



Office for Health
Improvement
& Disparities

The London Public Health Forum presents:

Growing Healthy Futures: Tackling Child Poverty and Nutrition

Wednesday 1 November 2023

1030 – 1200, via MS Teams

Forum Information Pack

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Event enquiries to OHIDLondonWorkforce@dhsc.gov.uk

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House Keeping



Please stay on mute unless you are speaking.



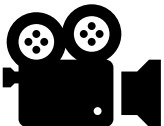
Please turn your camera on if possible.



Questions will be invited at appropriate points. Please engage by adding to the chat or raising your virtual hand.



Please keep content relevant and timely to agenda item in the chat.



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



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Objectives

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

- Describe the current state of child poverty in London including the challenges and mitigations
- Describe the barriers to healthy eating at a time of rising child poverty
- Highlight the great work being done to improve the quality of food consumed by London's children and young people, spotlighting local best practice
- Identify ways to improve baby, child and young people's nutrition at a pan-London, Integrated Care System and borough level

Agenda

Time	Agenda Item
5 mins	<p>Welcome from Chair Professor Kevin Fenton Regional Director, Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID), London</p>
15 mins	<p>First keynote address Child poverty in London: the current situation and what can be done to reduce its impact Dr Jessica Allen, Deputy Director, UCL Institute of Health Equity</p>
15 mins	<p>Second keynote address Mitigating the impacts of poverty through a population health approach to healthcare. Professor Ingrid Wolfe, Director of King's Health Partners Women's and Children's Health</p>
20 mins	<p>In conversation... The Life of a Director of Public Health Dr Dagmar Zeuner, former Director of Public Health and ADPHL CYP lead, talks to Kevin Fenton about the role of the DPH in tackling child poverty</p>
30 mins	<p>Panel discussion facilitated by Professor Kevin Fenton</p> <p>This session will focus on local initiatives across London which aim to improve nutrition generally and specifically for children. These projects are a mix of Local Authority led and charity led.</p> <p>Emma Pawson, Head of Health & Programme Director for Universal Free School Meals, Greater London Authority Universal free school meals to reduce impact of cost of living, and other GLA initiatives to improve childhood nutrition (Water Only Schools, Super Zones, Holiday Hunger)</p> <p>Dr Chi-Chi Ekhaton, GP Clinical Lead, The Beacon Project Prescribing fruit and vegetables to improve health in South London</p> <p>Jonathan Pauling, Chief Executive, The Alexandra Rose Charity Reducing local food poverty</p> <p>Questions from the audience and opportunity for all speakers to continue discussion</p>
5 mins	<p>Session close Professor Kevin Fenton, RDPH London, OHID</p>

Speaker's Biographies



Chair - 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.

Professor Fenton is the Regional Director for London in the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) within the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). 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 is also the President of the UK Faculty of Public Health and the government's Chief Advisor on HIV 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 Covid-19 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 shaped a more equitable COVID-19 pandemic response, both nationally and locally. In the 2022 New Year honours list Professor Fenton was awarded a CBE for services to public health.



Keynote speaker – Dr Jessica Allen, Deputy Director, UCL Institute of Health Equity

Jessica's main activities are in working to embed a social determinants approach to health inequalities in England and globally. She led work on the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region Commission on the Social Determinants of Health (published March 2021), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Commission on Equity and Health Inequalities in the Americas and the Review of Social Determinants of Health and the Health Divide in the WHO European Region. She was previously Project Director of the Strategic Review of Health Inequalities in England post-2010 (the Marmot Review) and in February 2020, co-authored the Marmot Review 10 Years On report and in December 2020 led work on Build Back Fairer: the COVID-19 Marmot review.

Jessica has worked closely with international organisations, national and local governments, third sector organisations and the NHS and published widely on social determinants of health. She is a member of several advisory groups in England and internationally. Prior to her work at UCL she was head of Health and Social Care at IPPR, Research Fellow in Public Health at the Kings Fund, and worked at Unicef and LSE. She has published and broadcast widely on issues relating to health and social care policy. She holds a doctorate from the University of London.



Keynote Speaker – Professor Ingrid Wolfe, Director of King’s Health Partners Women’s and Children’s Health

Professor Ingrid Wolfe is Director of King’s Health Partners Women’s and Children’s Health. She is a Consultant in Paediatric Population Medicine at Evelina London Children’s Hospital, and Professor of Paediatrics and Child Population Health at King’s College London. She leads CHILDS, a clinical-academic group working to advance and apply knowledge for improving child health. Ingrid is co-Chair of the British Association for Child and Adolescent Public Health.

Ingrid is qualified in paediatrics and public health, enabling her to be a children’s doctor with a very broad perspective. She has on-the-ground insight from clinical practice, and an understanding of the population from public health. These two aspects come together in her NHS and academic work focusing on improving child health through strengthening healthcare, health systems, and informing policy in the UK and Europe. She leads several research programmes designing and testing interventions to improve child health, publishing and speaking widely in academic, clinical, and policy settings. She was awarded an OBE for services to children’s health in 2016.



Speaker – Dr Dagmar Zeuner, former Director of Public Health

Dr Dagmar Zeuner was Director of Public Health in various London Boroughs from 2007-2023, including for the last seven years in Merton Council. She was one of the vice chairs of the Association of Directors of Public Health in London, its lead DPH for children and young people and sponsor for climate and health.

