



From the President

South Central SHA's bold, mould-breaking decision to fluoridate the water supply in and around Southampton could make a huge difference to oral health in the area, particularly among children.

The Scottish Government's commitment to minimum pricing for alcohol is also a major step forward in tackling Scotland's enormous burden of booze-related ill-health, violence and social disruption.

But, of course, both measures have been greeted with cynicism by those who see them only as further erosions of our civil liberties.

There are a lot of people out there who find it hard to accept that legislation (if developed and implemented in the right way) can be a vital tool in helping to bring about health improvement, as well as the important part it can play alongside information, education, social marketing and community development.

As Thaler and Sonstein point out in their seminal book *Nudge*, you sometimes need to tweak the landscape or architecture (physical, social, economic, cultural) to 'nudge' people into healthy behaviours. Sensible, proportionate legislation can have the same effect – referred to by the Nuffield Council on Bioethics as the 'stewardship' role of government. Well-made rules and regulations can often increase real choice.

So three cheers for the mould-breakers, I say. Let's celebrate the strength of our vibrant social democracy, and the freedom we have in the UK to engage in the process of helping to shape public policies that will do most to improve and protect our health.

FPH news

Election results 2009 – Local Board Members (LBM) elections

We are delighted to announce the election results for three of the four nations and regions of FPH with vacancies for local board membership from the June AGM.

- Northern Ireland – Dr Gerry Waldron
- Scotland – Dr Emilia Crighton
- North East – Dr Eugene Milne

We would also like to extend profound thanks to Dr Janet Little (Northern Ireland) and Professor Cairns Smith (Scotland) for their work on behalf of FPH

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Food Ethics

Chemists to provide obesity pill

BBC Online, BBC News, BBC Radio 4

Why we need more nannying

BBC Online

Nanny state 'should go further'

BBC World Service, BBC Breakfast TV (twice), BBC West Midlands, BBC Scotland, BBC Gloucester, BBC Radio 4, BBC Wales, BBC Newcastle, BBC Belfast, BBC News 24, BBC 5 Live, BBC 3 Counties

Rates of diabetes soar in the UK

BBC Online, BBC News 24, BBC 5 Live

Cancer risk and alcohol for women

BBC News at 10, BBC Scotland

Unhappy children 'end up unwell'

BBC Online

Straw urged to exempt medical records from data sharing

The Guardian

Results for the final region – South East Coast – will be coming soon.

Be active, be healthy

FPH warmly welcomes the Department of Health's new physical activity plan for England, *Be Active, Be healthy*. The plan aims to get two million more people active by 2012, and focuses on everyday activities rather than sport.

FPH President, Dr Alan Maryon-Davis, commented: "This plan is good news. It gives us the basic route map and describes the necessary local infrastructure. But now we need real investment, from the commercial as well as statutory sectors, if we, as a nation, are going to take those first steps and keep going."

[More information can be found here](#)

Treasurer reappointment

The Board is pleased to announce that it has reappointed Dr Liz Scott for a second term as treasurer from the June AGM. The Board are delighted that Dr Scott feels able to serve again in this important role and thanks her for all her hard work.

FPH adviser, Deputy FPH adviser and CPD co-ordinators will be announced in due course.

FPH representative sought for UK PET-CT Advisory Board

The UK PET-CT Board provides clinical and scientific advice on matters of service development and quality, including training, in the provision of PET-CT. The Board has reviewed its activities and will continue for another year when its need to continue will be reassessed. The Board convenes three times a year (via electronic means). The Board is seeking an FPH representative with experience as a public health commissioner supporting or working with an SCG, to provide a population perspective and the only commissioning input.

The terms of reference for the Board are [available to download](#). If you are interested in applying for nomination, please complete the application form and return to lindseystewart@fph.org.uk by 16 March 2009.

FPH representative sought for Faculty of Sport & Exercise Medicine (FSEM)

FPH has been invited to nominate a representative to the Council of FSEM. The Council meets six times a year – four face-to-face meetings in London, two telephone conferences – the next meeting takes place on 31 March. They are seeking a senior public health specialist to advise them in the development of this specialty.

Interested members should also have an interest in sport/exercise medicine. If you would like to be nominated as FPH representative please complete the [application for nomination](#) and return to: lindseystewart@fph.org.uk by

Data plans 'medical records risk'

BBC Online

Recent consultation responses

[UK Public Health Register's Development of Regulation for Public Health Practitioners](#)

[Alcohol dependence and harmful alcohol use](#)

The Journal of Public Health

The *Journal of Public Health* is published on behalf of FPH by Oxford University Press. [Visit the website](#) for free content without a personal or institutional subscription.

