Frequently Asked Questions
The provision of Community Health Improvement Services.

What do you mean by commissioning a locality?
For some service areas (Lots) we intend to award some of the service opportunities as a single contract to one provider or collaboration of providers to deliver services on behalf of a wider population basis than is currently the case. We are proposing to use the 13 localities used by Dorset CCG. We recognise there may need to be flexibility in the locality covered depending on the population reach and size of the providers signing up to the Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS).

What do you mean by focusing on areas of greatest need providing an equitable service?
Where there are different levels of need across the Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset area, e.g. greater number of injecting drug-users in parts of Bournemouth, we will commission a service to match that need, with more activity/providers in these areas.

Will all services want good access?
All areas will need good levels of access to Community Health Improvement Services. Providers, however, may develop a model where delivery takes place at fewer venues to maximise service quality and efficiency across a wider population.

If the system is continually open how do you know when tenders will be awarded?
The system will be continually open for new providers to sign up to, and Public Health will regularly evaluate new applications against the essential criteria at set intervals. Once you have been registered as an approved provider for a particular ‘Lot,’ you will be notified of any service opportunities available to you. Each service opportunity published will have its own timetable for providers to respond and Public Health to award.

What is the financial value of each element of the service?
The potential business to be supported by the DPS is likely to fall within the range of £1,500,000 - £2,000,000. The range value is based on 14-15 level of activity but still allows for potential of cost savings as well as the provision of some new services. The value is provided for market guidance only and there is no guarantee of business. The value of each service opportunity will be indicated when these are published.

When will the contracts change from those currently in place?
Current contracts were rolled forward for 12 months from 1st April, 2015. As the Community Health Improvement procurement develops and contracts are awarded for particular service opportunities, Public Health Dorset will, at the appropriate time, give 3 months notice as required by the current contracts. Public Health Dorset wrote to all incumbent contracts with details of these arrangements on 17th February, 2015.