



Office for Health  
Improvement  
& Disparities

- 50 Years -



FACULTY OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH

1972 - 2022



ADPH London

The London Public Health Forum presents:

## **Becoming the healthiest global city: The new public health system in London**

Tuesday 08 March 2022  
1100-1230hrs  
via MS Teams

### **Programme Information Pack**

Please use **#LondonPHForum** to live Tweet the  
event

## House Keeping



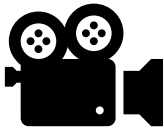
Please stay on mute unless you are speaking.



Please keep your camera turned off during presentations.



Please engage and ask questions by adding to the chat or raising your virtual hand. These will be answered at appropriate points.



This webinar will be recorded and slides will be shared after this event.



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# Objectives

This inaugural meeting of the London Public Health Forum brings together public health leaders, practitioners and their teams from across London to:

- launch London’s public health forum and invite contributions to shape future events
- outline and reflect on the evolving public health system in London and the emerging system leadership principles and behaviours required for success
- reflect on the current public health workforce ambitions and identify any gaps or new priorities as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic

# Programme

Time	Agenda Item
1100	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b> Professor Kevin Fenton – Session Chair <i>Regional Director London, Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID)</i>
1105	<b>Purpose of the Public Health Forum</b> Robert Pears - <i>Consultant in Public Health Healthcare Public Health and Workforce Development, OHID London</i>
1110	<b>Interactive exercise: How can the London Public Health Forum help to develop London’s public health community?</b>
1120	<b>Welcome from Jeanelle De Gruchy</b> <i>Deputy Chief Medical Officer, OHID DHSC</i>
1125	<b>Welcome from Professor Maggie Rae</b> <i>President of FPH</i>
1130	<b>Forum Presentations: <i>Maximising the impact of the new public health system in London</i> (Chair Prof. Kevin Fenton)</b> 1. Review of the new public health system. Where are we now? – Julie Billett 2. Kings Fund work on system leadership for public health – David Buck 3. Reflections from: i. Dr Somen Banerjee, ADPHL and DPH Tower Hamlets ii. Vicky Hobart, GLA iii. Dr Yimmy Chow, UKHSA 4. Questions, Discussion and Reflections
1215	<b>Interactive exercise – Reflecting on the ambitions for the public health workforce (Appendix 1), what should we prioritise in the short-term? Are there any gaps or new priorities which have emerged following COVID-19?</b>
1225	<b>Summary and Closure</b> Professor Kevin Fenton, <i>RDPH London OHID</i>

# **Appendix 1 - London public health workforce ambitions**

## **Promote equality, diversity and inclusion**

Work with London employers to raise awareness and increase access into health careers for disadvantaged groups and increase workforce diversity.

## **Establish consultant portfolio support and improve retention**

Address the shortage of public health consultants by considering formalised portfolio support and ways to retain the existing consultant workforce.

## **Build ICS public health capacity**

Increase capacity and cross-organisational leadership opportunities to build stronger partner relations and strengthen the public health voice in ICS.

## **Clarify career pathways**

Review career pathways at all levels of the profession to include entry level jobs for newly created roles such as test and trace staff, COVID marshals etc and those working in senior roles such as public health principals and strategists.

## **Improve workforce intelligence**

Improve intelligence on the current picture, risks and issues of the public health workforce in London to inform interventions and a longer-term strategy and policy.

## **Drive collaboration and knowledge exchange**

Promote supportive workforce development cultures and provide opportunities for continued collaboration and knowledge exchange across all organisations post public health reform.

## **Prevent fragmentation of workforce and potential reduction in surge capacity**

Maintain health protection, health improvement and healthcare public health capacity and capability within and between organisations.

## **Enable system mobility**

Effectively utilise the (small) pool of public health professionals e.g. creating opportunities to move easily around the system, secondments, parity of pay and T&C's, suite of job descriptions.

## Facilitators biographies



### **Professor Kevin Fenton CBE MBBS (Hons) MSc PhD FFPH**

Professor Fenton is a senior public health expert and infectious disease epidemiologist, who has worked in a variety of public health executive leadership roles across government and academia in the UK and internationally, including taking a leading role in London's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He was awarded a CBE in the 2022 New Year honours list for services to public health.

Professor Fenton became the Regional Director for London in the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) within the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) in October 2021, having previously held the same position within Public Health England from April 2020 until its functions transferred to OHID. Within this role, he is also the statutory public health advisor to the Mayor of London and the Greater London Authority and the Regional Director of Public Health for NHS London. He provides leadership across London for health and wellbeing, prevention of ill health, health protection and reduction of health inequalities.

Professor Fenton has recently been elected to be the next President of the UK Faculty of Public Health and is due to take up the position in June 2022. In December 2021, Professor Fenton was appointed Chief Advisor on HIV to Government and Chair of the HIV Action Plan Implementation Steering Group to oversee the delivery of the new HIV strategy for England.

In November 2020, Professor Fenton was named by Powerlist as the second most influential black person in Britain for his work leading the fight against coronavirus and his public health leadership on tackling inequalities. In Spring 2020, he oversaw the national PHE review of disparities in risks and outcomes of COVID-19, published as the ground-breaking '[Beyond the Data](#)' report. The review led to recommendations which have shaped a more equitable COVID-19 pandemic response, both nationally and locally.



**Robert Pears, BA, MSc, FFPH**

Consultant in Public Health at OHID London since June 2021. Leads on Workforce Development, Healthcare Public Health and aspect of Children and Young People.

