Welcome! Please see the website for information and application forms about any of the programmes and activities described [http://www.nesc.nhs.uk/professional_resources/public_health.aspx](http://www.nesc.nhs.uk/professional_resources/public_health.aspx)

**Defined Specialist Portfolio Development Support Programme (DSPDSP)**

This programme is for people at senior/strategic level working in public health in specialist fields such as health improvement, health protection, health intelligence who wish to apply for support to develop retrospective portfolios for submission onto the UK Voluntary Register for PH Specialists.

Group sessions and one-to-one support have been agreed throughout the year. South Central is represented on the national group which supports this work.

Good News! - The first application to the UKPH Register has now been submitted; another six people are involved in this programme. There is a proposal underway to enable senior practitioners to submit portfolios in sections of up to a maximum of five submissions. Please contact us for more information.

**PH Practitioner Learning Sets**

Five learning sets for PH practitioners at levels 5-7 have been commissioned and are now being delivered across South Central to assess learning need and work towards developing the portfolios it is anticipated will be required to meet the assessment requirements for PH Practitioner registration when available on the UK Public Health Register in 2009. Sessions on topics arising from the use of the Learning Needs Assessment are being arranged and will be open to other PH practitioners to attend.

**UK Public Health Register – Consultation Practitioner Standards**

A consultation process is underway regarding the standards and processes for practitioners to be formally regulated by the UK PH Register. A consultation event has been arranged for the south of England and will be held in London on 25th February. More information on the event and the consultation is available at [www.publichealthregister.org.uk](http://www.publichealthregister.org.uk).

**Faculty Part A exam**

If you would like support for revision for the part A exam, the next one being in June, please contact us for information. Part A is the first of two parts of Faculty exams, the second being a practical Objective Structured PH Exam (OSPHE) which leads to membership of the Faculty. [http://www.fph.org.uk/exams/part_a/default.asp](http://www.fph.org.uk/exams/part_a/default.asp). It is not necessary to be a trainee or registrar to take these exams, however a post-graduate course designed to help prepare for the Part A exam is recommended and specialist-level experience of PH practice will be required for the OSPHE.

**PH Development leads**

Each of the PCT Directors of Public Health have nominated a senior PH practitioner as their Public Health Development lead to help implement workforce development for public health across their area. An Evaluation Report on the work of the PHD Leads Group has been published and demonstrates the great benefits the role offers for local development of public health competence and knowledge. Contact your PHD Lead if you wish to join their database to receive information about PH development: see contact list below [http://www.nesc.nhs.uk/professional_resources/public_health/ph_development_leads_group.aspx](http://www.nesc.nhs.uk/professional_resources/public_health/ph_development_leads_group.aspx)

An abstract has been accepted for presentation of the work at the UK Public Health Association Annual Forum to be held in Brighton in March 2009. [www.ukpha.org.uk](http://www.ukpha.org.uk)
PH Practitioner Training Scheme
A second cohort of 5 practitioner trainees started the scheme in October. The first cohort of 5 trainees completed their placements with partner organisations during the summer recess from university and are now into their second year on the scheme. All 10 PH practitioner trainees are developing portfolios in preparation for registration. Meetings of the Advisory Group are held regularly and in addition meetings are now arranged with the Mentors/Educational Supervisors of the Practitioner Trainees to discuss issues arising from the Scheme. An annual report will be available soon on the first year of the scheme.
An abstract has been accepted for presentation of the work at the UK Public Health Association Annual Forum to be held in Brighton in March 2009. www.ukpha.org.uk

PH Practitioner Education Bursary Scheme
From 2009-10, it is intended that NESC will offer one Education Bursary Scheme rather than the three or four individual schemes available last year.
The maximum total bid value which will be accepted is £5,000
The process is just being finalised and applications will be invited from February 2009.

Leadership for Health & Wellbeing Programme
The programme was launched on 25 November by Prof. John Newton who sent out invitations from the Government Office. The programme has been commissioned from the Improvement Foundation www.improvementfoundation.org/SCLIHWBP 60 senior people have been given places on the programme which will provide a series of 5 events and workshops throughout 2009 focusing on leadership, service improvement, health improvement and reducing health inequalities. The first, residential, session will be held on 27 and 28 January in the New Forest with input from Hampshire PCT about the local context for health improvement and reducing health inequalities.

