



The Faculty of Public Health

Working to improve the public's health

Bulletin - Issue 40 - May 2008

In this update:

- [From the President](#)
- [Membership survey](#)
- [FPH Annual Conference](#)
- [New FPH publications](#)
- [The effectiveness of CPD](#)
- [FPH welcomes new strategy to 'green-up' the NHS](#)
- [Scottish Annual Conference - call for abstracts](#)
- [New international network groups](#)
- [Reducing the carbon footprint of the health sector](#)
- [People's-uni](#)
- [Future of care and support system in England](#)
- [Public health research boost](#)
- [Bupa Foundation Awards](#)
- [New mental health initiative](#)
- [Centre for Translational Research in Public Health](#)
- [Events](#)

From the President

As public health specialists in busy jobs, service or academic, in the NHS or elsewhere, we have plenty of opportunities to shine.

Our wide span of skills and competencies cover almost every corner of the health and healthcare spectrum. We have a finger in almost every pie. Or at least, we should have. In health protection, health improvement, healthcare quality, health intelligence and research □ public health specialists and practitioners are, or should be, absolutely central.

But in today's competitive, value-for-money health system, we have to constantly demonstrate how useful, indeed essential, we are to those we're working with □ how well we can deliver our own objectives and help our colleagues and partners deliver theirs.

In essence, we have to be truly impressive □ highly motivated, self-starting, competent, efficient and effective. Eye always on the ball.

As a profession, we have many trainees, new consultants, researchers and others who fit this mould. We must identify these potential high-flyers and do everything we can to encourage and facilitate their development. We need to nurture their progress through the system into positions of responsibility and influence. In effect, to □manage' their talent, bring them on and make sure they are enabled to be the movers and shakers of the future.

To this end FPH is working with the regional directors of public health and the National Public Health Leadership Programme to explore ways of building a fast-track element into professional development and opportunity. Watch this space.

Hope to see you in Cardiff.

Best wishes

Alan

Membership survey

Thanks to those of you who took the time and trouble to share your views through our recent membership survey. We received 675 responses.

You have provided us with lots of useful feedback on the service you receive from us. A report on the main issues raised from the quantitative and qualitative results will form the basis for in-depth discussion at the FPH Board away-day in September. Please find a summary of the [survey results](#) on the website.

Further details on the possible move to college status are included in the chief executive's letter in the June issue of *ph.com*.

FPH Annual Conference

Coverage of next week's FPH annual conference in Cardiff will be available at www.publichealthconferences.org.uk/annual from Wednesday 4 June at 10am.

If you're unable to attend you'll still be able to watch the plenary session speakers and read the summary updates online.

New FPH publications

[Meeting the health needs of asylum seekers](#)

Providing appropriate services for asylum seekers is the focus of a new FPH briefing statement.

Aimed at health professionals, including directors of public health, the statement sets out the often complex health needs of this vulnerable group and addresses some of the barriers to accessing appropriate health services.

The [briefing statement](#) [pdf] can be downloaded from the FPH website.

[Protecting children from secondhand smoke](#)

To highlight the need for urgent action to protect children from secondhand smoke, FPH and ASH have published a joint position statement on the health effects of secondhand smoke on children.

These include increased risk of serious respiratory tract infections and diseases such as asthma and pneumonia, and even sudden infant death syndrome.

The statement also sets out what needs to happen to ensure that children's health is protected in the home.

The [position statement](#) [pdf] can be downloaded from the FPH website.

[Joint commissioning of children's services](#)

Five leading public health and child health organisations – FPH, the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, the Association of Directors of Children's Services, the Association of Directors of Public Health and the Child Public Health Interest Group – have produced guidance on the key principles which should underpin the effective commissioning of children's services.

Download your copy of [Joint commissioning of children's services across local authorities and primary care trusts](#) [pdf].

The effectiveness of CPD

The Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC) is currently exploring the effectiveness of continuing professional development (CPD) through a variety of data collection strategies, including an [online questionnaire](#).

This questionnaire is part of a project conducted under the auspices of AoMRC and funded by the General Medical Council. It is designed to help explore some of the issues associated with the effectiveness of CPD.

The questionnaire can be accessed at:

www.alsg.org/surveyor/index.php?sid=41&token=R540440133

Your co-operation in completing this would be much appreciated. Responses will be anonymous and comments will not be attributable to individuals.

FPH welcomes new strategy to 'green-up' the NHS

FPH has welcomed the publication of a new strategy to reduce the carbon footprint of the NHS in England.

Saving Carbon, Improving Health: A Carbon Reduction Strategy for the NHS in England was launched by the [Sustainable Development Unit](#) and adds to the growing tide of opinion that the NHS - and the wider health community - must take the lead in the climate change and sustainable development agendas.

FPH has published a practical guide to tackling climate change within the NHS - [Sustaining a Healthy Future](#).

FPH will be responding to the consultation and wants to hear your views. To contribute to the consultation, please send your comments to comments@fph.org.uk

Scottish annual public health conference - call for abstracts

This year's Annual Scottish Public Health Conference is being organised by the Committee of the Faculty of Public Health in Scotland with the North of Scotland NHS Boards.

It will be held at the Macdonald **Aviemore Highland Resort on 13 and 14 November 2008**.

The theme of this year's conference "Forging New Collaborations", recognises the importance of local and strategic interventions to improve the health and wellbeing of the public, as well as the wider impact of climate, demographic, social and technological change.

Abstracts are invited for both oral and poster presentations. The **deadline** for submission of abstracts is **27 June 2008**.

