



Office for Health Improvement & Disparities



UK Health Security Agency



**fuse**

The Centre for Translational Research in Public Health



# North East Public Health Conference 2024

## Our People, Communities and Challenges: Celebrating Diversity, Innovation and Collaboration

5<sup>th</sup> December 2024

The Catalyst, 3 Helix, Science Square, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 5TG



TALK & LISTEN,  
BE THERE,  
FEEL CONNECTED



DO WHAT YOU CAN,  
ENJOY WHAT YOU DO,  
MOVE YOUR MOOD



REMEMBER  
THE SIMPLE  
THINGS THAT  
GIVE YOU JOY



EMBRACE NEW  
EXPERIENCES,  
SEE OPPORTUNITIES,  
SURPRISE YOURSELF



Your time,  
your words,  
your presence

#nephconf24

# Agenda

## Morning Session

09:00 - 09:30	Registration and refreshments				
09:30	<b>Welcome</b> <i>Dr Claire Sullivan, OHID Deputy Director and Board Member for the Faculty of Public Health - North East</i>				
09:45	<b>Mindfulness and Connection</b> <i>Emma Phillips, founder of Mindful Meets</i>				
10:00	<b>Keynote Speaker</b> <i>Professor Kevin Fenton, President of Faculty of Public Health</i>				
10:20	Question and Answer Session				
10:35 – 10:55	Break, networking and transition to workshops				
	<b>Visual Reflections: on-going in the foyer</b> <i>Sharon Bailey, Artist and creative producer based in the North East</i>				
	<b>Workshop 1</b>				
10:55 – 11:55	<b>Addressing Health Inequalities</b>  <b>TED Theatre</b>	<b>Improving our Services</b>  <b>Electra</b>	<b>Our People, Our Workforce</b>  <b>Gorgon</b>	<b>Working with Inclusion Health Groups</b>  <b>Faraday</b>	<b>Collaboration with and for our Communities</b>  <b>Workshop</b>
	Lunch, networking and wellbeing activities – Walking, Mindfulness and Reflections				
12:00 – 13:00	<b>Guided Walk: 12:05 meet at the main entrance</b> <i>Led by Kaat Marynissen and Claire Mathews</i>				
	<b>Mindfulness and Connection: 12:45 in Gorgon</b> <i>Emma Phillips, founder of Mindful Meets</i>				
	<b>Visual Reflections: on-going in the foyer</b> <i>Sharon Bailey, Artist and creative producer based in the North East</i>				

## Afternoon Session

13:00	<b>Keynote Speaker</b> <b>Sir Chris Whitty</b> , Chief Medical Officer for England Chaired by, <b>Professor Peter Kelly</b> , OHID/NHSE Regional Director of Public Health				
13:25	<b>Question and Answer Session</b> , Chaired by <b>Professor Peter Kelly</b> , OHID/NHSE Regional Director of Public Health				
13:40	Transition to Workshop 2				
13:45 – 14:45	<b>Workshops 2</b>				
	<b>Addressing Health Inequalities (1)</b>  <b>TED Theatre</b>	<b>Improving our Services</b>  <b>Electra</b>	<b>Addressing Health Inequalities (2)</b>  <b>Gorgon</b>	<b>Working with Inclusion Health Groups</b>  <b>Faraday</b>	<b>Collaboration with and for our Communities</b>  <b>Workshop</b>
14:45 – 15:05	Refreshment break, networking and transition back to main hall  <b>Visual Reflections: ongoing in the foyer</b> <i>Sharon Bailey, Artist and creative producer based in the North East</i>				
15:05 – 16:05	<b>Panel Discussion</b> , Chaired by <b>Amanda Healy</b> , Chair ADPH North East and DPH for Durham County Council  <b>Panel:</b> <b>Professor Peter Kelly</b> , OHID/NHSE Regional Director of Public Health <b>Alice Wiseman</b> , Vice President of ADPH and DPH for Gateshead & Newcastle <b>Professor Susan Hopkins</b> , Chief Medical Advisor, UK Health Security Agency <b>Professor Edward Kunonga</b> , Director of Population Health Management, North East North Cumbria ICB and CPD Advisor FPH (North East) <b>Professor Judith Rankin</b> , Fuse, the Centre for Translational Research in Public Health				
16:05	<b>North East Public Health Awards</b> , Presented by <b>Professor Peter Kelly</b> , OHID/NHSE Regional Director of Public Health				
16:20	<b>Closing comments</b> <b>Dr Claire Sullivan</b> , OHID Deputy Director and Board Member for the Faculty of Public Health - North East				
16:30	CLOSE				

