order to form a modern, comprehensive legislative framework. This legislation should address weaknesses or gaps in the current system as well as enabling the implementation of the recommendations contained in this Report, such as any necessary legislation to establish Manx Care.

### **Recommendation 9:**

The Public Health Directorate should be empowered to provide advice and guidance across Government, not solely to the DHSC. It should promote and co-ordinate health and wellbeing across the Island to help improve the quality of life and reduce the demand on health and care services in the future. All Departments should be required to factor public health guidance into policy setting and legislation. In order to facilitate this, the Public Health Directorate should be moved to a position in the Cabinet Office.

### **Recommendation 21:**

Ensure data sharing protocols and arrangements are reviewed, agreed and implemented in accordance with the Information Commissioner's regulations and guidance.

### **Recommendation 22:**

The development and delivery of the digital strategy should go further and faster to ensure the comprehensive capture, sharing and use of information. This would enable greater integration across the system, improved monitoring and enhanced delivery of quality and efficiency-related information.

### **Recommendation 23:**

A core data set is essential for the management and assessment of services and should be established without delay.

### **Recommendation 24:**

The systematic capture of accurate data should be a priority for the Island's health and care services

## Appendix D: Areas of disinvestment for 2023-24, to address baeline budget reductions

<b>Area of public health practice and delivery</b>	<b>Impact of disinvestment</b>	<b>Funding requested above provisional baseline</b>
<b>Healthy Weight</b>		
Weight Watchers contract	Cancelation of contract	£20,000 (SDIL)
Weight management/ obesity strategy	Removal of work on programmes such as Healthy Food and Activity Scheme which aim to fulfil the aims of the weight management strategy and reduce inequalities	£40,000 (SDIL)
Baby friendly accreditation	Removal of accreditation by the International standard	£20,000 (SDIL)
Active Travel	Reduced support to active travel initiatives	£10,000 (SDIL)
<b>Oral Health</b>		
Oral Health strategy (programme implementation costs)	Option appraisal is underway	£24,000 (£10,000 of which SDIL)
<b>Smoking Cessation</b>		
Quit4You smoking cessation service	Reduction in delivery	£8,700
<b>Population epidemiology</b>		
Health and lifestyle surveys & related specialist analysis	Reduction in reporting on our status in an international context and providing population level data	£27,000
Linkage to OHID oral epidemiology programmes for IoM data	Reduction in knowledge of dental disease on the Island	£3,500
<b>Workplace Wellbeing</b>		
Annual Workplace Wellbeing Conference	Removal of public sector funding for wellbeing in the workplace across the Island	£4,000
<b>Community partnership</b>		
Trauma informed training	Reduction in trauma training	£10,000
Domestic violence	Reduction in survey working in partnership with Liverpool John Moore's to explore the epidemiology of domestic violence on Island	£30,000
	Reduction in training to increase awareness of domestic violence and equip people with skills to support people	£10,000
<b>Harm Reduction</b>		
Naloxone programme funding	Reduced roll out of national programme to provide medication which stops people dying from an overdose	£8,500

<b>Area of public health practice and delivery</b>	<b>Impact of disinvestment</b>	<b>Funding requested above provisional baseline</b>
British Irish Council (BIC) – substance misuse stream lead	Loss of membership	£1000
Harm reduction database	Deferment of the introduction of a database for needle syringe programme with the aim to reduce blood borne viruses	£20,000
<b>Accreditation of staff with professional bodies</b>		
Professional practitioner accreditation for staff/ Membership of the Association of Directors of Public Health	Loss of membership of national body	£5,000
Professional training and qualifications for staff (including postgraduate competencies)	Reduction in training for staff to ensuring compliance with national standards	£26,000
Registration with the UKPHR	Potential loss of registration requirements and professional standards within Public Health	£4,000
Specialist IG compliance training	Deferment of requirement to meet and sustain Information Governance compliance standards from recommendations made in the KPMG 'Information Governance and Data Protection Status' report into Manx Care, DHSC and Public Health.	£10,000
<b>Health Protection</b>		
Introduction of improved (cross-agency) notifiable diseases processes	Deferment of an IT reporting system to ensure outbreak case management	£30,000



# Cabinet Office

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print format on request

