Collaborative action, local impact.

This nationally recognised collaborative way of working brings great benefits for all and the nine Cheshire & Merseyside Directors of Public Health and their teams are committed to achieving better health outcomes across their population of 2.4 million people.

The purpose of Champs Public Health Collaborative is to:

- Improve local health and wellbeing outcomes by collective strategic action
- Enable and deliver strong public health system leadership
- Promote effective and innovative public health interventions and the use of the latest evidence
- Facilitate shared learning, expertise, and peer support
- Collectively commission cost-effective sub-regional public health programmes and interventions

The outcome focused model delivers key priorities which have been agreed by the Cheshire & Merseyside Directors of Public Health in partnership with Public Health England North West and NHS England Cheshire and Merseyside.

The priorities for 2015-17 are:

- High blood pressure
- Mental health and wellbeing of children and young people
- Suicide reduction
- Health and regeneration

Each priority has clear outcomes that can be measured in terms of impact and cost savings.

High blood pressure

This programme works on improving the identification and treatment of high blood pressure. The sub-regional action plan will see more people who have undiagnosed high blood pressure identified, and the quality of care improving for those diagnosed, preventing strokes, heart and kidney disease.

Mental Health and Wellbeing of children and young people

This important area of work includes a scoping exercise with partners and a review of the evidence to agree where collaborative action adds most value to local work to improve the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people.

Suicide reduction

The excellent work on suicide reduction continues with the launch of the NO MORE zero suicide strategy and action plan. This is being led by a high level Partnership Board and network of champions. An innovative suicide liaison service has been commissioned to support those affected by suicide.

Health and regeneration

This priority will be co-produced with the Directors of Regeneration later in 2015. There will be a review of the evidence base and a best practice sharing event in the Autumn.
Supporting the priorities

Cross cutting themes including facilitating collective action, CPD and events, intelligence, communications and sector led improvement support the key collaborative priorities.

The Cheshire & Merseyside Directors of Public Health collaboratively commissions high quality and cost effective population level public health programmes. The programmes will tackle alcohol harm, tobacco, obesity and suicide prevention, plus a public health intelligence service to provide the evidence base for local areas.

A high level expert health protection strategy group ensures a safe and resilient system and supports local authorities in their quality assurance role.

The Cheshire & Merseyside Directors of Public Health Executive Board reports to the nine local authority Chief Executives and the designated lead Chief Executive is Margaret Carney, Chief Executive of Sefton Council.

The Board members are:

- Matthew Ashton (Knowsley Council)
- Janet Atherton (Sefton Council)
- Sandra Davies (Liverpool City Council)
- Liz Gaulton (St Helens Council)
- Heather Grimbaldeston (Cheshire East Council)
- Fiona Johnstone (Wirral Council)
- Eileen O’Meara (Halton Council)
- Fiona Reynolds (Cheshire West and Chester Council)
- Rita Robertson (Warrington Council)


A leaner, more agile and flexible Champs support team leads, facilitates and enables the delivery of the priorities with local teams and partners. Each local authority has a ‘Collaborative Link’ who facilitates the two way communication between local teams and the wider public health collaborative.