



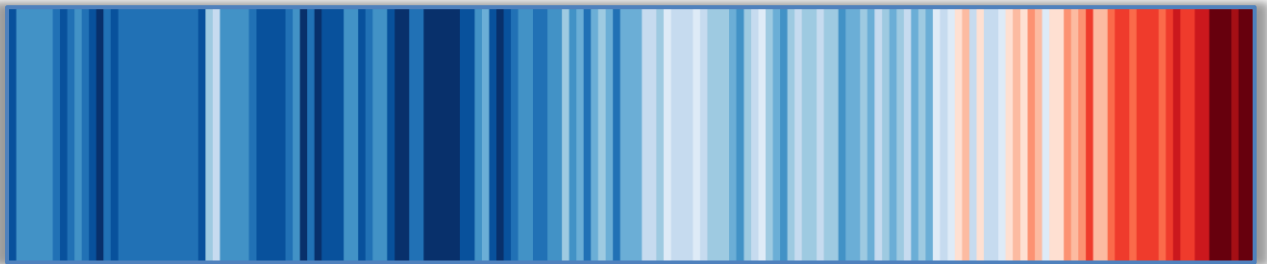
**FACULTY OF
PUBLIC HEALTH**

Protecting and improving the health of the public
through the organised efforts of our members

Faculty of Public Health

Climate and Health Strategy

2021-25



Visual representation of the global change in temperature 1850-2020. Each stripe represents the average yearly temperature. Credit: Professor Ed Hawkins (Reading University). For further details visit [showyourstripes](https://www.showyourstripes.com).

FPH Climate and Health Strategy 2021-25: Executive summary

Our vision for climate and health

Better health for all – leaving no one behind, now and for future generations

The Faculty of Public Health becomes a credible and respected voice on climate, environment and health impacts, and activates the public health workforce to lead on strategies to protect the health and wellbeing of current and future generations.

Our mission for climate and health

As the professional membership body for public health, we will work to promote and protect health for everyone and will:

- Activate and empower the public health workforce to work on mitigation and adaptation to the climate emergency and environmental breakdown, including equipping them with the knowledge, skills and capability to act and to make the case for the health co-benefits of action on climate emergency and environmental change
- Advocate, in partnership with national and international partners, for urgent and intersectoral action to be taken to adapt to and mitigate against climate change, with a particular focus on addressing health inequalities nationally and globally.

Why is this important?

- Climate change is the greatest public health threat of the 21st century and is a core responsibility for the public health workforce.
- COVID-19 has reminded us that we cannot tackle global health threats in isolation.
- The public health workforce is a key asset in society's response to the climate and environmental emergency by highlighting the health impacts and health co-benefits and the need to address health inequalities.
- Humans are causing unprecedented climate and environmental change, that is threatening both human and planetary health.
- We are already witnessing the impacts of climate change and without significant actions then there will be further avoidable increases in morbidity and mortality from the effects of climate change.
- Climate and environmental change are having a disproportionate and unfair impact on the most disadvantaged populations both in the UK and globally, thus exacerbating stark health inequalities.
- Interventions that contribute to adaptation to and mitigation against climate change have health co-benefits by, for instance, reducing pollution, promoting healthy diets and increasing physical activity.



Key areas of the strategy

Membership

- Organise events on C&H, environment & health, and sustainability
- Develop a reverse mentoring offer on climate, environment and health

Workforce

- Encourage workforce to gain skills on C&H
- Support leadership locally
- Increase opportunities to acquire C&H skills during public health training

Standards

- Review the training curriculum and FPH examinations to ensure they include C&H competencies
- Support workforce to acquire the required skills on C&H through CPD

Knowledge

- Understand knowledge and capability gaps in the workforce
- Develop C&H resources to support the public health workforce
- Build bridges between academic and service public health on C&H

Advocacy

- Empower the public health workforce to advocate for action on C&H
- Strengthen the position of the FPH as a key independent advocate for C&H

Global

- Collaborate with global partners on the C&H agenda
- Expand the global networks of the FPH on C&H

Organisation

- Progress to become a net zero organisation
- Support the staff sustainability group

Partnerships

- Work collaboratively with partners to drive forward the C&H agenda

Delivering the strategy

The engagement and support of all our members will be essential in ensuring the success of this strategy. Annual work plans outline specific actions for the duration of the strategy (2021-25). Continuous reflection recognises the inter-related nature of the statements and aligns with the development of existing and new strategies within the FPH and partners.

