**Faculty of Public Health Projects Scheme brief**

**Those wishing to apply for approval and advertisement of their projects should email this completed form to:** **educ@fph.org.uk****. This form should be completed by the Project Lead.**

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| **Name** | Dr Tom Fowler |
| **Contact details** | Email:Tom.Fowler@genomicsengland.co.uk  |
| **Date** | 4th March 2021 |

### Project Details

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| **Title and description of project with a summary of key roles and outputs expected from the registrar** | **Shaping and supporting the National COVID-19 Testing Programme**This is a unique opportunity to spend six months as part of the Public Health and Clinical Oversight team providing and securing expert scientific, public health and clinical advice to Pillar 2 of the National COVID-19 Testing Programme (the “Test” part of NHS Test and Trace).Pillar 2 is currently responsible for developing and implementing methodologies for testing symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals in a wide range of institutions and settings, as well as the general population. It is likely that the Pillar’s role will extend to provide support for antibody testing if this is made more widely available.The role includes: collecting and reviewing evidence; advising on the safety and effectiveness of testing methodologies; developing and reviewing related guidance and messaging; and engaging with a wide range of national stakeholders. Deliverables and outcomes will be agreed at the beginning of the project. The registrar will be allocated, by agreement, a specific project to undertake, in line with the demands on the programme at the time and the training needs and interests of the registrar. Examples might include: reviewing evidence on a specific aspect of testing; designing and implementing a service adaptation to meet the needs of a particular population group; producing guidance and advice for the public and professionals on the testing process and the interpretation of results; or assuring aspects of service quality. Recent registrars have led on Adult Social Care and Messaging across the digital user journey, and had the opportunity to work on the following:* MHRA derogation request for self-test of lateral flow devices
* Development of and input into clinical SOPs and service specifications for GP and pharmacy testing
* Production of content for press releases and FAQs
* User research on behavioural impact of messaging across Test
* Evaluation of NHS staff daily contact testing pilot
* Review of WHO guidance for rapid antigen testing

As a full member of the team, the registrar will be able to experience at first hand the realities of work on a national, high profile, high risk programme of service development. |
| **Dates for application submission** | As soon as possible after 4th March 2021 |
| **Start and end date of project** | Project available from 1st April 2021 |
| **Time period for the project****(When and how many days per week).** | 6 months, but could be extended if circumstances permit. Ideally 5 days per week, but part time could be considered.  |
| **How many places available** | 2 |
| **Location of Project Lead** | The DHSC programme is based in London, but our team members all work from home and are widely dispersed.  |
| **Please state the learning outcomes and likely competencies to be achieved by the registrar from Public Health Specialty Training Curriculum** | These will to some extent be determined by the choice of specific project. There will be opportunities to achieve learning outcomes and competence in all key areas of public health. The following learning outcomes are particularly likely to be addressed through this project:2.2 Formulate balanced evidence-informed recommendations both verbally and in writing using appropriate reasoning, judgement and analytical skills.2.3 Build consensus where there are gaps in evidence or controversies on its implications.2.6 Assess the evidence for proposed or existing screening programmes, using established criteria.3.1 Display an awareness of current national and international policies and strategies that affect health and wellbeing, and their global context.3.2 Evaluate a situation and identify the steps required to achieve change, preparing options for action.3.7 Undertake policy or strategy evaluation using an appropriate evaluation method, critically analysing whether desired changes have been achieved.4.9 Work collaboratively with the media to communicate effectively with the public.7.3 Propose plans and develop supporting products (e.g. specs and commissioning policies) for service configuration to address pop. health needs, inc. consideration and appraisal of examples of different models of H/C in the UK and from other countries7.5 Describe the stages for evaluation of new drugs and technologies and in order to select and apply these frameworks to inform policy questions.7.8 Appraise, select and apply tools and techniques including benchmarking, for improving safety, reliability and patient orientation of health and care services. |
| **Details of the approved Project Supervisor (please include email)** | Dr Tom Fowler, Public Health Lead, COVID-19 Testing Programme Tom.Fowler@genomicsengland.co.ukDr Peter Marks Public Health and Clinical Lead Peter.marks@dhsc.gov.uk  |
| **Will there be accommodation/travel costs Associated with this project? If so who would be expected to cover this cost?** | This is unlikely, but costs will be covered by DHSC if required.  |
| **Please describe how the project will work in practice.** | The Registrar will work from home as part of a small team who meet regularly online as a group and with other members of the workstream. The project supervisor, educational supervisor and registrar will meet regularly online to review progress.  |