



Public Mental Health in England, 2016

All upper tier and unitary local authorities (152) who have responsibility for public health, were sent Freedom of Information requests to identify spend and activity on public mental health interventions in 2015-16. Local authorities were asked how much of their public health budgets were spent on public mental health, as well as being asked to outline their public mental health activity against a number of themes.

Of the 129 responses (85 per cent) who provided us with valid (disaggregated) data on the amount they spent on public mental health, on average less than 1 per cent of public health budgets was spent on public mental health in 2015-16. Thirteen local authorities reported no spending on public mental health.

Examples of good public health activities include:

- School-based mental health promotion and prevention programmes
- Workplace wellbeing initiatives with local employers
- Mental health training such as Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)

Suicide prevention activities such as suicide awareness training for front-line staff, such as Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), and postvention and bereavement services

- Evidence-based parenting programmes such as Triple P, Incredible Years, as well as others specifically aimed at parents with mental health problems.

Region	Total Public Health Budget 2015-16	Public Mental Health Budget Spent 2015-16	% of PH budget
East of England	£217,708,169	£852,595	0.39%
East Midlands	£186,361,388	£710,159	0.38%
London	£477,882,774	£3,601,347	0.75%
North East	£177,171,621	£1,374,326	0.78%
North West	£415,419,328	£2,596,413	0.63%
South East	£357,089,758	£4,054,873	1.14%
South West	£146,913,594	£1,776,320	1.21%
West Midlands	£324,900,746	£2,039,637	0.63%
Yorkshire & Humber	£279,496,786	£1,917,082	0.69%
National	£2,582,944,164	£18,922,752	0.73%