# Workshops

						Workshop 1																			
						Addressing Health Inequalities	Improving our Services	Our People, Our Workforce	Working with Inclusion Health Groups	Collaboration with and for our Communities															
						TED Theatre	Electra	Gorgon	Faraday	Workshop															
10:55 – 11:55	Are people able to follow our advice? Bringing a Health equity lens to health protection response work,					Implementation of a Pilot Respiratory Offer within a substance misuse service in collaboration with the Integrated Care Board,					Developing a pipeline of public health intelligence specialists for the North East – the Andy Billett Apprenticeship Scheme,					Screened from view. Inequalities in screening programme uptake among female prisoners,					How to improve the health and wellbeing of the financially excluded? Mixed methods Social Return on Investment evaluation of the South Tyneside Social Navigators service,				
	Kirsty Foster - UKHSA					Melissa Pinder & Russell Whitehead - Hartlepool Borough Council					Kirsty Roe - Local Knowledge & Intelligence Service, Janet Skeen - NECS & Lily Nesbit - Gateshead Council					Michelle Horridge & Giles Ratcliffe - NHS England					Peter van der Graaf - Northumbria University & Fuse, & Murali Perumbakkan - Subramanian, Newcastle University				
13:40 – 13:45	Enhancing Adolescent Vaccination Consent Rates: A Behavioural Science Project in North East England,					Hospital in-reach family-centred social prescribing pilot for children with Neurodisability: mixed methods evaluation with social return on investment analysis,					Learning from embedding Public Health approaches in NHS Trusts,					Improving the Uptake of Cancer Information and Support by Veterans,					Influencing behaviour and policy: the role of mass media campaigns,				
	Sarah Slater - South Tees Public Health & Nigel Guest - Caja					Dr Anna Purna Basu – Newcastle University					Catherine Parker, Victoria Cooling, Balsam Ahmad, Esther Mireku, Michelle Stamp, Ryan Swiers & Hayley Coleman - NHS Foundation Trust (Various)					Jo Meynell & Chris Cowley - County Durham & Darlington Foundation Trust					Andy Lloyd - Fresh				
Facilitators: Rosie Baker & Lucy Chapman					Facilitators: Glyn Smith & Rachel McIlvenna					Facilitators: Catherine Parker & Victoria Cooling					Facilitators: Gayle Dolan & Shion Gosrani					Facilitators: Peter van der Graaf & Fergus Nielson					
13:40 – 13:45						Transition to Workshop 2																			

						Workshops 2				
						Addressing Health Inequalities (1)	Improving our Services	Addressing Health Inequalities (2)	Working with Inclusion Health Groups	Collaboration with and for our Communities
						TED Theatre	Electra	Gorgon	Faraday	Workshop
13:45 – 14:45	North East and North Cumbria Women's Health Needs Assessment,		Engaging people with low health literacy about health information,		How school-based harm reduction and drug prevention programmes can support improved public health outcomes across the North East,		Outbreak of pertussis in the Jewish Community of Gateshead: learning from a collaborative multiagency approach,		North East Girls (physical activity engagement),	
	<b>Rosie Baker - OHID North East &amp; Anna Pickford - NECS</b>		<b>Lorna Dawson &amp; Emily Lawson - South Tyneside &amp; Sunderland Foundation Trust</b>		<b>Stacy Skilton &amp; Gillian Collier - We Are With You</b>		<b>Gayle Dolan - UKHSA &amp; Rebecca Dew - Gateshead Council</b>		<b>Rawiyah Ahmad - Newcastle City Council</b>	
	Evaluating Warm Spaces in Gateshead: Insights, Challenges and Future Directions,		Health Squad (engaging with inclusion health groups),		Community assets & addressing inequality – the ripple effect of Public Health work experience,		Transforming systems that address health inequalities and engagement with those living with severe mental ill-health (SMI) in the North East and North Cumbria,		Improving uptake of breast, bowel and cervical cancer screening among Muslim women: a non-randomised feasibility study of a peer-led faith-based intervention,	
<b>Dr Michael Johansen &amp; Kate Haddow - Gateshead Council</b>		<b>Jane Sunter &amp; Alan Hodgson - Durham County Council</b>		<b>Grace Wali &amp; Clifford Enobun - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council</b>		<b>Dan Steward - Newcastle University</b>		<b>Rawand Jarrar &amp; Floor Christie-de Jong – University of Sunderland &amp; Fuse</b>		
<i>Facilitators: Rosie Baker &amp; Lucy Chapman</i>		<i>Facilitators: Glyn Smith &amp; Rachel McIlvenna</i>		<i>Facilitators: Catherine Parker &amp; Victoria Cooling</i>		<i>Facilitators: Gayle Dolan &amp; Shion Gosrani</i>		<i>Facilitators: Peter van der Graaf &amp; Fergus Nielson</i>		