Want to know more or want to be involved?

Visit www.fph.org.uk or email climateandhealth@fph.org.uk.

Contents

FPH Climate and Health Strategy 2021-25:	2
Executive summary	2
Foreword.....	6
About the FPH.....	8
The FPH and its approach to climate and health.....	8
Climate and health: why is it important?	9
Developing the strategy.....	13
1. Membership.....	13
2. Workforce	14
3. Standards	14
4. Knowledge.....	15
5. Advocacy	15
6. Global.....	16
7. Organisation.....	16
8. Partnerships	16
Delivering the strategy.....	17
Acknowledgments.....	17
Appendices.....	18
Appendix A: FPH Functions and Standards of a Public Health System	18
Appendix B: WHO-ASPHER Competency Framework for the Public Health.....	20
Appendix C: ASPHER Climate and Health Competencies for PH professionals in Europe	21
Appendix D: FPH Board and Committees	22

Foreword

Climate change is a health emergency, and public health professionals have a crucial role in leading and scaling up action to tackle this emergency. This action includes focussing attention on the health impacts of climate change and the co-benefits of improving health, as well as adaptation to prevent health harms.

The scientific evidence is unequivocal in confirming climate change to be a threat to human well-being. Indeed, climate change is recognised by the World Health Organization (WHO) as the greatest threat to health of the 21st century. Human health is inextricably linked to the integrity of the ecosystems within which we live and on which we depend.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought into sharp focus the fragile relationship between society, the environment, economy, and health, including health inequalities, and this has been further emphasised by the energy and cost of living crisis.

All public health professionals need to embed climate health implications into their day-to-day work - the case for action is immediate. A key part of our strategy is to ensure that all public health professionals engage with climate and health and ensure they have the knowledge, skills, and capability to work on mitigation and adaptation to the climate emergency and environmental breakdown.

Climate and Health forms a key strategic focus area for the FPH, and we have committed to do all that we can to advance work on this great public health challenge.

A few highlights from our [recent work on climate change](#) include:

- Divesting from fossil fuels in 2019
- Establishing a Sustainable Development Special Interest Group in 2017, which has developed learning resources to support members' knowledge on climate change
- Playing an instrumental role in setting up UKHACC (UK Health Alliance on Climate Change) as a founding member in 2016
- Attending COP26 with Observer status and leading a joint international statement on climate and health.

But we must do more.

We must do more to deliver the necessary mitigation and adaptation actions to keep alive the target of maintaining global average temperatures rise to below 1.5°C.

We must do more to speak on behalf of both current and future generations, knowing that this is the greatest public health challenge we face in our careers.

We must do more to recognise the scale of climate injustice and our responsibilities to the communities in other countries (and those within) who suffer the worst impact from climate change and who are the least responsible.

We must do more to act upon and enforce the protection of human rights, the right to health, Indigenous rights, and intergenerational equity.

Delivering the necessary mitigation and adaptation actions to keep average global temperature rises to below 1.5°C will not only protect from further catastrophic health impacts and millions of deaths but will also result in improvements in current population health. A better, healthier, and fairer

future is possible. We still have time to act to save millions of lives, communities, and our shared planet, but we must act now.

The FPH Climate and Health Strategy is a sign of our ambition to ensure that all members are encouraged and supported in leading and advocating for climate action at all levels of society. As a member-driven organisation, this strategy is for all our members. We will engage with our members throughout the cycle of the strategy and report on our progress through our Annual Report and other channels.

