



## **COMMON TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR FPH STANDING COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES, AND WORKING GROUPS**

### **CLIMATE AND HEALTH COMMITTEE**

#### *Committee/group vision statement:*

Climate change and biodiversity loss are the pre-eminent issues facing the world today. The planet has entered a climate and ecological emergency and the entire health sector, including public health, has a vital role to play in promoting sustainable and equitable development that respects planetary boundaries. There are many co-benefits to be gained in health by addressing climate change and the ecological emergency. The Faculty of Public Health is uniquely well placed to lead policy discussion and formulation in this area and the Climate & Health Committee will provide the leadership within the Faculty, linking with the Board, other Faculty committees, special interest groups and external bodies.

**Function:** To lead the Faculty of Public Health (the Faculty, FPH) on issues of sustainability, climate change and biodiversity loss in public health and formulate and approve relevant policy.

#### **Committee aims and objectives:**

- To provide strategic leadership to the FPH on matters related to sustainability, climate change, active transport and planetary health.
- To work with the FPH Board to embed sustainability, and climate change and biodiversity in all FPH policies.
- To improve the skills and competencies of the PH workforce on climate & health, sustainability, and planetary health, for instance by embedding them into the PH training curriculum and CPD, developing resources, organising events and working with employers
- To encourage the PH workforce to incorporate climate & health, sustainability and planetary health into their portfolios at local, regional, national and international levels.
- To support the decarbonisation of the FPH as organisation.
- To support strengthening academic links on climate change research., and in particular to promote research into implementation of effective climate action, and the role of Public Health within this.
- In supporting the SIGs and FPH Board, to work with partner organisations particularly on political advocacy as agreed in annual work plans which will be updated annually.



## Governance

The Climate & Health Committee seeks to support the FPH President, Officers, Board and staff in advising on matters relating to existing FPH's sustainability, climate change and biodiversity policies and practices, as well as proposing revisions, amendments and additions to these policies and practices.

The Climate & Health Committee will provide guidance and support to the FPH Board and other committees to ensure sustainability, climate change and biodiversity is embedded in all aspects of the work being undertaken by the Faculty.

The Climate and Health Committee shall be a sub-group of the Advocacy and Policy Committee. As a sub-group of Advocacy and Policy Committee, the chair of the Climate and Health Committee will be expected to sit on the Advocacy and Policy Committee, or to send a deputy if they are unable to attend.

- The Climate and Health Committee is required to produce an annual work plan, which should reflect the current FPH strategy and comply with all FPH policies. The work plan must be approved by the Board. The Climate and Health Committee will work with relevant FPH committees and external partners to implement the workplan.
- The Climate and Health Committee is required to produce an annual report, highlighting achievements and activities to inform the FPH annual report.
- The following SIGs report to the (name) Committee:
  - Sustainable Development SIG
  - Transport SIG

## Meetings

The Climate and Health Committee will meet a minimum of three times a year via teleconference, holding hybrid meetings on an as-needed basis. The group may convene extra meetings, workshops, or events, should this be warranted.

The quorum for meetings is one third of its number, excluding *ex officio* and co-opted members, to the nearest highest integer. A written record should be made of the proceedings of all meetings of the Climate and Health Committee.

## Core committee membership

The Climate and Health Committee membership shall consist of a Chair, vice-chair and stakeholders to include the following representatives:

- FPH Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- The FPH Specialty Registrars Committee
- Specialty Registrars on FPH Climate Change and Health placements
- Sustainable Development SIG representative
- Transport SIG representative



- FPH Members and Fellows, selected to represent different organisations or structures of the wider PH workforce (see below)
- External representatives
- FPH staff representative(s)

Most members of the Committee will be there to represent particular organisations and will be expected to provide a conduit for information sharing and joint working between such groups and the Committee. Such organisations include, but are not limited to, UKHSA, ADsPH, OHID, UKPHR, Greener NHS. Such members may wish to arrange for a deputy to represent the organisation, if they are unable to attend on any occasion.

Committee representation should also incorporate members from the devolved nations of the UK and should include members with appropriate knowledge in sustainability and climate change policy. Where members are included because of specialist knowledge rather than representation of an organisation, they will act as 'Special advisors' to the Committee. Such members would not be expected to provide a deputy if they cannot attend.

There will be opportunities for speciality registrars and others to attend as observers. In general, such arrangements will be made via the SIG chairs.

## **Recruitment, terms of office and membership requirements**

- Members should be recruited through a transparent nomination and appointment or election process. The term of office will be three years, with the option to continue for a second three-year term. Thereafter, members are ineligible for re-election or re-appointment until a period of one year has elapsed. (Standing Order (SO) 70.1) (Further details on the appointment and/or election of committee members will be available in the FPH Regulations).
- As near as possible, one third of the committee's members (excluding ex-officio members) should retire at the conclusion of business at each AGM. (SO 70.2)
- The committee may add to its number with the approval of the President through an approved scheme of delegation. Co-opted members must be reported to the next convenient meeting of the Board. (SO 72)
- The Board may at any time appoint a member to the committee to fill a casual vacancy. They would retire at the conclusion of business at the next AGM following the date of their appointment. (SO 75)
- The Board may at any time remove an individual member from the committee for good and sufficient cause. (SO 76)
- Members are expected to attend all committee meetings and a failure to attend at least half of the meetings in any one year may lead to removal from the committee.
- The chair shall be appointed by the Board either directly or on the recommendation of the members of the committee. (SO 74)



## **Partnerships**

The Committee will work in partnership with other public health organisations. The intention will be to co-create work undertaken by the committee with members of the faculty, including SIGs and committees and with other partners, as appropriate.

## **SIG(s)**

The Committee will build on the excellent work that has already been undertaken by the Sustainable Development and Transport SIGs. The SIGs will act as an advisory group and sounding board for the Committee. The Committee and SIG chairs will collaborate to co-ordinate the work of the network and the Committee to maximise their impact.

The Climate and Health Committee is responsible for ensuring that adequate reporting and monitoring processes for SIGs reporting to the Climate and Health Committee are in place.