

October 2015

Factsheet Eight:

UKPHR Progress: 2003 - 2015

2003 UKPHR formed, a Company limited by guarantee with encouragement, assistance and financial support from the Department of Health.

UKPHR was created to provide a regulatory home for those multi-disciplinary leaders in public health (specialists, consultants and Directors of Public Health) who were not eligible to be regulated by the existing statutory regulators General Medical Council (GMC) and General Dental Council (GDC).

UKPHR is a voluntary register, so leaders are free to choose whether or not to register. UKPHR became so established alongside the GMC and GDC that recruiters of public health leaders required applicants for appointment to be registered with the GMC, GDC or UKPHR.

UKPHR's founders envisaged that UKPHR would expand to offer registration to all the public health workforce, not just specialists.

2006 The 4 UK Departments of Health commissioned UKPHR to scope a regulatory framework for practitioners for implementation in 2008. The implementation was postponed pending a review of regulation in 2009.

2010 UKPHR initiated a pilot of practitioner standards in several discrete geographic areas of the UK, and developed UKPHR registration processes to enable practitioner registration. All pilot areas continue to run practitioner registration programmes post-pilot and robust systems for registration are applied by UKPHR.

2012 Evaluations of practitioner registration pilots describe standards and processes as robust. Practitioners are increasingly engaging with the registration process and the profile of practitioner registration has been raised among employers.

The Department of Health funded the Faculty and UKPHR jointly to devise a scheme for revalidation for specialist registrants.

A new Chair was appointed in the summer of 2012 following a recruitment process involving advertisement, application and interview.

2013 The new Chair overhauled UKPHR's governance structures, abolishing the management committee, executive committee and advisory panel.

The UKPHR recruited a new, small, and representative decision-making Board of 12 Directors to manage the Company. The Registrar's responsibility for the register and registration processes was re-asserted.

The new Chair established a new Consultative Forum with members representing the Health Departments and Chief Medical Officers of the UK's four nations, public health agencies and bodies, other regulators, professional bodies, workforce representatives and the lay public.

2014 The Board reconfigured UKPHR staffing, relocated the office to Birmingham, and streamlined its IT and back-office systems. UKPHR is financially sustainable, strengthening its independent status.

UKPHR achieved accreditation of its voluntary register by the *Professional Standards Authority*, the same Authority that oversees the GDC and the GMC.

UKPHR's registers around half the estimated 1,200 public health leaders in work in the UK; the other half being on GMC and GDC registers.

There are over 170 practitioners on UKPHR's register, with over 400 more currently preparing portfolios for assessment in order to achieve registration. There are now 10 practitioner registration schemes in the UK, with several more in development.

The *Centre for Workforce Intelligence* estimates that there are 36,000 – 41,000 people in England's public health workforce and 6,250 - 6,540 in Scotland.

2015 UKPHR achieved registration as a charity in England and Wales, Registered No. 116289, and in Scotland, Registered No. SC045877.

UKPHR was approved by *HM Revenue and Customs* under Section 344 of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 so that all renewal fees from 6th April 2015 can qualify for a claim for tax relief.

For further information or if you wish to contact the UKPHR for any other reason
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