

Record of proceedings

of the 7th meeting of UK Public Health Register's Consultative Forum held on
Thursday 03 November 2016 at Park Crescent Conference Centre, London W1W 5PN

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Apologies</u>
Anne McMillan	John Middleton
Anne Robbins	Helen Donovan
Asa'ah Nkohkwo	Kelly McFadyen
Claire Cotter	Angela Ellins
Fiona Macdonald	Branwen Thomas
Florbela Teixeira	Lesley Maitland
Gary Gould	Susan Powell
Hannah Brisley	Frances Cheng
Hayley Edwardson	Ruth Robertson
Heather Davison	Jane Beach
Ian Oakley	Ros Dunkley
Katrina McCormick	Viv Bennett
Klim McPherson	Judith Hooper
Louise Appleby	Peter Wilkinson
Melissa Little	Sarah Scott
Patrick Saunders	Andrew Fraser
Ruth Freeman	Louise Wallace
Stefan Serban	Emma Lacey
Anna Sasiak	Mike Robinson
Jenny Douglas	Em Rahman
Sally James	Augustine Pereira
Grant Ford	Susan Lloyd
David Kidney	Hermione Lovel
Zaira Ejaz	

CHAIR OF THE FORUM: Patrick Saunders

UKPHR's Chair **Patrick Saunders** welcomed everyone to this 7th meeting of UKPHR's Consultative Forum and pointed out that past meetings had been held around the UK. He said that this event was very important to UKPHR for engaging with its wide community of partners and friends. The register was expanding and the organisation was financially secure. At its next Away Day (22 November) the Board would renew and revise its Business Plan and Forum members were welcome to contribute ideas and suggestions. He paid tribute to his predecessor as Chair, Professor Bryan Stoten, and he thanked UKPHR's paid staff, friends and advocates. Revalidation was a critical issue for UKPHR and would be a key focus of deliberations at this event.

Executive Director, David Kidney gave a presentation on UKPHR's achievements and work in progress. UKPHR successfully resisted legislation to make HCPC the regulator of public health specialists, which gave UKPHR a secure future and improved reputation. Different legislative change was still possible, for example as set out in PSA's publication *Regulation Rethought*. If

adopted by Government, this could strengthen the role of accredited registers like UKPHR and give confidence to return to the case for a single regulator for the core public health workforce. Lifting the legislative threat enabled UKPHR to start two reviews: revalidation and routes to registration for specialists. A revalidation scheme was drawn up with the aid of a task & finish group and consulted on. UKPHR was in the process of amending the scheme to take account of responses received. The review of routes to register was assisted by a different task & finish group, and subsequently a contractor was engaged to help to determine standards for a new, single portfolio route to replace the two existing portfolio routes. More recently, UKPHR established a third task & finish group, which will help UKPHR to review practitioner registration. For practitioners there is a pilot, in Wessex and West Midlands, of public funding to participate in ST3 tutorial programmes, potentially leading to a place on the Specialty Training Programme and qualification as a public health specialist. The Faculty had developed a new public health practitioner category of membership and practitioner registration met the Faculty's eligibility requirement. UKPHR was working jointly with the Faculty to formulate a response to Recommendation 5.1 of Public Health England's report *Fit for the future: public health people, a review of the public health workforce* May 2016. UKPHR was seeking views on a proposed new policy to require applicants in future to demonstrate knowledge of English language (Welsh language in certain circumstances). The consultation would close on Friday 2nd December. David responded to 3 questions from Anne Robbins (recognized qualifications and relations with HEIs), Asa'ah Nkohkwo (service users' feedback) and Stefan Serban (dual registrants).

Claire Cotter gave a presentation on the review of the Public Health Skills & Knowledge Framework. Claire explained the development of the new Framework which has had a soft launch and can be located on the gov.UK website along with a user guide and a report of the most recent consultation. A formal launch was arranged in London on 15 November and other events were taking place in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Claire's presentation can be located on UKPHR's website. Claire responded to 5 questions from Fiona MacDonald (relevance of the Framework in Scotland), Sally James (effect of changes on practitioners in the process of applying for registration), Anne Robbins (excellent presentation, support for ethical underpinning), Grant Ford (case studies) and Katrina McCormick (need for investment to sustain the Framework).

