

Department of Health – Office of the Chief Medical Officer

Structure, Functions and Responsibilities

Functions

The Health Division will be responsible for research and analysis, policy development, co-ordination of strategy planning, and EU affairs. It will also develop proposals and give direction on the sustainability of Health services. In developing policy and strategy, the Division will plan, lead and maintain an ongoing process of consultation with stakeholders and user involvement.

Responsibilities

- To set up and direct the Health Division and develop the pertinent functions of the directorates within the Division;
- To co-ordinate an ongoing process of consultation with stakeholders and promote user involvement,
- To gather, analyse and disseminate health information and carry out research;
- To develop policy, co-ordinate strategic planning and put forward proposals that contribute to the sustainability of public health and health care services;
- To monitor the implementation of policies, strategic plans, programmes, services and initiatives adopted by the Ministry;
- To co-ordinate and prepare reports identifying issues, problems, unmet needs and service gaps, and recommend initiatives, review of policies, and amendments to procedures and programmes as required;
- To develop pharmaceutical policies and procedures and carry out related audits;
- To co-ordinate and promote EU and International relations;
- In addition to the above office of the Chief Medical Officer, the following Departments, Directorates and Units fall under the auspices of the Chief Medical Officer:
 - Entitlement Unit
 - Treatment Abroad Unit (National Highly Specialized Referrals Programme)
 - Directorate for Policy Development, EU and International Affairs
 - Department of Health Information and Research
 - Directorate for Pharmaceutical Policy and Monitoring
 - Directorate Programme Implementation

The following two Committees also fall under the responsibility of the Chief Medical Officer:

- Treatment Abroad Committee
- Government Formulary List Advisory Committee

General Description of the Categories of Documents Held

- Strategies
- Policies
- International Health Care Publications

Description of all manuals and similar types of documents which contain policies, principles or rules or guidelines in accordance with which decisions or recommendations are made in respect of members of the Public:

- Rules of Procedure

Addressing requests in terms of the Freedom of Information Act

Members of the public requesting access to documents held by the Health Division should contact the FOI Officer on 22992380 or the Alternate FOI Officers on 22992578 or via e-mail address foi.healthpolicy@gov.mt