We welcome comments and engagement on the priorities and principles within the strategy and rely on our members' advice and support in implementing this strategy. We must continue to work with our partners in public health and beyond to place health and equity at the heart of climate change work and ensure that public health is part of the solution to the greatest challenge of our time.

Professor Kevin Fenton, FPH President

About the FPH

Protecting and improving the health of the public through the organised efforts of our members

The UK Faculty of Public Health is the professional standards body for public health specialists and practitioners. The FPH has around 4000 members, across the four nations of the United Kingdom and overseas.

We define public health as the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health and wellbeing, through the organised efforts of society.

The FPH and its approach to climate and health

Our vision for Climate and Health

The Faculty of Public Health becomes a credible and respected voice on climate, environment and health impacts, and activates the public health workforce to lead on strategies to protect the health and wellbeing of current and future generations.

Our mission for Climate and Health

As the professional membership body for public health, we will work to promote and protect health for everyone and will:

- Activate and empower the public health workforce to work on mitigation and adaptation to the climate emergency and environmental breakdown, including equipping them with the knowledge, skills, and capability to act and to make the case for the health co-benefits of action on climate emergency and environmental change
- Advocate, in partnership with national and international partners, for urgent and intersectoral action to be taken to adapt to and mitigate against climate change, with a particular focus on addressing health inequalities nationally and globally.

Climate and health: why is it important?

'Climate change is the greatest global health threat facing the world in the 21st century.'

*Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change*¹

The effects of rising temperatures, rising sea levels and increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events are already causing a number of direct and indirect health impacts, including through heat exposure, impacts on water and food quality, the distribution of infectious diseases and wider social impacts including economic insecurity, conflict and forced migration.^{2 3 4 5} The FPH declared a climate emergency in November 2019,⁶ in recognition of both the severity of the threat, and its rapidly escalating nature.

The evidence is clear – not enough is being done to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions in order to limit warming to less than 1.5°C, with clear evidence that rises above this risk catastrophic health, environmental and social impacts. Recent estimates suggest that unless we take immediate action then we could expect a temperature rise of around 2.7°C by the end of the century.⁷ Additionally, governments are still not doing enough to prioritise health in their climate commitments,⁸ and adaptation is often neglected.

Equity and justice are central issues in responding to the climate and health emergency. Both within and between countries, those experiencing the greatest impacts from climate change are often those that have contributed the least towards global greenhouse gas emissions.⁹ In the UK, extreme weather events have a disproportionate impact on vulnerable groups such as older people, people with lower income and marginalised groups, who may live in areas with more pollution, less green space and more prone to flooding, whilst those in privately-rented homes are often more vulnerable than owner-occupiers as they may be less able to prepare for and recover from climate events.¹⁰ Mitigation and adaptation strategies can also themselves lead to inequities if not carefully planned and implemented.¹¹

¹ <https://www.thelancet.com/countdown-health-climate>

² https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/climate-change/cop26-cc-_health-messaging_final-version-5nov20700766fe-35d5-44c8-a33a-88d972772920.pdf?sfvrsn=11c2ab1b_1&download=true

³ <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMra1807873>

⁴ <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/cop26-special-report>

⁵ <https://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/environment-and-health/Climate-change/publications/2021/zero-regrets-scaling-up-action-on-climate-change-mitigation-and-adaptation-for-health-in-the-who-european-region.-key-messages-from-the-working-group-on-health-in-climate-change-2021>

⁶ <https://www.fph.org.uk/news-events/fph-news/fph-declares-climate-emergency/>

⁷ <https://unfccc.int/news/full-ndc-synthesis-report-some-progress-but-still-a-big-concern>

⁸ <https://climateandhealthalliance.org/press-releases/healthy-ndcs-scorecard-exposes-health-gaps-in-national-climate-policies-ahead-of-cop26/>

⁹ <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10393-007-0141-1>

¹⁰ <https://www.health.org.uk/publications/reports/the-marmot-review-10-years-on>

¹¹ [https://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lanph/PIIS2542-5196\(20\)30270-9.pdf](https://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lanph/PIIS2542-5196(20)30270-9.pdf)



'The twin problems of social inequalities and climate change have to be tackled at the same time. Addressing each is vital to creating a society that is just, and sustainable for the current and future generations.'

