

Contacting the SRC: guidance for registrars

This guidance note has been designed to help public health registrars access the SRC effectively. At the end there is a list of other useful potential sources of advice and help for registrars. Please note this is a general overview and is not a comprehensive guide to the roles of the other contacts mentioned. If you have a question or concern which does not seem to be covered in this guidance, please feel free to ask your regional SRC rep for advice on what to do.

If you have questions, views or concerns regarding the provision, standards or equity of national public health training or if you have ideas, questions or concerns regarding FPH policy, response to consultations or other aspects of FPH business:

Initial contact: Regional SRC rep.

If escalation required: SRC Chair

It may help to look at the [list of FPH committees in which the SRC is involved](#), [the current SRC workplan](#) and [the current FPH strategy](#). Please note that the **SRC does not usually intervene on individual issues**, but on those that affect the interests of the body of Public Health Speciality Registrars. It is also important to note it may take up to 3 months for an issue to be raised by an SRC rep, as most of the committees that meet do so on a quarterly basis. The SRC reps do however have an online network which means that, when required, issues can be raised more urgently.

Other potential sources of advice and guidance:

Educational supervisors: For queries/concerns about current training placements (e.g. employment issues such as hours or work environment, provision of supervision or questions about whether anticipated learning outcomes will be met through current work)

Regional registrar network chairs or reps within your local registrar governance structure: For queries/concerns about regional training (e.g. how preparation for the Part A is organised and delivered, health protection on-call issues or disparities in access to 'acting-up' positions across the region.)

The national public health registrars Yahoo email network: For questions/requests/information sharing with other registrars across the UK. Sometimes registrars want to seek advice from someone with experience on a similar project to something they are working on. At other times registrars are keen to find out if the way their region organises something e.g. Part B preparation, is similar to other regions, or if there is best practice advice on e.g. how to run a registrar network. This online network is very useful for these sorts of issues.

If discussion on the Yahoo group identifies a significant inequity issue, it may be appropriate to raise this with one or more regional SRC reps.

Training programme directors (TPDs): For queries/concerns about placement rotations and training zone or deanery-wide training issues (e.g. concerns about choice or availability of future placements,

issues with educational supervision or a desire to improve networking between registrars and consultants within a training zone.). TPDs provide an overall perspective of training within a zone as well as monitoring training.

Heads of school: A point of contact if issues have not been resolved using educational supervisors, TPDs or the regional registrar network.

Lead employer: queries/concerns about individual employment matters (these could range from issues of pay and working hours to those of equality and diversity).

Union representatives (e.g. Unite or BMA): (e.g. queries/concerns about individual employment matters). There is usually a regional registrar rep who can provide confidential advice and support for individuals experiencing difficulties with training or with the lead employer. For issues that have wider implications for registrars, both the BMA and Unite have national reps.

Health Education England/NHS Education for Scotland/Health Education and Improvement Wales/Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency: For queries/concerns about local education provision or workforce issues (e.g. inequities in access to educational support for public health trainees in comparison to other speciality trainees, or concerns about the ratio of trainees to supervisors.). Please note there may be a local registrar representative for these organisations – check with your local registrar network before approaching these organisations directly.

FPH staff: For questions/concerns about individual interactions with the FPH (e.g. concerns about allocation to an exam sitting, or questions about membership fees.) In addition, there are [FPH officers](#) who you may want to contact.