Lunch and networking followed.

Registrar Anne McMillan gave a power point presentation, updating the audience on development of UKPHR's revalidation scheme. There followed a series of table-top discussions and exercises. There were 4 exercises: (1) requirements for professional appraisal; (2) Confirmation of compliance; (3) Supporting information about quality of service and (4) Differentiation of requirements for practitioners. Each of the 4 groups reported back to the whole meeting and the Executive Director said he would use the notes made by the groups to brief UKPHR's Board on comments and suggestions made. In discussion, there was support for revalidation and CPD together reinforcing continuous improvement in public health practice.

ROUND UP FROM AROUND THE UK

There followed a round-up of news from around the UK:

ENGLAND

Anna Sasiak, Public Health England, reported on Public Health England's report *Fit for the future: public health people, a review of the public health workforce* which was published in May 2016. There were 31 recommendations grouped under 5 themes and currently PHE was engaged with partner organisations to agree responsibilities for delivery and evaluation. The recommendations had also fed into the Department of Health review of the public health workforce strategy, which had not yet been published. Longer term, PHE was putting together the governance, systems management and partnerships that would be needed to make a reality of the workforce's fitness for the future.

SCOTLAND

Fiona MacDonald, who was in the process of moving to NHS Health Scotland, said that there were many parallels between developments in England and the situation in Scotland. NHS Health Scotland leads on population health and prevention. Scotland's Public Health Review had created some momentum and included recommendations intended to strengthen the public health workforce. One task from the Review was to establish a public health workforce development

group, which Andrew Fraser was heading. Change, including structural change was ongoing, for example the integrated joint boards for health and social care planning and a review of the number of NHS Boards (currently 14). There was ongoing conversation about shared services between Scotland's 32 local authorities. Support was available for specialists and practitioners seeking UKPHR registration. Succession planning, in the context of an ageing workforce was also underway, with particular regard to Directors of Public Health.

WALES

Kelly McFadyen had provided the following written report:

Professional Oversight Role

Andrew Jones is the Deputy Director of Public Health Services / Director of Integrated Health Protection for Public Health Wales. This is a new national role within Public Health Wales and incorporates the 'Responsible Person' role; assuming professional oversight of public health consultants and specialists from multidisciplinary backgrounds (backgrounds other than medicine), employed by Public Health Wales.

Public Health Specialists

Public Health Wales is currently exploring a sustainable approach to supporting employees who are UKPHR registrants with the requirements re-registration / revalidation including the professional appraisal requirement for specialist registrants.

Public Health Practitioners

Public Health Wales is providing on-going support to public health practitioners in Wales through the Local Assessment Scheme. Plans are currently underway to recruit a 7th cohort of practitioners to the Scheme; this cohort will be supported from January – December 2017. Public Health Wales is also exploring various approaches to further embed, recognise and value practitioner registration and to build a development pathway for practitioners through the Advanced Practice (Public Health) Framework.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Dr Carolyn Harper had provided the following written report:

The main development in Northern Ireland is the publication of the Minister's vision for health and social care in NI 'Delivering Together' <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/health-and-wellbeing-2026-delivering-together> and the report of the panel chaired by Professor Raphael Bengoa <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/systems-not-structures-changing-health-and-social-care-full-report>. The Minister will be setting out the detail of the implementation arrangements shortly. The vision includes a commitment to build community and prevention capacity as well as system-wide reform.

Patrick Saunders summed up. He thanked all who participated for a valuable engagement and exchange of views. He welcomed HEIs seeking to align learning outcomes with UKPHR's standards for registration. The revised Skills & Knowledge Framework was an improvement on "The Cube" and would be stronger for an ethical underpinning and case studies. It was necessary to kick on and invest in implementing and sustaining the new Framework. He was delighted with the input from the audience on revalidation and expressed his own support for the Registrar's work on devising UKPHR's revalidation scheme. Patrick said that the round-up reporting from around the UK had been most illuminating.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 15.00 hrs.