*Health Equity in England: The Marmot Review 10 Years On*¹²

'World leaders must start to realise how the climate, ecological, and health crises are interlinked. Right now, we are creating the perfect conditions for diseases like Covid-19 to spill over from other animals to us. Protecting our environment is protecting nature and all animals and protecting ourselves.'

*Greta Thunberg, Hon MFPH*¹³

This emergency must be tackled alongside other current and emerging threats, including COVID-19. COVID-19 has reminded us that we cannot tackle global health threats in isolation. A number of other health threats are also driven by how humans interact with animals, nature and the environment, including the inter-related issues of antimicrobial resistance, emerging infectious diseases and the biodiversity crisis. 'One Health' and 'Planetary Health' approaches are key to ensuring that this complexity is taken into account in our responses to these interlinked crises.¹⁴ Key related global policy frameworks including the Paris Agreement, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction provide a foundation for a sustainable, low-carbon and resilient approach to development.¹⁵

Despite the UK's recent commitments to reaching net zero emissions by 2050, progress is not sufficient to reach Net Zero targets.¹⁶ In the third UK Climate Risk Assessment (CRR3), which assesses 61 risks and opportunities, more action is needed in over 30 of them, a pattern which is repeated across all four UK nations.¹⁷

'...but it [climate change] is also the greatest opportunity to redefine the social and environmental determinants of health.'

*Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change*¹⁸

¹² <https://www.health.org.uk/publications/reports/the-marmot-review-10-years-on>

¹³ <https://www.fph.org.uk/news-events/fph-news/greta-thunberg-elected-as-an-honorary-member-of-the-uk-faculty-of-public-health/>

¹⁴ https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/climate-change/cop26-cc-health-messaging_final-version-5nov20700766fe-35d5-44c8-a33a-88d972772920.pdf?sfvrsn=11c2ab1b_1&download=true

¹⁵ <https://unfccc.int/topics/action-on-climate-and-sdgs/action-on-climate-and-sdgs>

¹⁶ <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/2021-progress-report-to-parliament/>

¹⁷ <https://www.ukclimaterisk.org/independent-assessment-ccra3/national-summaries/>

¹⁸ <https://www.thelancet.com/countdown-health-climate>

The case for addressing this gap at pace is further strengthened by the many health co-benefits of action, which can be realised through both mitigation and adaptation^{19 20} if an inter-disciplinary, whole-system approach is adopted. Strategies such as decarbonising our energy system and switching to renewable energy, promoting active travel, more sustainable diets and climate-resilient housing adaptations will lead to a number of direct and indirect benefits to physical and mental health, including through improved air quality, higher levels of physical activity and fewer cold and heat-related illnesses and deaths.^{21 22} The public already recognises this opportunity: in a 2020 survey of the UK public, not only did 75% of respondents either strongly or somewhat support the net-zero target, but over 75% of respondents believed there would be better health in a future where net-zero is reached.²³

The multidisciplinary nature of public health enables an appreciation of the evidence and ways of working across multiple disciplines, including systems leadership, behavioural and communication science, and ethics. In the words of Sir Andy Haines, there are ‘special opportunities and responsibilities for health practitioners to *lead, facilitate, influence* and *act*’ on climate change²⁴. The FPH and its membership are positioned to contribute in all these ways, such as to strengthen climate and environmental knowledge and skills across the public health workforce, and to lead on climate-aware policy development and advocacy within the UK, and for itself to become a more sustainable organisation that takes climate change into account in everything it does. The issues that need to be addressed in relation to climate change and sustainable development include energy, water, transport and travel, housing, spatial development, food, waste, as well as issues of the economy, environment, nature, and biodiversity. All these topics are key issues for public health.