# Biographies

**Chair: Dr Claire Sullivan, OHID Deputy Director and Board member for the Faculty of Public Health - North East**

Dr Claire Sullivan is the Deputy Director for Health, Wellbeing and Workforce at the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) within the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). Claire started her career in the voluntary and community sector before joining the NHS Graduate Management Scheme, where she first gained an interest in public health working in the West End of Newcastle. She has been a Consultant in Public Health for 18 years working in a variety of organisations including the NHS, local government, and Public Health England. Her special interests include sexual health and reducing harm caused by alcohol which informed her PhD research which she completed in 2019. She is passionate about women's health and workforce development. After serving as the North East Faculty of Public Health (FPH) CPD advisor, she is now the North East FPH Board Member as well as the Chair of the North East Public Health Practitioner Scheme.



**Click to find out more: - [Dr Claire Sullivan](#)**

**Keynote Speaker - Professor Kevin Fenton CBE, President of Faculty of Public Health**

Professor Kevin Fenton CBE is President of the Faculty of Public Health. He 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. His specialist interests include tackling health inequalities, infectious disease prevention and control, climate justice and urban health.



Kevin is Regional Director for London in the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities within the Department of Health and Social Care. 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 is also the government's Chief Advisor on HIV and Chair of the HIV Action Plan Implementation Steering Group for England. Before taking up the role of Regional Director for London, he held the joint position of Strategic Director of Place & Wellbeing and Director of Public Health at Southwark, and was also a senior advisor to Public Health England.

**Click to find out more: – [Professor Kevin Fenton](#)**

## Keynote Speaker – Sir Chris Whitty, Chief Medical Officer for England

Professor Chris Whitty is Chief Medical Officer (CMO) for England, the UK government's Chief Medical Adviser and head of the public health profession.

Chris is a practising NHS Consultant Physician at University College London Hospitals (UCLH) and the Hospital for Tropical Diseases, and a visiting professor at Gresham College.



Chris is an epidemiologist and has undertaken research and worked as a doctor in the UK, Africa and Asia. He was Professor of Public and International Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) before becoming CMO and remains an honorary professor.

Click to find out more: - [Sir Chris Whitty](#)

## Panel Chair - Amanda Healy, Chair ADPH North East and DPH for Durham County Council

Amanda took up the role of Director of Public Health in County Durham in May 2017 having previously been DPH in South Tyneside and is committed to improving and protecting the health of residents. She has worked on reducing health inequalities using an assets approach for over thirty years and plays a key role in understanding the health challenges and positive aspects of health and wellbeing locally. Amanda works in collaboration with a range of partners to develop plans e.g. Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy and has a pivotal part in embedding public health across the local authority, with partners and most importantly with communities.



Amanda is chair of the North East Association of Directors of Public Health and is Co-chair of the Integrated Health Board's Healthier and Fairer Advisory Group. She also works closely with the regional tobacco and alcohol offices, Fresh and Balance.

Click to find out more: - [Amanda Healy](#)

## Panel Member- Professor Peter Kelly, CBE – OHID/NHSE Regional Director of Public Health

Peter is Regional Director for Public Health for the North East and Yorkshire for the Office for Health Improvement & Disparities (OHID) within the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and is also a joint appointment as the NHS regional director of public health.

He had previously been Director of Public Health for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council for 4 years (2012-2106). Before this he was a Director of Public Health for 11 years in various NHS posts on Teesside and the North East of England. Peter has a PhD in statistics and for the first 12 years of his career he was a lecturer in Medical Statistics at Newcastle University, and then director of a health research unit at Teesside University.



Peter is a long-standing advocate for identifying and addressing health inequalities and has led major public health programmes in all his roles. He was responsible for the public health response to the covid-19 pandemic for the North East and Yorkshire region and received the Presidents gold medal from the Faculty of Public Health for his leadership throughout this period.

His current responsibilities include the provision of public health policy advice to ministers and DHSC and leading an expert public health service to support the work of the Local Authorities and NHS partners in the North East and Yorkshire. Peter is also the Chair of the Centre Strategy Board for Fuse, the Centre for Translational Research in Public Health.

He received a CBE in the Kings Honours list for services to public health in June 2023.