For further information see: www.publichealthconferences.org.uk/scotland_2008

New International Public Health Network Groups

A number of new regional FPH network groups have been set up, each moderated by the overseas regional adviser for the region. The regions are:

- **Africa**
- **Americas**
- **Europe**
- **Eastern Mediterranean/Middle East**
- **South and South East Asia**
- **Western Pacific (Australasia)**

The FPH International Committee hopes that these discussion groups will serve to develop links and improve communications in the regions. To join the groups go to <http://new.fph-groups.org.uk>

Reducing the carbon footprint of the health sector

The BMJ, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health and FPH are hosting an event on **30 June** in London to look at ways to reduce the carbon footprint of the NHS.

Speakers include David Pencheon, Mayer Hillman, Hugh Montgomery and Tom Cumberledge of the Carbon Trust.

The event includes workshops on how to measure your carbon footprint and 'green-up' your office.

Places are limited so book now to secure yours. For further information see the [registration form](#) [word].

Peoples-uni: building capacity in the developing world

The People's-uni is a new collaboration of public health specialists around the world that aims to deliver low-cost, Masters-level public health education and skills development to public health practitioners working in developing countries.

The project is in need of volunteers to help deliver this project - those willing to volunteer their skills as course developers, facilitators and advisors.

For further information about the project go to: <http://peoples-uni.org>

Future of care and support system in England

Health Secretary Alan Johnson has launched a public debate about the future of the care and support system in England.

The debate builds on the current transformation programme set out in Putting People First (a cross-government commitment in partnership with local government, the NHS and the social care sector to the transformation of social care). It is focussed on developing long-term solutions for care and support that deliver what people want well into the future.

Further information is available from: www.careandsupport.direct.gov.uk.

If you want to help shape FPH's response to this important debate email lindseystewart@fph.org.uk by Monday 16 June 2008.

Public health research boost

Earlier this month, the Minister of Public Health announced the establishment of the Public Health Research (PHR) Programme to be set up by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).

The funding available for the PHR programme will be up to £2m in 2008/9, rising to £5m in 2009/10 and £10m in 2010/11.

The NIHR Public Health Research programme will be launched in the Autumn of 2008. The first call for proposals will be in mid-November.

For further information see the [PHR website](#).

Call for entries - Bupa Foundation Awards

The Bupa Foundation recognise exceptional achievement in health care and research in seven categories: Care, Communication, Clinical Excellence, Health at Work, Epidemiology, Patient Safety and Research, and Care of the Elderly.

Each award is £15,000. Individuals or teams are invited to submit their applications. Further information is available on the [Bupa Foundation website](#).

New mental health initiative

Moving People is a diverse programme of local and national activity, led by four mental health organisations: Mental Health Media, Mind, Rethink, and the Institute of Psychiatry at King's College, London.

Backed by £18 million from the Big Lottery Fund and Comic Relief, the programme aims to reduce stigma and discrimination linked to mental health, and improve the physical and mental wellbeing of people with and without mental health problems. Find out more at www.movingpeople.org.uk

Centre for Translational Research in Public Health: 8 new academic posts

CTRPH is a newly established national centre of excellence in public health research funded by UK Clinical Research Council and directed by Professor Martin White, Institute of Health & Society, Newcastle University.

Applications are invited for eight new academic posts at lecturer or senior lecturer level, based across the five universities in the North East of England.

Further details are available at: www.ncl.ac.uk/ihs/ctrph/ and the full job advertisements will be available on this link from Monday 2 June.

Events

JUNE 2008

Challenging Problems, Sharing Solutions - FPH Annual Conference

3-5 June 2008

Cardiff

FPH & Welsh Assembly Government

Scotland's population health challenges: Smoking, Alcohol, Obesity and Inequality

12 June 2008

Glasgow

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Glasgow

Infectious Diseases: Problems and Challenges

18 June 2008

Edinburgh

Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

Parks for Life

18 June 2008

Bristol

GreenSpace

Carbon Reduction & Health: a guide to reducing the footprint of the health sector

30 June

London

Faculty of Public Health, BMJ, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health

[One world, one disease](#)

28 June 2008

London

The Royal Society of Medicine and The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

[UCL Health & Society Summer School:](#)

[Social Determinants of Health & International Health](#)

30 June-4 July 2008

London

University College London

July 2008

[Healthy Towns = Healthy People](#)

3 July 2008

London

Living Streets

[Fat chances - What is the future of health and food?](#)

7-8 July 2008

West Bromwich

Sandwell's Other Economic Summit 6

September 2008

[Health Protection 2008](#)

15-17 September 2008

University of Warwick

Health Protection Agency

[Society for Social Medicine Annual Scientific Meeting 2008](#)

17-19 September 2008

University of Southampton

Society for Social Medicine

[World Social Marketing Conference](#)

29-30 September 2008

Brighton & Hove

National Social Marketing Centre

OCTOBER 2008

[Health Impact Assessment & Sustainable Well-being](#)

[9th International HIA conference](#)

9-10 October 2008

Liverpool

IMPACT, University of Liverpool

[Priorities 2008](#)

29-31 October 2008
Conference of the International Society for Priorities in Health Care
Newcastle Gateshead

You are receiving this communication from the Faculty of Public Health because you are a member of the Faculty. You can opt out from receiving updates by sending a blank email to newsoptout@fph.org.uk.

SENDER:

Faculty of Public Health
4 St Andrews Place, London, NW1 4LB
T: +44 (0)20 7935 0243
F: +44 (0)20 7224 6973
E: news@fph.org.uk
Registered Charity No: 263894