The public health workforce is a key asset in society’s response to the climate emergency. Delivering an effective, evidence-based and just response will require the full diversity of expertise and disciplines, across all functions of the public health system (further details can be found in Appendix A):

- Health Protection
- Health Improvement
- Health Services
- Public Health Intelligence
- Academic Public Health
- Workforce Development

¹⁹ Mitigation: decreasing the amount of emissions released into the atmosphere and in reducing the current concentration of carbon dioxide (CO₂) by enhancing sinks (e.g. increasing the area of forests) Source: UNFCCC <https://unfccc.int/topics/mitigation/the-big-picture/introduction-to-mitigation>

²⁰ Adaptation: changes in processes, practices, and structures to moderate potential damages or to benefit from opportunities associated with climate change Source: UNFCCC <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/the-big-picture/what-do-adaptation-to-climate-change-and-climate-resilience-mean>

²¹ <https://www.bmj.com/content/368/bmj.l6758>

²² <https://www.bmj.com/content/352/bmj.i1781/infographic>

²³

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/996575/Climate_change_and_net_zero_public_awareness_and_perceptions_summary_report.pdf

²⁴ Griffiths J, Rao M, Adshead F, Thorpe A (Eds). *The Health Practitioner’s Guide to Climate Change*. London: Earthscan; 2009

Public health has been at the heart of the COVID-19 response, and it now needs to be at the heart of the response to the climate crisis, working with partners to raise the importance of the health implications and co-benefits to health of addressing climate change.

But the Faculty is not a lone actor. Many organisations and academic institutes are working on the intersection between climate and health locally, nationally, and globally and our identified priorities should complement and add value across the system. This includes sharing and extending existing good practice, particularly across and between the four nations.

Many members across all four nations of the UK and globally are already pursuing principles of environmental sustainability and resilience in their work to improve and protect health, and to reduce health inequalities. This strategy, led by the Climate and Health Committee and supported by the Sustainable Development Special Interest Group (SIG), on behalf of the FPH, builds on the vision and strategic priorities set out in the FPH Strategy 2020-25,²⁵ and seeks to support members to go further in their work on this important agenda. Further details on recent action and the development of this strategy can be found on the FPH website.

We are already witnessing the impacts of climate change and without significant actions then there will be further avoidable increases in morbidity and mortality from the effects of climate change.²⁶ Given the scale of the crisis and the urgency required in order to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change, the FPH must rapidly build on the action to date with greater ambition and pace.

²⁵ <https://www.fph.org.uk/about-fph/fph-governance-and-strategy/fph-strategy-2020-2025/>

²⁶ <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/344733/WHO-EURO-2021-3198-42956-60023-eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

Developing the strategy

This strategy, led by the Climate and Health Committee on behalf of the FPH, builds on the vision and eight strategic priorities set out in the FPH Strategy 2020-25,²⁷ using this as a starting point for discussion and exploration on how all members can engage with the climate and health agenda. This process has enabled engagement with a broad range of FPH members, with all domains and various levels of public health represented. The strategy has developed key priorities to 2025; these eight areas include a set of key statements, priorities and suggested examples of how we will deliver these priorities. All key priorities are commitments by the FPH to make progress in this area. This strategy is just the first step in this journey as further refinements are made. Annual work plans are produced by the committee, in partnership with Sustainable Development Special Interest Group members.

Strategic Priorities

1. Membership

We will engage with our members and provide them with increased support and opportunities to be able to work effectively on the climate and health agenda in their public health practice.