Public health events

For more information on any of these events please [visit the FPH events website](#)

The Vaccination Debate

14 March
London

Participative workshop on tackling climate change

20 March
Sheffield

17th UKPHA annual public health forum

25 - 26 March
Brighton

Tackling Obesity 09 conference

26 March 2009
QEII Conference Centre London.

Infant Mortality Implementation Plan and National Support Team Launch

22 April 2009
London

Fifth national conference on obesity and health

27 - 28 April
Birmingham

Patient safety congress 2009

30 April - 1 May
Birmingham

FPH representatives sought for C-PHIG

The Child Public Health Interest Group, a group dedicated to the development of child public health within both Paediatrics and Public Health, is seeking FPH nominations for the following positions:

- Co-chair
- Trainee
- Committee member

The C-PHIG executive committee meets via telephone conference four times a year. If you wish to be considered for nomination, please complete the [CPHIG Election form](#) and send to hannahpugh@fph.org.uk by Monday 23 March 2009.

Public health news

CEMACH child health enquiry: call for topic suggestions

CEMACH is inviting stakeholders to participate in the topic selection process for the child health enquiry. The closing date for suggestions is 30 April 2009.

To make a suggestion or for further information visit: www.cemach.org.uk

Pledge to help save the planet!

There is still time to add your 'signature' to the rapidly growing list of health professionals, who undertake to actively engage in tackling climate change and to advocate for an agreed global framework with redistribution of resources.

All you have to do is visit www.climateandhealth.org and click on the green 'sign our pledge' button

Consultation on registration for public health practitioners

The UK Public Health Register UKPHR is currently consulting on registration for public health practitioners. As part of this consultation we are holding a number of National Consultation events:

- North West England - 19 March 2009
- Northern Ireland - 24 March 2009

Please register your interest in attending an event by [contacting Zoe Clark](#). More information can also be found on the [UKPHR website](#).

EU Health Programme for 2009

Occupational asthma workshop

12 May
London

Symposium on Obesity, Diabetes and the Metabolic Syndrome

21 May
Plymouth

Workshop on lung function tests, asthma and work

5 June
London

How to Practice Evidence-Based Health Care

18 & 19 June 2009
Edinburgh

UK national smoking cessation conference

22 - 23 June
London

Preventive Health 09

25 June, 2009
London

The IVth biennial international sex and relationships education conference

7-9 September
Birmingham

For more information please visit the [FPH events website](#)

Have your details changed?

Please let the FPH know if you change jobs or address, so that we can keep our records up to date.

Please send an email to enquiries@fph.org.uk to update your details

The European Commission has just published its work plan for 2009 for implementation of the second programme of community action in the field of health. The budget available for execution of the work plan is 48 million euros; the deadline for submission of proposals for funding is 20 May 2009.

[Further details can be found here](#)

FPH Events

FPH Annual Conference 2009

Date: 16-18 June

Venue: Scarborough

The Faculty of Public Health's 2009 annual conference will focus on how we as public health professionals translate our knowledge, skills and expertise into leading-edge public health practice, and how we can shape the specialty to deliver health and wellbeing in the 21st century.

The conference will explore those big issues that cut across the full breadth of public health - from workforce and commissioning, to violence and the public health legacy of the Olympics. A wide range of top-level speakers are already confirmed, with further announcements to be made leading up to the conference.

Registration will be opening very soon, for further information on the conference [visit the conference website](#).

Health Behaviour Change: do we know what works and is this being implemented in Scotland?

Date: 12 March 2009

Venue: The Queen Mother Conference Centre, Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, 9 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JQ

This symposium, jointly hosted by FPH, will review the evidence base for interventions to promote healthy behaviours at the level of the individual across the major areas of challenge to public health in Scotland.

[Further details can be found here](#). FPH members gets a discounted rate for registration.

Participative workshop on tackling climate change

Date: Friday 20 March

Venue: St. Mary's Conference Centre, Bramall Lane, Sheffield

In partnership with the NHS Sustainable Development Unit, Climate Connection, the Climate and Health Council and the Faculty of Public Health

This workshop's aims are to:

- Offer mutual support
- Share learning
- Develop our skills in communicating with those who

are not yet fully engaged

[For more information and a booking form please visit the website.](#)

Tackling Obesity 09 conference

Date: 26 March 2009

Venue: QEII Conference Centre London

Tackling Obesity 09 will offer the first opportunity to examine the progress of the Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives strategy and learn where and how real progress is being made. Delegates will also hear more about the Change4Life movement which will support families to eat healthily and increase levels of activity. Delegates will hear from some of the most respected figures in the NHS, Department of Health and the wider industry.

[Please visit the website for more information](#)

Preventive Health 09

Date: Thursday 25 June, 2009

Venue: QEII Conference Centre, Westminster

Chaired by Professor Alan Maryon-Davis, President of the FPH; Preventive Health 09 will give delegates a chance to discuss in detail the key issues in relation to the prevention of serious illnesses, as well as the increased role of local care practitioners in the early diagnosis and treatment of illnesses.

As a member of FPH you can attend the Preventive Health 09 Conference with a 20% discount on your booking.

[For more information and to register your place please visit the website.](#) Please quote promotional code 'FPH'

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