Previously was interim associate director of public health for Hampshire and Isle of Wight. Strategic lead, finance lead, Covid recovery lead and lead for the Isle of Wight Public Health function.

I have lead commissioner and procurement experience of health visiting, school nursing, NHS Health Checks, tobacco control and sexual health services.

Interest in CVD prevention research. My health economics modelling helped make the case for the introduction of the Wessex Familial Hypercholesterolaemia service.

My Public Health training was in North London and my first consultant post in Sutton and Merton PCT.

Graduated from Durham University with a Politics degree and St. George's Medical School, London University, with a MSc in Health Sciences.



**Dr Jeanelle de Gruchy**

Dr de Gruchy started as England's Deputy Chief Medical Officer in October 2021. Dr de Gruchy supports the Chief Medical Officer on health improvement issues and is co-lead of the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities. Dr de Gruchy did her clinical training in South Africa. She worked clinically in South Africa and then in the NHS and has over 20 years' public health experience.

Career highlights:

- President of the Association of Directors of Public Health for 4 years, including the first 3 waves of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Director of Population Health at Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council and elected chair of the Greater Manchester Directors of Public Health (2020 to 2021)
- Director of Public Health for the London Borough of Haringey and Chair, London Association of Directors of Public Health (2012 to 2014)
- Deputy Director of Public Health at Nottingham City NHS Primary Care Trust



**Professor Maggie Rae, PrFPH FRSPH FRCP  
(Hon) FRCP Edin FRCPATH (Hon)**

Maggie Rae is President of the Faculty of Public Health. She has particular interests in health inequalities, sustainable development, workforce, education and standards setting for Public Health. She is Head of the South West Academy of Population and Public Health for Health Education England and leads the South West Specialist Public Health Training Programme.

Maggie is a Visiting Professor of Public Health at the University of the West of England and the University of Exeter, has been a Director of Public Health twice, and has also led on Health Inequalities and Local Delivery at the Department of Health.

As President she works closely with the Academy of Royal Medical Colleges, Local Government Association and a wide range of partners who have interests in Public Health. Maggie is committed to working with all 4 Nations of the UK and FPH members across the world.



**Julie Billett**

Julie Billett is Director of Operations in the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities London Region. Prior to joining OHID, Julie was Joint Director of Public Health for Camden and Islington Councils, and Chair of the London Association of Directors of Public Health. Julie has worked in public health roles in local government, the NHS, the Department of Health and in academia.



### **David Buck**

David is senior fellow in public health and health inequalities at The King's Fund. He has published widely including on: frameworks for population health, cities and population health, local government public health reforms and the experience of directors of public health during covid-19.

Before joining the Fund, David worked at the Department of Health as deputy director for health inequalities. He managed the Labour government's PSA target on health inequalities and the Independent Marmot Review of inequalities in health. Originally a health economist, while in the Department he worked on many policy areas – including diabetes, long-term conditions, dental health, waiting times, the pharmaceutical industry, childhood obesity and choice and competition.

He has also worked at Guy's Hospital, King's College London and the Centre for Health Economics in York where his focus was on the economics of public health and behaviours and incentives.



### **Dr Somen Banerjee**

Somen was appointed as Director of Public Health (DPH) at the London Borough of Tower Hamlets in 2014.

He is co-chair of the London Association of the Directors of Public Health network (ADPHL) and DPH tobacco lead for ADPH London.





**Vicky Hobart BSc, MSc, FFPH**

Vicky has a long-standing commitment to improving health and tackling inequalities, working in multi-agency environments and with diverse communities. As a results-oriented Public Health specialist with 25 years' experience from the UK and overseas, Vicky has worked in five different London Boroughs and varied regional/national roles. In 2014 she extended her portfolio as Redbridge Director of Public Health to include leisure and culture, and then adult social care and the development of integrated community health and care services across four localities.

In her current role Vicky provides public health advice to the Mayor of London, Assembly and GLA group, and leads the GLA health team to deliver: the London health inequalities strategy; London health programmes (like healthy schools); a 'health in all policies' approach across the GLA group; and the Mayor's commitment to champion, challenge and collaborate with the health and care system.

The London health inequalities strategy was published in autumn 2018, and health outcomes are central to London's mission-led recovery from COVID-19. With partners, the GLA health team are currently progressing work including violence reduction, child obesity, mental health, air quality, homelessness, and school 'superzones'.

Vicky chaired the Association of Directors of Public Health in London from 2015-2018 and is a member of the London network and national Association. She is committed to nurturing future public health talent and leadership and is educational supervisor to Public Health specialty registrars and a Faculty of Public Health diplomate examiner.



**Dr Yimmy Chow, BSc, MBBS, MRPCH, MSc, FFPH**

Consultant in Communicable Disease Control at North West London Health Protection Team, UKHSA (previously Health Protection Agency and Public Health England) since January 2007 and Head of Team since 2013.

Graduated from University College and Middlesex School of Medicine, London in 1996. Specialist training in Paediatrics and then joined the Public Health training programme in 2001. Masters in Public Health from the London school of Hygiene and Tropical medicine

Throughout my public health career, I have been actively involved in many interesting health protection incidents including SARS- CoV-1 (I was seconded to WHO for short term placement to Hong Kong and China), Polonium incident, Pandemic influenza, Ebola, and led the first scientific and technical advice cell for the major incident called for the fire at Grenfell Tower.

I have a strategic lead role for the London Coronavirus Response Cell (LCRC) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.