Our priorities to 2025

- Develop and maintain an ongoing programme of events in order to continuously develop a membership with strong expertise in effective public health action in tackling the climate emergency, e.g., running events such as workshops and conferences for continuous professional development and sharing good practice,
- Support national and local leadership by producing resources on key topics and that there is clear visibility and communication of materials and resources, based on evidence, for all members in relation to climate change, the environment and health that are readily available and relevant to all areas of practice which our members represent, e.g. develop a green health impact assessment framework. produce regular position statements on issues as they arise, evidence-based resources on climate related topics.
- Ensure that the public health workforce has access to support to be able to deliver the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to act. This includes developing and supporting networks to facilitate peer learning and support for members regarding working on these topics and a reverse mentoring programme. The latter was launched to allow registrars to share their knowledge and perspectives on climate change action with senior Public Health professionals.
- Recognise the contribution of Faculty members to work in this field, e.g., highlighting the leadership and commitment of members in this area by creating an award.

²⁷ <https://www.fph.org.uk/about-fph/fph-governance-and-strategy/fph-strategy-2020-2025/>

2. Workforce

We will ensure that we have a professional public health workforce that is able to meet the challenges of the climate and environment emergency.

Our priorities to 2025

- Work with our partners across the system to ensure that the current and future health workforce are equipped with the right knowledge, skills and behaviours to be able to meet the challenges of the climate emergency, e.g. identify the competencies needed by the workforce to deliver this agenda, building on the *FPH Functions and Standards of a Public Health System* (Appendix A), *WHO-ASPHER Competency Framework for Public Health* (Appendix B) and *ASPHER Climate and Health Competencies for Public Health Professionals in Europe* (Appendix C).
- Ensure that employers are putting climate change into the workforce's job roles and to consult with the workforce on the skills needed to be able to deliver this, e.g., develop template job descriptions which include climate change.
- Support leadership locally to enable public health professionals to engage with their communities on advocating for action on climate and health concerns.

3. Standards

We will maintain and continue to develop high quality standards to ensure effective delivery of public health practice around urgent climate and health action in line with the best science.

Our priorities to 2025

- Review the speciality registrar curriculum and examinations to ensure that the public health workforce develops the knowledge and skills to act on this issue e.g., embed the climate emergency and environmental breakdown into the DFPH and MFPH examinations.
- Ensure that climate change and health knowledge, skills and attitudes are a core part of Continuing Professional Development and strongly encourage climate and health to be a part of each revalidation cycle, e.g., further develop CPD resources on climate and health,²⁸ embed climate and health into revalidation processes and quality improvement activity.
- Work with partners and networks to share learning and to lead the development of high-quality standards in relation to climate and health action across the health workforce, e.g., ensure that future public health practitioner training incorporates climate change and health ensure that speciality registrars are offered training placements to develop skills to act on this issue, explore development of specific standards for particular PH roles.

²⁸ <https://www.fph.org.uk/policy-campaigns/special-interest-groups/special-interest-groups-list/sustainable-development-special-interest-group/>

4. Knowledge

We will act as a network of public health expertise, knowledge and evidence and use this across all our climate and health work.

Our priorities to 2025

- Develop an understanding of knowledge gaps on these issues in the workforce, e.g., engage in discussion with members' representatives and use this intelligence to inform resource development to all roles and settings.
- Promote existing resources and provide expert briefings on key topic areas, e.g., promoting and enhancing existing resources developed by the Sustainable Development Special Interest Group²⁹ and holding briefings on key topics, e.g., energy, transport, food, and health inequalities. This will go beyond evidence to describe the problem and ensure that we are collecting a better understanding of effective interventions.
- Champion the output of research and academic institutions including the Lancet Countdown and relevant discourses on sustainability.
- Support members to gather new evidence on the public health approach to climate, environment, and health, e.g., by holding regular events where people can share best practice in delivering change.
- Translate and summarise the latest evidence on climate change for members, so that they feel able to speak about the latest evidence and its implications with authority, and to cascade it to others, e.g., create a network of champions on climate and environment and empower members to act upon the evidence; using the champions network to reach out.

5. Advocacy

We will deliver an ambitious advocacy agenda with clear priorities and a strong evidence base to drive positive changes in addressing the climate, environment, and health emergency at a global, national and local level.