Click to find out more: - [Professor Peter Kelly](#)

## Panel Member: Alice Wiseman – Vice President of ADPH and DPH for Gateshead & Newcastle

Alice Wiseman has been Director of Public Health in Gateshead and Newcastle since April 2024. Prior to this she was the DPH in Gateshead and has been registered with the UK Public Health Register since December 2009. Before becoming a DPH Alice worked in a broad range of senior public health roles across Tyne and Wear. Alice's first degree was in Social Policy at Newcastle University, followed by a P.G.C.E, before training in public health.

Alice is passionate about improving health and well-being with a particular focus on tackling the unfair inequalities faced by some communities. Alice believes that effective action to address these inequalities requires dedicated effort across the determinants of health, as set out in the first Marmot Review 'Fair Society, Healthy Lives' (2010).

Alice is the Vice President of ADPH, chairing the national ADPH Council and steering their policy work.



Click to find out more: - [Alice Wiseman](#)



## Panel Member - Professor Susan Hopkins – Chief Medical Advisor, UK Health Security Agency

Professor Susan Hopkins is the Chief Medical Advisor at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA). In this capacity she leads the Clinical and Public Health Group whose objective is to provide professional health security, clinical and public health leadership.

Susan is also a Professor of Infectious Diseases and Health Security at University College London and continues to work clinically as a consultant in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology at the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust.



Click to find out more: - [Professor Susan Hopkins](#)

## Panel Member - Professor Edward Kunonga - Director of Population Health Management, North East North Cumbria ICB and CPD Advisor FPH

Edward joined the NECS team as Director of Transformation and Population Health Management in 2023. He also fulfils the role of Director of Population Health Management at NHS North East and North Cumbria ICB.

Edward has worked across the North East health and care system for a number of years and is passionate about population health and tackling health inequalities. Before joining NECS, Edward was working as a Public Health Consultant across County Durham and Darlington NHS Acute Foundation Trust and Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust where he worked across the Durham and Darlington patch and across the region on prevention, population health and tackling inequalities programmes.



Edward is a public health consultant and completed his higher specialist training in public health with the Northern Deanery Postgraduate Public Health Training Programme between 2006 and 2010. He worked for nine years as a Director of Public Health and Public Protection across Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland, holding a diverse portfolio of public health, public protection and leisure services and overseeing the establishment of joint public health service across the two councils and the creation of a joint Health and Wellbeing board.

Click to find out more: - [Professor Edward Kunonga](#)

## Panel Member - Professor Judith Rankin – Fuse, the Centre for Translational Research in Public Health / ARC NENC

Fuse Associate Judith Rankin is Professor of Maternal and Child Health at Newcastle University, and her research specialisms cover health of vulnerable maternal populations, risk factors in pregnancy, outcomes for children with complex needs (including congenital anomaly and rare diseases) and reproductive loss.

Professor Rankin leads a project in the NIHR School for Public Health Research (SPHR) exploring the barriers experienced by women on low incomes to accessing maternity service, and is theme lead of Supporting Children and Families in the NIHR Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) North East and North Cumbria (NENC).



Alongside this, she is Dean of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) at Newcastle University, and chair of the EDI group in the ARC NENC.

Click to find out more: - [Professor Judith Rankin](#)

## Working in Partnership



Office for Health  
Improvement  
& Disparities

Find out more about the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities: - [Click Here](#)



ADPH  
North East

Find out more about the Association of Directors of Public Health: - [Click Here](#)



UK Health  
Security  
Agency

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Find out more about the Faculty of Public Health: - [Click Here](#)



**fuse**

The Centre for Translational  
Research in Public Health

Find out more about Fuse, the Centre for Translational Research in Public Health: - [Click Here](#)

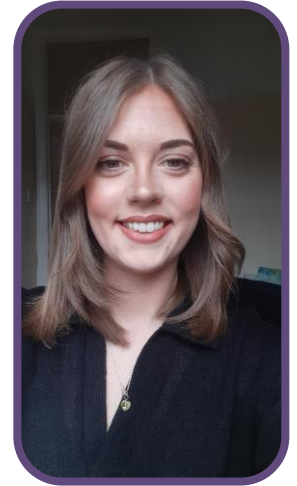
**NHS**

Find out more about the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board: - [Click Here](#)

# Wellbeing Activities

## Mindfulness and Connection -Emma Phillips - founder of Mindful Meets

I am an ex-classroom teacher turned mindfulness and meditation teacher/trainer with a passion for all things mindfulness and wellbeing. I founded Mindful Meets with the aim of giving as many people as possible the tools and techniques to look after their mental wellbeing in a sustainable way, along with the understanding of why this is so important. Such techniques include different types of meditation, breathwork, stretches, journaling, telling stories and poems, relaxation and gratitude exercises, and more! I look forward to showing you some of these easy-to-use practices during the conference that you can take away to use in your own life whenever you need!