Dagmar's public health experience also includes academic work at the Institute of Child Health. She has a long-time interest in evidence-based policy making and translating research into practice and was one of the original members of the Public Health Intervention Advisory Committee of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).

Currently Dagmar holds an honorary assistant professorship with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, works as an expert advisor and is enjoying local volunteering. Dagmar came from Germany to the UK as a junior doctor, curious to experience a different health system and ended up building her career here. She trained and practised as a hospital paediatrician before moving into public health, with an enduring passion for the health and wellbeing of children, young people and their families. More recently Dagmar has taken leadership roles for climate and health, in recognition of the urgency of action required to prevent the detrimental impact of global warming on population health.



Panel Member – Jonathan Pauling, Chief Executive, Alexandra Rose Charity

Jonathan is the Chief Executive at Alexandra Rose Charity, joining the Charity in 2014 to develop its new mission, to improve access to healthy and affordable food for all. Jonathan built the Rose Vouchers for Fruit & Veg Project to pioneer the use of financial incentives to help families on low incomes avoid food poverty and diet-related ill-health.

From small pilots in London supporting 45 families, this work has now spread around the UK, supporting 3,500 families every week. In 2022, the Charity launched Fruit & Veg on Prescription, working in partnership with GPs, social prescribers, and community health organisations to test how fruit & veg vouchers could support people to manage long-term health conditions.

Jonathan has spent the past 25 years working at the nexus of food, health, equity, and sustainability. He grew up in New Zealand and graduated from the University of Canterbury.



Panel Member – Dr Chi-Chi Ekhaton, MBBS, MRCPCH, MRCGP

Dr Chi-Chi Ekhaton is a GP in London and a GP Appraiser for NHS England.

She is the GP Clinical Lead for the AT Beacon Project, a programme that reaches and engages underserved, vulnerable populations so that they can lead healthier, flourishing lives. The project works closely with public health, NHS and other charitable organisations to effect change in the health of communities. She leads the AT Beacon team of clinicians, health ambassadors, community engagement practitioners, and a mental health and wellbeing outreach worker to engage communities, organisations and faith leaders. The team establish Beacon Hubs in safe spaces embedded within local neighbourhoods – such as a Barbershop, Social Supermarket, Foodbanks, Churches and Community Centres.

Dr Chi-Chi Ekhaton has a keen interest in addressing health inequalities and is part of the Health Inequalities Action Group (HIAG), a multi-faith initiative led by the Bishop of London to explore London's health inequalities and how faith groups can and do contribute to the health of their communities. The HIAG published its report in October 2022: 'On Faith, Place and Health: Harnessing the Power of Faith Groups to Tackle London's Health Inequalities'.

Dr Chi-Chi Ekhaton is also Vice Chair of Ascension Trust, an organisation known for initiatives such as Street Pastors, School Pastors and Response Pastors that seeks to help the vulnerable in society. As part of her work within Ascension trust, she oversees teams of clinicians (Five2Medics) that work with key partners and stakeholders to deliver projects and initiatives both here in the UK and overseas to promote health, protect wellbeing, and build resilience in communities facing challenges, disadvantage and requiring support. Together they aim to improve lives and reduce the impact of physical, psychological and social issues on individuals, communities and systems.

She advises hospitality and corporate organisations in some emerging nations and

has led several medical projects in less resourced countries and communities around the world. She is an examiner at St George's Hospital Medical school and has been involved in projects to widen participation for entry to medical school. As well as clinical interests in domestic violence and abuse, paediatrics, and medical education, Dr Chi-Chi is a keen mental health and wellbeing advocate.

Dr Chi-Chi also takes an active role in her community and was previously an elected school governor overseeing special educational and disability needs, aspects of health and safety and welfare of the school community

Panel Member – Emma Pawson, Head of Health & Programme Director for Universal Free School meals, Greater London Authority working for the Mayor of London.

Emma Pawson is responsible for a wide portfolio including universal free school meals, mental health, health inequalities, health and care and prevention. Prior to joining the GLA Emma worked as Chief of Staff to health policy lead in national government (DHSC)

She has also worked in the Chief Medical Officers private office as policy lead on Obesity, and previously as policy lead for the London devolution deal.

Further Reading and Resources

This is the link to the AT Beacon Project homepage. [Addressing Health Inequalities | A.T Beacon Project \(atbeaconproject.org\)](https://www.atbeaconproject.org)

BBC Radio 4 Food programme episode about the AT Beacon Project.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001rqk0>

The Health Inequalities Action Group (HIAG), a multi-faith initiative led by the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, to explore London's health inequalities and how faith groups can and do contribute to the health of their communities, has published its report: ['On Faith, Place and Health: Harnessing the Power of Faith Groups to Tackle London's Health Inequalities'](https://www.health.org.uk/news-and-comment/newsletter-features/the-power-of-faith-groups-to-tackle-health-inequalities).

- <https://www.health.org.uk/news-and-comment/newsletter-features/the-power-of-faith-groups-to-tackle-health-inequalities>
- [https://bishopoflondon.org/faithplacehealth_report /](https://bishopoflondon.org/faithplacehealth_report/)

This is the link to the Alexandra Rose Charity homepage. [Alexandra Rose - Our mission is to give families access to fresh fruit and vegetables in their communities](https://www.alexandrarosecharity.org)

Further information on the Greater London Authorities Free School Meals Programme.
[Free School Meals | London City Hall](https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/education/free-school-meals)