Our priorities to 2025

- Coordinate and collaborate with other organisations on key advocacy messages, at global, national, and local levels, e.g., collaborate with others to proactively advocate on issues which are related to climate, environment and health.
- Ensure that our members have the skills for advocating on climate change, environment, and health, specifically ensuring that they are able to advocate for those most affected by climate change and environmental breakdown, e.g., develop an "advocates" or "spokesperson" scheme for members to be able to advocate on key issues.
- Develop and utilise a theory of change in order to inform our advocacy on climate change, the environment and health, e.g., workshops to develop our theory of change and consider how best to influence action in this field, ensuring that this includes a review of how to effectively advocate and learn from historical mistakes.

²⁹ <https://www.fph.org.uk/policy-campaigns/special-interest-groups/special-interest-groups-list/sustainable-development-special-interest-group/>

- Prioritise advocacy where the outcomes will have the most impact such as high impact topic areas or where the opportunity to influence is greatest.

6. Global

We will forge partnerships to facilitate global public health competency and capacity around the climate, nature and health agenda through education, training, standards, and advocacy, working through our SIGs and committees, advocate for better global health taking climate change into account through our global public health networks. We will also endeavour to learn from countries and communities already experiencing the worst impact of climate change on population health.

Our priorities to 2025

- Strengthen collaboration with international members in relation to the climate, environment and health emergency and harness their collective expertise, e.g., identify and mobilise existing capacity and expertise amongst international members and showcase this at events.
- Support all members and partners to consider global issues in climate and health work, for example run educational events on how public health professionals contribute to the sustainable development goals.
- Ensure that structural inequalities within and between countries, driven by power imbalances, and manifesting as health inequalities and unequal capabilities to respond to climate change, are highlighted in advocacy.
- Invite speakers from countries and communities experiencing the most severe consequences of climate change on health to our events in order to learn from their experience and support their advocacy and activism.

7. Organisation

We will focus on a strategic approach within the organisation, through our ethical investments and policies, to support delivery of our objectives, ensuring that all actions are taken with a view to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of the climate emergency on health.

Our priorities to 2025

- Aim to become a net zero organisation and support other organisations to become net zero e.g., scope requirements for net zero.
- Continue to actively support the staff sustainability group to lead change within the FPH.

8. Partnerships

We will be seen as a key partner in the climate health emergency, actively engaging with and working in partnership with other organisations across the UK and internationally to enhance delivery of urgent climate action.

Our priorities to 2025

- Develop new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships in order to facilitate local, national and international public health competency and capacity and to ensure global solidarity in this agenda, and to communicate to our members on the work that we undertake with partners, e.g., map out partnerships and scope work with new and existing partners in the climate, environment, and health field both nationally and internationally.

Delivering the strategy

The engagement and support of all our members will be essential in ensuring the success of this strategy.

We aim to achieve this with the following:

- Agree annual workplans in collaboration with the SD SIG which implements key actions for the year from the Strategy – and will be signed off by the FPH President and Board.
- The FPH board will also expect that all relevant committees and SIGs ensure that their work plans contribute to the delivery of this Climate and Health strategy. (The Climate and Health Committee will provide support as an iterative process reflecting changing needs of the FPH and partners. For further details on FPH committees see Appendix D).
- Existing reporting arrangements will be used to report on the delivery of this strategy to the FPH Board.

Acknowledgments

FPH would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in drafting and editing the content of this strategy. We acknowledge with gratitude the leadership provided by the Climate and Health Committee and the Sustainable Development SIG in developing this strategy, which was supported by significant contributions from a number of FPH members, colleagues, staff and partners and particularly by StRs in Public Health. Your time and dedication are greatly appreciated.

Appendices

Appendix A: FPH Functions and Standards of a Public Health System³⁰

The public health functions are presented here within the three domains of public health practice – health protection, health improvement and health services – plus the underpinning functions of public health intelligence, academic public health and workforce development that are integral to each of the three domains.