Website: <https://mindful-meets.co.uk>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mindful.meets/>

## Lunchtime Guided Walk – Claire Mathews – Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, & Kaat Marynissen – Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust

A guided walk taking around 30 minutes exploring local spaces of creativity and nature. Surfaces are predominantly paved with one short stretch of cobblestone.

Suitable for most footwear, warm clothing advisable



## Visual Reflections – Sharon Bailey - Artist and creative producer

Sharon Bailey has been an artist and creative producer in the North-East region for over 30 years. Driven by social and health inequalities she produces exhibitions, installations and events within public spaces that tells the often unheard stories of those she connects with. For her project 'Home Alone' she created a living room installation that toured shopping centres with an actress who related the experiences of isolated older people living alone. I CARE! is her current project, devised with carers, that tells the stories of unpaid and paid caregiving through audio recording, photography, collaged placards and performance.



Website: [www.sharonbailey.co.uk](http://www.sharonbailey.co.uk)

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# Book donations

At this year's conference, we kindly ask our delegates to donate to one of our local charities in Newcastle as a way of giving back to our community. The charities we are supporting this year are Barnardo's, Cornerstone Benwell (supporting those with learning disabilities) and North Tyneside Age UK (befriending service supporting elderly people who are lonely, isolated, or housebound).



We have tried to be as representative as we can when we have selected the charities we are going to work with, and we are happy to accept books for children, adults and older adults. The book can be on any topic. We ask that as a minimum you donate at least one book. There is no cap on how many books to donate, the more, the merrier!

## Barnardo's

**Barnardo's is a charity, that endeavours to help children and young people feel safer, happier, healthier, and more hopeful.** Barnardo's has had a presence in Newcastle for over 40 years, delivering a wide range of services to children, young people and families including. We listen and endeavour to respond to our community's needs, empowering them to have their voices heard and to be taken seriously in decisions that affect them. Our services aim to be flexible and adaptable to the changing and evolving needs within our communities – offering, one to one, group work and family support. Areas of support that we provide include but are not exclusively is:

- trauma informed - emotional wellbeing and mental health services,
- early years work
- supporting children and young people with returning and sustaining engagement in education
- empowering and supporting services working within Newcastle to be father/male carer inclusive
- recruiting and supporting local volunteers
- family hub and start for life provision
- parenting programmes
- targeted youth work

**Website:** [Barnardo's | Children's charity | Barnardo's](#)

## Cornerstone Benwell

Operating since 1987, Cornerstone Benwell is a community charity in the heart of Newcastle's West End an area of severe economic deprivation and child poverty. Benwell and Elswick sit in the top 1% of the most deprived areas in the UK.

We work across all aspect of the community running events, groups and activities focusing on three main areas:

1. Improving Mental Health
2. Education and Enrichment
3. Providing Healthy and Hearty Food

We also operate as a safe space and wellbeing hub.

We have a free community library where people can take and swap books.

We are currently acting as the liaison point for the victims of the Violet Close explosion providing clothing and toiletries

**Website:** [Christian Community Centre | Cornerstone Benwell | Newcastle upon Tyne](#)

## AGE UK North Tyneside: Befriending in North Tyneside

Our Befriending service offers vital emotional support to vulnerable or isolated adults aged 50+. Customers can access the service through self-referral, or by a family member or professional by completing a referral form. They will then be matched with a friendly, trained volunteer befriender who visits or calls them every week for at least six months. The arrangement is based on friendship, and no payment is involved.

We match volunteers to customers based on shared interests and provide a safe and mutually beneficial relationship. The idea is that the befriender will get as much out of the relationship as the befriended. Our volunteers come from a range of backgrounds, experiences, and ages, ensuring a diverse volunteer base. They work holistically to support the customer's independence, establish social connections, reduce isolation, and support their physical and social wellbeing.

Customers and volunteers are supported by our Befriending Coordinator, Demmi Robinson, for 12 months. After this period and a positive relationship has been established, on agreement they will leave the service and continue their long-term friendship. Demmi will regularly check in with customers completing phone support and home visits to ensure they are satisfied with the service, offering support, advice, and signposting when required.

**Website:** [Welcome to Age UK North Tyneside](#)