Local Authority PH workforce development
The final report on the pilot work with Hampshire PCT (South East) and Fareham, Gosport and Havant local authorities has been published and makes recommendations to take the work forward.
Projects are underway this year with Buckinghamshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council for organisational development commencing in 2008-9.
An abstract has been accepted for presentation of the work at the UK Public Health Association Annual Forum to be held in Brighton in March 2009. www.ukpha.org.uk

Health Trainers
The competence required by Health Trainers is seen as the learning required for basic knowledge and skill about health and its social determinants, health improvement and healthy lifestyle behaviour. It is believed that many roles in health and social care could be “enhanced” with this learning to promote and improve individual health. An evaluation of HT services across South Central was undertaken last year and a report produced; the findings of this report were presented at a conference in September.
An event to celebrate the work of Health Trainers for Health Trainers themselves is planned for 4th March 2009. For further information about Health Trainers, contact sarah.denny@nesc.nhs.uk. Various projects are planned in 2009 for development of this work, including an occupational health related role within two of the foundation trusts within South Central.

Skilled for Health
Skilled for Health is the title of a project and set of training materials developed by the Dept. of Health and the Dept. for Innovation, Universities and Schools. Currently there is a national pilot underway to test the materials which provide training courses to develop skills in language, literacy and numeracy, combined with health skills for people from deprived communities.

In addition to the national pilot sites a further four “associate sites” are involved in projects within the South Central Strategic Health Authority area, working with the Government Office for the South East. There is to be an event for those interested in and those involved in this work in the South East on 5th March 2009 to share the learning from all the projects which have taken place this year, including the national pilot sites.
The four organisations involved as associate sites within South Central are :-

- The Healthy Living Centre, Aylesbury
- Rushmoor Healthy Living (RHL)
- Oxford Healthy Living Partnership
- The Riverside Centre, Isle of Wight

Similar evaluation measures will be used for the South Central Skilled for Health projects to contribute feedback to the national pilot.

**H&IoW Public Health CPD sessions**

In response to diminishing attendances at the Monday afternoon CPD events for H&IoW, the four PCT DsPH have agreed to trial a new format in 2009, where there will be one full day of CPD per term on a Friday 10 - 4pm at St James's Hospital Portsmouth. The first one being **Friday 27\textsuperscript{th} March 09.** The content will include Angela Raffle on Screening and the HPU on Health Protection as well as other exciting topics. A flyer will be sent out in due course by debbie.durrant@nesc.nhs.uk

**South Central Strategic Advisory Board for Public Health Training, Education and Development**

This board is chaired by Prof. John Newton and has now held two meetings. A strategic document is to be reproduced to encompass an overview of the workforce development required for public health. An annual report will be provided at the end of March on the NESC funded public health development programmes described in this newsletter.

**PH Development Lead contacts:**

- Buckinghamshire: Susie.richardson@bucksptc.nhs.uk
- Berkshire West & East: chris.stannard@berkshire.nhs.uk
- Milton Keynes: derys.pragnell@miltonkeynes.nhs.uk
- Oxfordshire: Julie.higgs@oxfordshirepct.nhs.uk
- Hampshire: lleana.cahill@hampshirepct.nhs.uk
- Southampton: sarah.denny@scpct.nhs.uk
- Portsmouth: joanne.newton@ports.nhs.uk
- Isle of Wight: joyce.wise@iow.nhs.uk

**SE Teaching Public Health Networks (TPHN)**

The work of the South East TPHN, led by the University of Southampton, focuses on developing elements of the children’s workforce in schools, working in partnership through a stakeholder group which includes the Teacher Development Agency (TDA). In addition, the participation of a representative from the TPHN on the Strategic Advisory Board and work with the PH Development Programmes is intended to ensure that contracts commissioned by NESC from academic providers encompass public health competencies appropriately.

**DH National Public Health Advisory Group**

South Central is represented on this group through NESC PH Development and contributes the learning from its various programmes to other regions and organisations, including the Faculty of Public Health and the UK PH Register Board.

**Events**

To find out what is happening locally and regionally click this link:


For more information on any of the above, please contact Debbie.durrant@nesc.nhs.uk at Public Health Development, NESC, Southern House, Sparrowgrove, Otterbourne. Hampshire SO21 2RU

Any comments, suggestions or contributions to this newsletter relating to public health education, training and development are welcome.