Health Protection

- Outbreak prevention and control
- Emergency planning
- Risk management
- Infection control
- Outbreak management
- Monitoring threats
- Immunisation

Health Improvement

- Needs assessment
- Programme development
- Partnership working
- Community development
- Advocacy
- Sustainability
- Evidence and evaluation

Health Services

- Health service commissioning
- Health and social care service prioritisation
- Equity
- Quality
- Evaluation
- Safety
- Healthcare development
- Leadership

Public Health Intelligence

- Health needs
- Health outcomes
- Analysis
- Information sharing
- Quality

³⁰ https://www.fph.org.uk/media/3031/fph_systems_and_function-final-v2.pdf



Academic Public Health

- Advocacy
- Research
- Application of public health evidence
- Evaluation
- Teaching

Workforce Development

- Leadership
- Capacity building
- Specialty training

Appendix B: WHO-ASPHER Competency Framework for the Public Health³¹

This framework aims to outline the set of competencies required of a public health workforce, including the knowledge, skills and personal or professional attitudes required to undertake their role. The framework categories are as follows:

Content and context

- Science and practice
- Promoting health
- Law, policies and ethics
- One Health and health security

Relations and interactions

- Leadership and systems thinking
- Collaboration and partnerships
- Communication, culture and advocacy

Performance and achievement

- Governance and resource management
- Professional development and reflective ethical practice
- Organizational literacy and adaptability

³¹ https://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/444576/WHO-ASPHER-Public-Health-Workforce-Europe-eng.pdf

Appendix C: ASPHER Climate and Health Competencies for PH professionals in Europe³²

Domain 1: Knowledge and Analytical Skills

- 1.1 Knows and identifies the drivers of climate change (both natural and human-induced).
- 1.2 Identifies the health impacts of climate change and effective responses on the part of specific health services.
- 1.3 Understands the connection between habitat and biodiversity loss and infectious diseases.
- 1.4 Knows the different levels of prevention, climate mitigation and adaptation, and health co-benefits of actions.
- 1.5 Understands social and environmental determinants of health.
- 1.6 Understands emergency planning/preparedness.
- 1.7 Knows how to access and interpret relevant local, national, European and global information and accurate science about climate change effects on health.
- 1.8 Applies climate and health knowledge to improve decisions about public health services and adapt and improve population health.
- 1.9 Knows how to develop strategies for reducing the carbon footprint of health care delivery, from the hospital setting to the outpatient setting, based on “green health care” principles.
- 1.10 Knows the ethical, professional and legal obligations relevant to climate and health.

Domain 2: Communication and advocacy

- 2.1 Demonstrates effective communication with stakeholders about climate and health topics by defining the target audience, listening and developing audience-appropriate messaging.
- 2.2 Understands the role of public health professionals in climate-health activism and policy engagement.

Domain 3: Collaboration and partnerships

- 3.1 Works collaboratively and across sectors in local, national and European organisational structures on climate and health issues.

Domain 4: Policy

- 4.1 Understands the role of national, European and global policy frameworks and governance structures to address health risks associated with climate change.

³² https://www.aspher.org/download/882/25-10-2021-final_aspher-climate-and-health-competencies-for-public-health-professionals-in-europe.pdf

Appendix D: FPH Board and Committees³³

FPH is governed by a democratically elected Trustee Board, which is the ultimate decision-making body within the organisation. Much of its business is conducted through a series of committees and sub-committees. The standing committees report directly to the Board. The sub-committees report through their parent committees, and a detailed committee structure chart can be found on the [Faculty website](#).

FPH also has a network of [special interest groups](#) (SIGs)³⁴ which support and complement the work of its committees. New members are regularly recruited to join committees. If you are interested in joining a committee, please contact the committee chair or the member of staff assigned to that committee to find how you can get involved.

³³ <https://www.fph.org.uk/about-fph/board-and-committees/>

³⁴ <https://www.fph.org.uk/policy-campaigns/special-interest-groups/>