<Your address>

<Your email address>

<Date>

<Name of Director of Public Health>

<Local authority name>

<Email address of Director of Public Health>

Dear <name of Director of Public Health>

**Provision of pre-exposure HIV prophylaxis**

I am writing to you regarding the future provision of pre-exposure HIV prophylaxis (PrEP). PrEP involves people who are HIV negative taking daily a drug used in HIV treatment in order not to get HIV.

Studies from around the world have demonstrated that PrEP is highly effective at preventing HIV, including the recent results of the England PROUD trial.

The World Health Organisation recommends that PrEP is available to those at highest HIV risk and The Lancet has recently called for PrEP to be made available on the NHS. This is in the context of unabated high HIV transmission rates in England, especially amongst men who have sex with men.

An NHS-convened working group is currently developing evidence-based policy recommendations for PrEP availability to submit to NHS England for possible implementation during 2016/17.

Local authorities have a responsibility for the commissioning of HIV prevention services for local populations. Whilst NHS England will be the body responsible for the cost of PrEP drugs, PrEP will be provided by the sexual health clinics whose services are commissioned by local authorities. The PROUD trial found that PrEP provision could be easily integrated into routine clinical services for those at high risk of HIV transmission.

As a local resident I am contacting you to understand what steps are being taken to plan for the commissioning of PrEP services locally. In particular, I would like to understand how sexual health and HIV prevention commissioning arrangements and contracts are being revised and reviewed to ensure that PrEP services are made available locally, in line with any prescribing guidelines to be agreed by the NHS.

Given the NHS is anticipated to make recommendations for PrEP prescribing for the financial year 2016/17, please would you outline what plans are being made for PrEP provision locally for the year ahead.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

<Your name>