



Annual Review

2017-18

This year marked five years since the transition of public health teams in England to local authorities and with a changing external political and economic environment, the Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) conducted a review of its own impact by commissioning an independent report.

The Impact Report found that ADPH is a respected and trusted organisation which communicates well with its members and provides them with valued support. The extension of ADPH membership to senior consultants was much appreciated and we hope the addition of alumni membership will also be welcomed.

Our members are very satisfied with the information they receive from the ADPH but there is an appetite for more information about ADPH's influencing work and for the ADPH to be more visible, noisier and, where appropriate, more edgy. ADPH will be focussing on this in the coming year with a new Policy and Influencing Strategy and a new External Communications Strategy.

Key successes this year have included the successful launch of the mentoring scheme for Directors of Public Health (DsPH) who are new in post and, following this success, the recent inclusion of ADPH Associate Members into the scheme. ADPH also launched a series of position statements, setting out the ADPH position on key public health topics, and received a positive response from both members and stakeholders.

Highlights of specific achievements against our five work programmes are below. For further details please visit: www.adph.org.uk

Supporting DsPH

Aim – to facilitate a support network for DsPH to share ideas and good practice and support problem solving

- Associate membership established and proposed Associate Representative to join ADPH Council.
- New ADPH Alumni membership offer launched.
- New member induction process introduced.
- Successful launch of the mentoring offer for DsPH who are new in post or in interim/acting positions and the recent inclusion into the scheme of Associate Members who are aspiring to become DsPH (over 50 DsPH signed up so far with 27 matches currently underway).
- Masterclasses held on local government law and practice and two on air quality (jointly with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Public Health England (PHE)).
- ADPH Annual Conference 2017 on 'The DPH as an Advocate'.
- Joint LGA/ADPH conference on 'Narrowing the Health Inequalities Gap'.
- A report on development needs of recently appointed DsPH produced.
- Continued work on further support for DsPH in collaboration with PHE including scoping of the Assertive Leadership offer and System Leadership workshop.

Improving Public Health practice

Aim – to provide opportunities for DsPH to develop professional practice

- Pilot of self-audit tool for Regional Networks to assess their local Sector Led Improvement (SLI) programme.
- Annual session on SLI held at the Policy Workshop with a focus on challenging each other.
- Completion of ADPH SLI Review and acceptance of recommendations by SLI Programme Board.
- Two resources to support DsPH in the event of a major incident published.
- Active team of Network Coordinators.
- Successful DPH Annual Report Competition (55 entries).
- Work supported by the Health Foundation on the Promoting the Role of the DPH.

Collective voice

Aim – to collate and present the views of DsPH on public health policy to stakeholders

- Presidential visits to the networks continued and staff visits introduced to maintain the conversation on local issues and to engage with members.
- Results of survey examining the views of DsPH in England on the five years since the transition published with articles in the Local Government Chronicle and British Medical Journal.
- Results from the ADPH English Public Health System Survey 2017 published.
- Continued co-leadership of the UK Public Health Network.
- Review of the Policy Advisory Groups initiated.
- Six member briefings produced including on the PrEP trial, the Budget and the Queens Speech.

Public Health Policy

Aim – to advise on public health policy and legislation at a local, regional, national and international level

- Eight position statements on key public health topics and a narrative on the public health system launched at ADPH conference in November.
- Four further position statements on the life course and health inequalities launched at the ADPH

Policy workshop in May.

- Completion of the four-nation comparative public health policy study.
- Over 15 collaborative publications including the Prevention and Mental Health Concordat and the Sexual Health, Reproductive Health and HIV Commissioning Review.
- Eight ADPH public statements issued on key topics such as minimum unit pricing, the Government Drugs Strategy and the Tobacco Control Plan and over ten media mentions of ADPH.
- Over 19 letters sent on behalf of the ADPH (many in collaboration with key stakeholders).
- 34 consultation responses submitted.
- ADPH represented at over 83 external working groups and committees.

Governance and management

Aim – to ensure a sustainable organisation and better use of new technologies

- ADPH Impact Report completed by Shared Intelligence.
- A review of the operation of ADPH Council completed and recommendations implemented.
- Election process completed for new ADPH President, Vice President and Board members.
- New Council and Board induction process introduced.
- Agreement and implementation of new business plan 2017-2020.
- Introduction of key performance indicators and quarterly reporting against the business plan.
- Additional funding secured from PHE for the Supporting DsPH work programme.
- Over 32,000 visits to the ADPH website since June 2017 and @ADPHUK has further increased the number of followers on Twitter by 32% (up to 5,252).
- Conference presentations made available for remote access on the web.
- New Learning and Development Framework agreed for ADPH Staff.
- A new post of Leadership Development Manager filled by Nicholas Faraday.